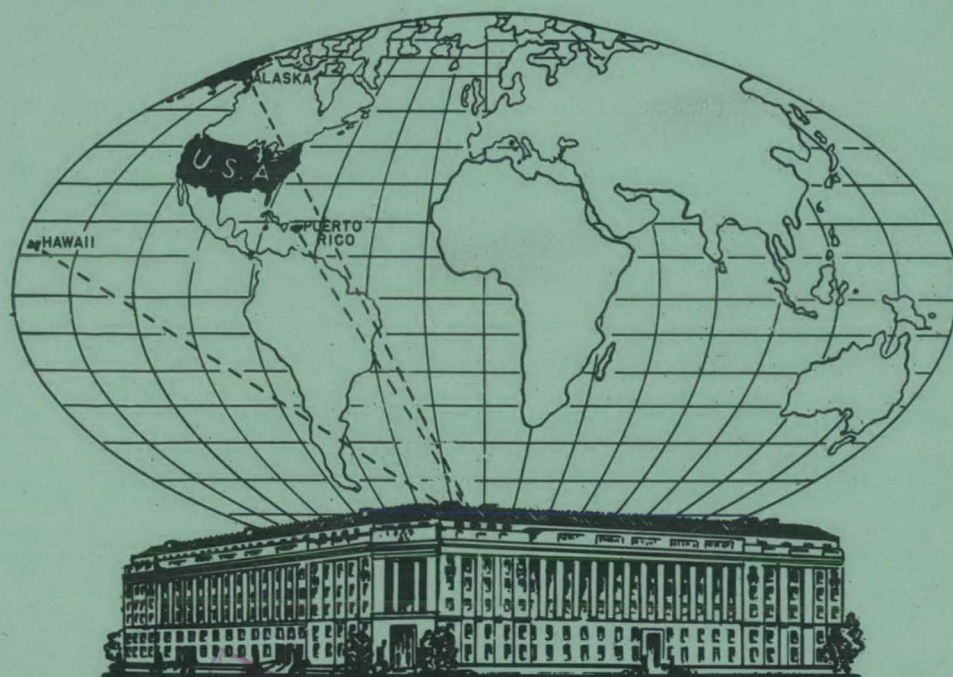


# FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN



1941

*June*

Vol. 10

HEADQUARTERS OF THE FBI,  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING,  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

No. 6

Federal Bureau Of Investigation  
United States Department Of Justice  
*John Edgar Hoover, Director*



The Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, is charged with the duty of investigating violations of the laws of the United States and collecting evidence in cases in which the United States is or may be a party in interest.

The following list indicates some of the major violations over which the Bureau has investigative jurisdiction:-

- Espionage, Sabotage, Violations of the Neutrality Act and similar matters related to Internal Security
- National Motor Vehicle Theft Act
- Interstate transportation of stolen property valued at \$5,000 or more
- National Bankruptcy Act
- Interstate flight to avoid prosecution or testifying in certain cases
- White Slave Traffic Act
- Impersonation of Government Officials
- Larceny of Goods in Interstate Commerce
- Killing or Assaulting Federal Officer
- Cases involving transportation in interstate or foreign commerce of any persons who have been kidnaped
- Extortion cases where mail is used to transmit threats of violence to persons or property; also cases where interstate commerce is an element and the means of communication is by telegram, telephone or other carrier
- Theft, Embezzlement or Illegal Possession of Government Property
- Antitrust Laws
- Robbery of National Banks, insured banks of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System and Federal Loan and Savings Institutions
- National Bank and Federal Reserve Act Violations, such as embezzlement, abstraction or misapplication of funds
- Crimes on any kind of Government reservation, including Indian Reservations or in any Government building or other Government property
- Neutrality violations, including the shipment of arms to friendly nations
- Frauds against the Government
- Crimes in connection with the Federal Penal and Correctional Institutions
- Perjury, embezzlement, or bribery in connection with Federal Statutes or officials
- Crimes on the high seas
- Federal Anti-Racketeering Statute
- The location of persons who are fugitives from justice by reason of violations of the Federal Laws over which the Bureau has jurisdiction, of escaped Federal prisoners, and parole and probation violators.

The Bureau does not have investigative jurisdiction over the violations of Counterfeiting, Narcotic, Customs, Immigration, or Postal Laws, except where the mail is used to extort something of value under threat of violence.

Law enforcement officials possessing information concerning violations over which the Bureau has investigative jurisdiction are requested to promptly forward the same to the Special Agent in Charge of the nearest field division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. The address of each field division of this Bureau appears on the inside back cover of this bulletin. Government Rate Collect telegrams or telephone calls will be accepted if information indicates that immediate action is necessary.



FBI  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
BULLETIN

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NO. 6

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The FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin is issued monthly to law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. Much of the data appearing herein are of a confidential nature and its circulation should be restricted to law enforcement officers; therefore, material contained in this Bulletin may not be reprinted without prior authorization by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN is published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice each month. Its material is compiled for the assistance of all Law Enforcement Officials and is a current catalogue of continuous reference for the Law Enforcement Officers of the Nation.



John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

FBI Law Enforcement Officers  
Mobilization Plan For National Defense

Of intense and vital interest to every law enforcement officer in the Nation is the "FBI Law Enforcement Officers Mobilization Plan for National Defense." The greatest mobilization of law enforcement in the history of the United States is taking place under the guidance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. In these days of international conflict, suspense, intrigue and Trojan-horse warfare, the important role which law enforcement must play in America's program of re-armament and National Defense is tremendous.

Local, County, State and FBI law enforcement officers, with the FBI acting as the coordinating agency, in accord with the President's wishes as expressed in his Directive of September 6, 1939, are waging an intensive warfare against the forces seeking to undermine the Government's program for National Defense and Internal Security.

This concerted effort on the part of law enforcement can best be illustrated by the fact that in 1940 the FBI held a series of conferences on National Defense in all sections of the United States. A total of 452 conferences in as many cities were held and 7,098 police executives attended these conferences. The result proved so satisfactory that such conferences are now being held in every State in the Union on a quarterly basis. During the first quarter of 1941 in various sections of the United States there were in attendance 8,357 officials representing 4,295 agencies.

The accomplishments of this coordinated effort have already had far reaching consequences in further lifting the standard of law enforcement. In connection with the mobilization plan which has been worked out over a period of years the FBI has prepared the "FBI Law Enforcement Officers Mobilization Plan for National Defense Pledge," a copy of which is contained on the next page of this Bulletin. This Pledge will serve as material evidence of the mobilization of law enforcement of the Nation. The executive heads of the police departments, sheriff's offices, county police organizations and State police groups are voluntarily subscribing to this Pledge and will thereby be enlisted in this all-important mobilization plan.

J. Edgar Hoover

Director



**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR

**FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
MOBILIZATION PLAN FOR  
NATIONAL DEFENSE**

**PLEDGE**

I, the undersigned, official head or representative of a regularly constituted law enforcement agency, do hereby pledge that I shall always be loyal to my duty, my organization and my country; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and I will constantly strive to cooperate in the safeguarding of our internal security and in the defense of the nation.....

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

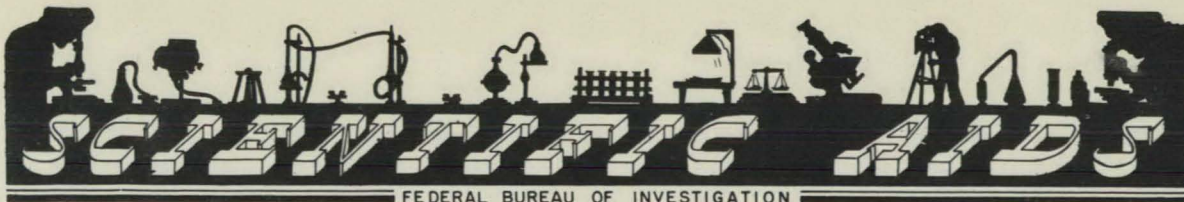
TITLE OR RANK: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

(This pledge, when executed, will be made a part of the official files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, in connection with the coordination of national defense and internal security activities and in keeping with the directive of the President of the United States designating the FBI as the coordinating agency in such activities.)





## ASPECTS OF ELECTROCHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION

Electrochemistry, a comparatively new branch of chemical science, came into being as a result of the wide application of electric currents in chemical processes. Authorities in this science have in their writings furnished excellent definitions of this interesting field of electrochemical endeavor. H. Jermain Creighton, defines electrochemistry as "that division of chemistry which deals with the relation between, and the mutual transformation of, chemical and electrical energy." Creighton also states that "on account of the fundamental nature of these relations and their wide and ever-increasing application, electrochemistry has become a very important branch of chemistry." Maurice De Kay Thompson, defines electrochemistry as "That science which treats of the chemical changes produced by an electric current and of the production of electricity from the energy of chemical reactions."

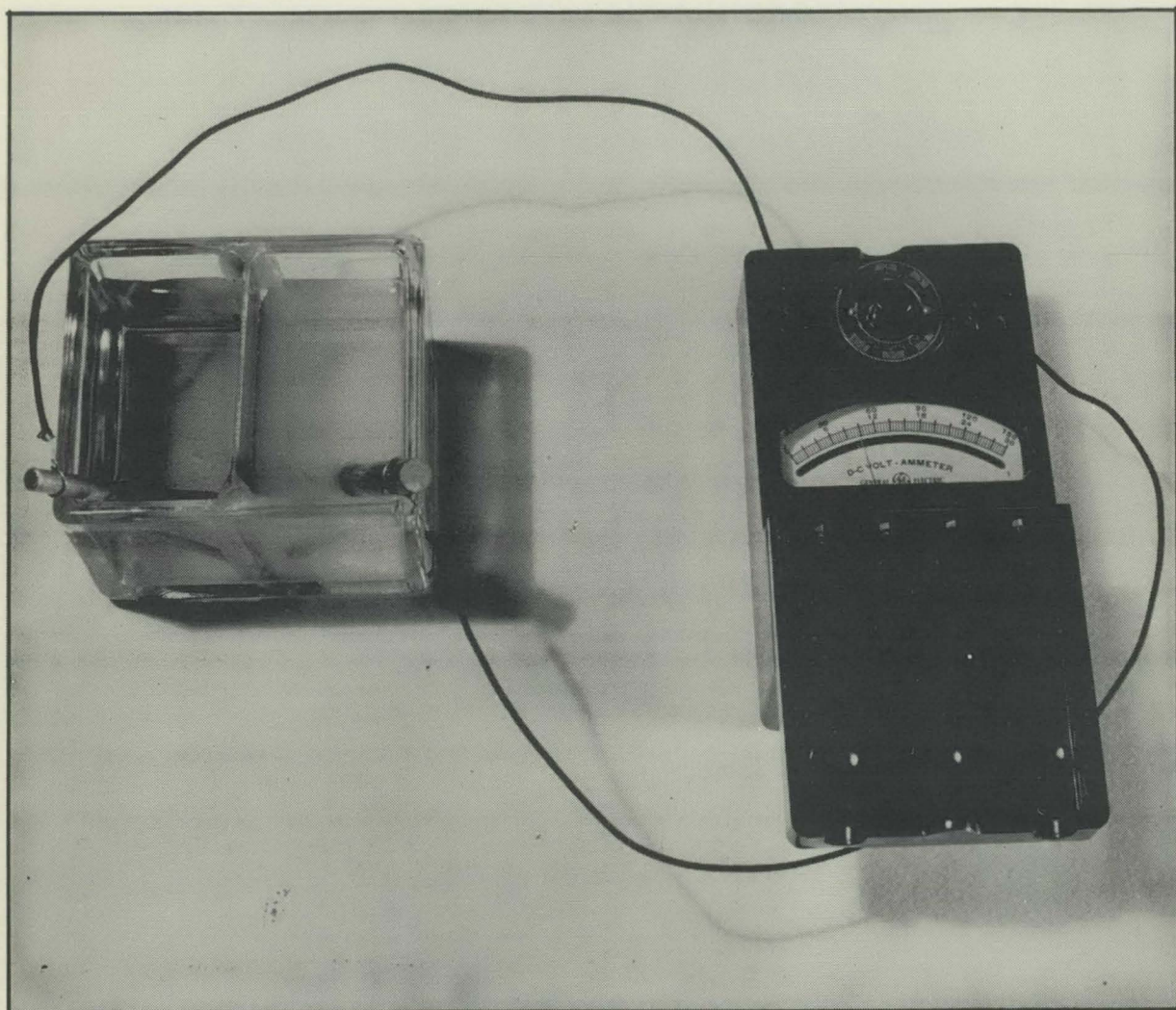
Electrochemical methods play an important part in the Analytical or the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory. The methods of analysis are not usually complex in nature and may be performed in a comparatively short time. The analysis can be simplified by first running a spectrographic analysis to determine the metals present. After the constituent metals are determined a schematic quantitative analysis can be worked out for the combination of metals present.

Ofttimes in police work it becomes necessary to determine whether two separate pieces of metal are similar in composition. A practical example would be the finding of a piece of brass at the scene of an assault, then later arresting a suspect who had in his possession a piece of brass pipe. It then becomes necessary to determine if the two parts are identical in chemical composition. Both the evidence specimens should then be analyzed electrochemically to determine the percentage composition to ascertain whether the two pieces have the same chemical composition.

1. "Principles and Applications of Electrochemistry" by H. Jermain Creighton, Professor of Chemistry, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. Published by John Wiley and Sons, Incorporated, New York, New York.
2. "Theoretical and Applied Electrochemistry" by Maurice De Kay Thompson, Associate Professor of Electrochemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Published by the Macmillan Company, New York, New York, 1925.



Simple electric cells and storage batteries are examples of the production of electric currents from chemical reaction. If a piece of zinc is immersed in a solution of zinc sulphate and a piece of copper is immersed in a solution of copper sulphate a current will flow when the two pieces of metal are connected by a wire, provided the two solutions are in electrical contact. If this current is permitted to pass through a small cell containing two platinum electrodes immersed in a copper sulphate solution, copper will be deposited on the platinum electrode which carries the negative charge. Lead starting batteries and other accumulators are examples of the production of electric currents by chemical reaction.



**Electrical Energy Produced From A Daniell Cell**

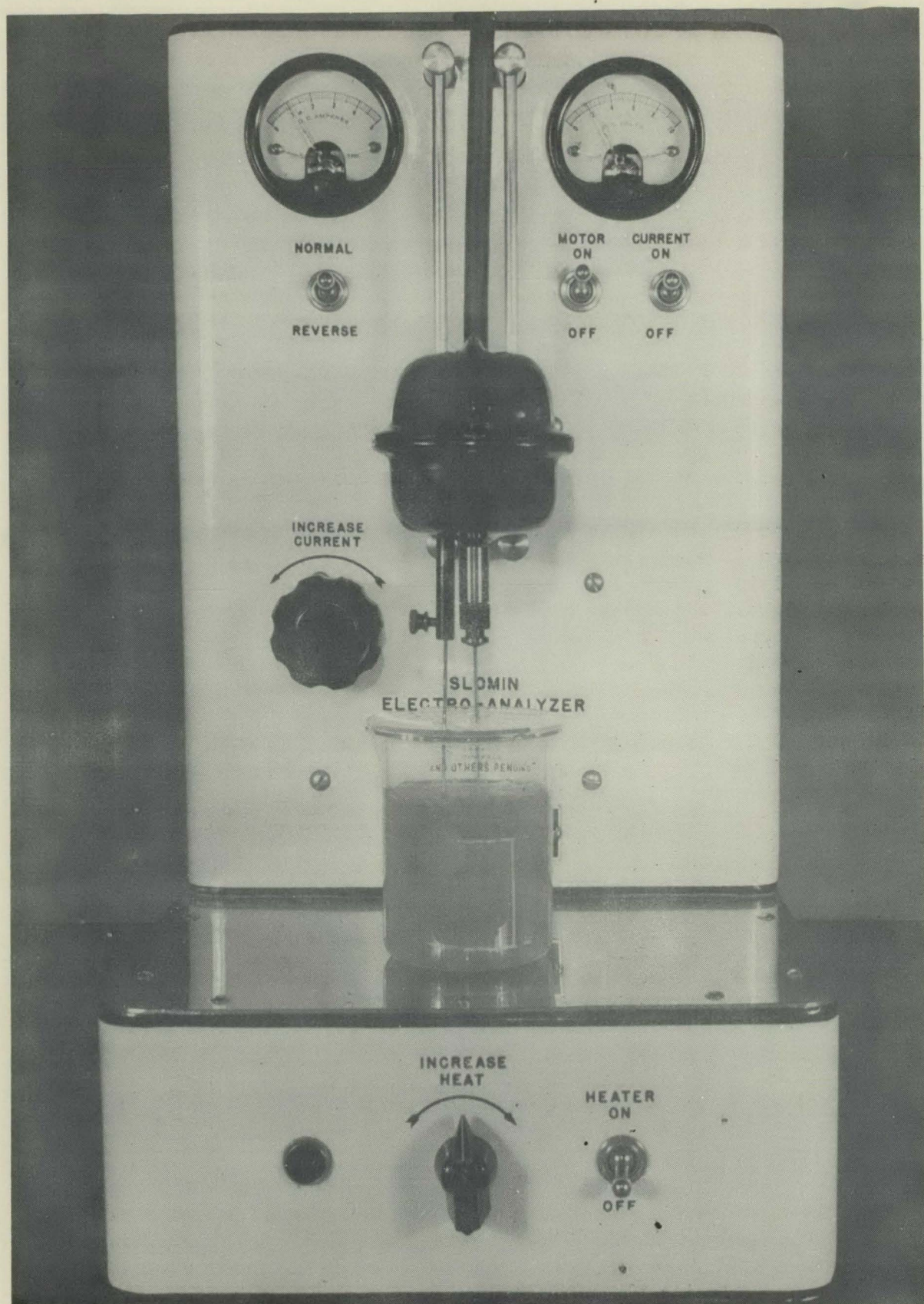


The changes which take place when a current of electricity is passed through a chemical solution is one of the more important phases of electrochemistry. It is necessary first to understand some of the properties of certain types of chemical substances which are changed by the passage of an electric current through solutions of these substances and second the types of electrical conductors. The classes of substances known as acids, bases, and salts, when dissolved in water ionize or dissociate into the component ions. Hydrochloric acid ( $\text{HCl}$ ) a typical mineral acid, dissociates in water solution to form positive hydrogen ions ( $\text{H}^+$ ) and negative chlorine ions ( $\text{Cl}^-$ ). Sodium hydroxide, a common base, dissociates in water solution to form positive sodium ions ( $\text{Na}^+$ ) and negative hydroxyl ions ( $\text{OH}^-$ ). Copper sulphate dissolved in water ionizes to form positive copper ions ( $\text{Cu}^{++}$ ) and negative sulphate ions ( $\text{SO}_4^{--}$ ). Chemical substances which have the property of forming ions are called electrolytes. Sugar, alcohol, and like substances are called non-electrolytes because they do not dissociate to form ions. Some other substances may be used as the solvent in place of water, such as liquid ammonia, liquid sulphur-dioxide, hydrocyanic acid and others.

Electric conductors are divided into two classes, first, metallic or electronic conductors and second, electrolytic conductors. In the case of metallic or electronic conductors a current is carried over the conductor without the motion of matter as in the case of electrons passing over a copper wire. In cases of conductors of the second class, the current is conducted by the motion of matter. The positive and negative ions carry the charges through the solution of the electrolyte. The positive charged ions migrate through the solution toward the negative electrode, called the cathode; where a negative charge is picked up from this electrode and the positive ions become neutral. In case of the positive copper ion, two negative charges are picked up from the cathode and the copper becoming neutral, plates on the cathode. The negative charged ions migrate to the positive charged electrode, called the anode, where the negative ions lose their charges to the electrode thereby becoming neutral radicals or atoms. Gaseous products of the electrolysis are given off as bubbles of gas at their respective electrodes. Sometimes the substances liberated at the electrodes are not evident because they react with the solvent in the solution. The process of passing a current through the solution of an electrolyte is called electrolysis.

The action of various chemical substances under the influence of an electric current makes electrolysis an important method for rapid quantitative determinations. Accurately weighed portions of many solid substances can be dissolved in suitable solvents and electrolyzed to determine the amount of metal present. Accurately measured portions of solutions of metallic salts may likewise be analyzed by electrochemical methods. Not all metals deposit on the cathode but may deposit on the anode as an oxide of the metal as in the case of manganese in sulphuric acid solution or lead separated from a solution of lead acetate. The amount of metal present in the solution electrolyzed is determined by the increase in weight of the electrode on which it is deposited. The action of different metals in the same solvent aids in the separation of metals as does the specific





Determining Copper Electrolytically



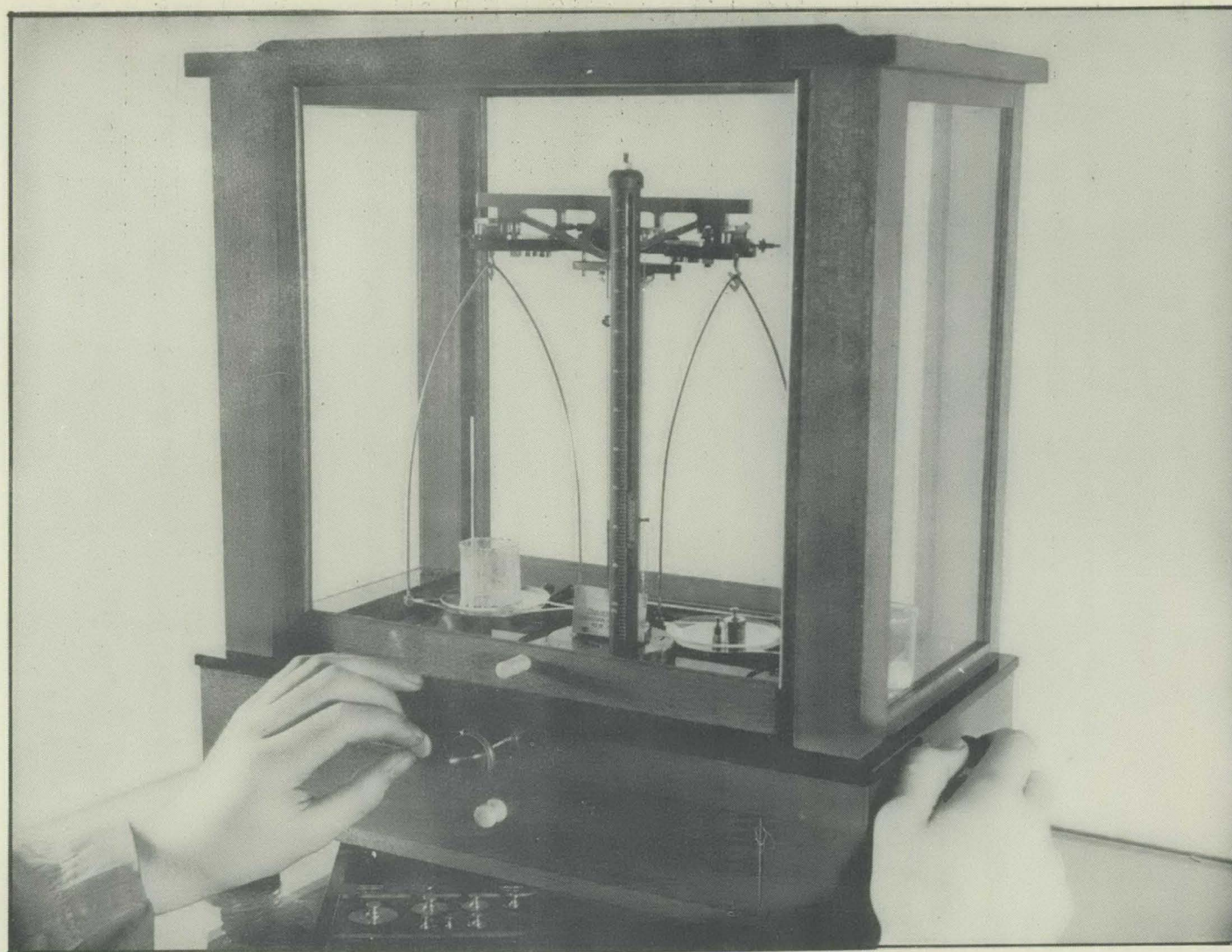
action of different salts of the metals. When a solution of copper and lead acetate is electrolyzed, the copper deposits on the cathode while the lead deposits as the oxide on the anode. The action of the different metals or salts under the same conditions makes possible a definite scheme of analysis. In some cases where products of the electrolysis react with the solvent in the solution, a solvent that does not react with the products may be used or in some cases the fused salt is electrolyzed.

Another important factor in the separation of various metals from solutions of their salts is the decomposition voltage. Decomposition voltage may be defined as the smallest external electromotive force that must be applied to cause the separation of a sufficient quantity of cations and anions to permit the continuous flow of current through the solution, when insoluble electrodes are used. In other words it is the impressed voltage at which a given metal will deposit on an insoluble electrode from a solution of the metallic salt. The decomposition voltage of various salts of the same metal may differ widely. Salts of different metals may also vary widely in respect to decomposition voltage. As a result of these differences in decomposition voltage, one metal at a time may be removed from a solution containing several metals by merely regulating the external electromotive force. Take for example a solution containing copper sulphate, cobalt sulphate, nickel sulphate, and zinc sulphate and it is desired to determine the percentage composition of the solution. The decomposition voltage of the constituents are copper sulphate, 1.49 volts, cobalt sulphate 1.92 volts, nickel sulphate, 2.09 volts and zinc sulphate, 2.55 volts. If two insoluble platinum electrodes are inserted into the solution and connected with a battery and rheostat, the voltage can be increased to 1.49 volts at which point copper will plate out on the cathode. If, after the copper has been completely removed, a clean cathode is placed in the solution and the voltage raises to 1.92 volts, the cobalt will be deposited on this cathode. By continuing to change the cathodes and increase the voltage, nickel will plate out at 2.09 volts and zinc at 2.55 volts. By this method each metal component can be completely removed from the solution in the presence of the other metallic constituents.

The decomposition voltage of an electrolyte varies with the nature of the electrode material between which the solution is electrolyzed. More work is required to liberate hydrogen from a lead cathode than from a platinum electrode. A higher voltage is required to electrolyze a solution of sulphuric acid between a platinum anode and a lead cathode than between two platinum electrodes. The variations in decomposition voltage with electrode material results from differences in polarization. Due to these differences, the use of the different electrode materials may facilitate the separation of metallic constituents from a mixed solution.

Most work in electroanalysis has been performed with platinum cathodes. These have had a variety of shapes such as plates, dishes, cones, spirals, gauzes, cylinders, discs, et cetera. Copper gauzes may well be used for copper determinations. Nickel and mercury have also been used for cathodes as well as other metals. Graphite or carbon anodes are essential when substances such as chlorine are liberated in the nascent





Weighing Platinum Cathode with Copper Deposit



state at the anode. Nascent chlorine will readily dissolve a platinum anode. Rotating anodes such as platinum discs, plates, crucibles and spirals greatly decrease the amount of time needed to completely precipitate a metal from solution. Rotating the anode permits the use of currents of greater intensity and higher voltage whereby more metal is deposited in a given time unit. The movement of the anode agitates the solution around the cathode thus preventing the formation of areas of low ion concentration immediately around the cathode. Some results of tests using the rotating anode are set forth showing the rapidity of the determination. (1)

<u>SOLUTION</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>METAL</u>	<u>GRAMS DEPOSITED</u>
Bismuth nitrate .....	12 min. ....	bismuth .....	0.2775 grams
Mercurous nitrate ...	3 min. ....	mercury .....	0.3572 grams
Cadmium sulphate ....	8 min. ....	cadmium .....	0.5762 grams
Silver nitrate .....	7 min. ....	silver .....	0.5270 grams
Zinc hydroxide .....	7 min. ....	zinc .....	0.4691 grams

It is often possible to make quantitative determinations with an error of less than 0.004 of one per cent.

The current necessary for electrochemical determinations may be derived from storage batteries or from a direct current generator. Variable resistances are necessary to regulate the current and voltages used and voltmeters and ammeters calibrated in one-tenth units are best suited for determining the voltage and amperage.

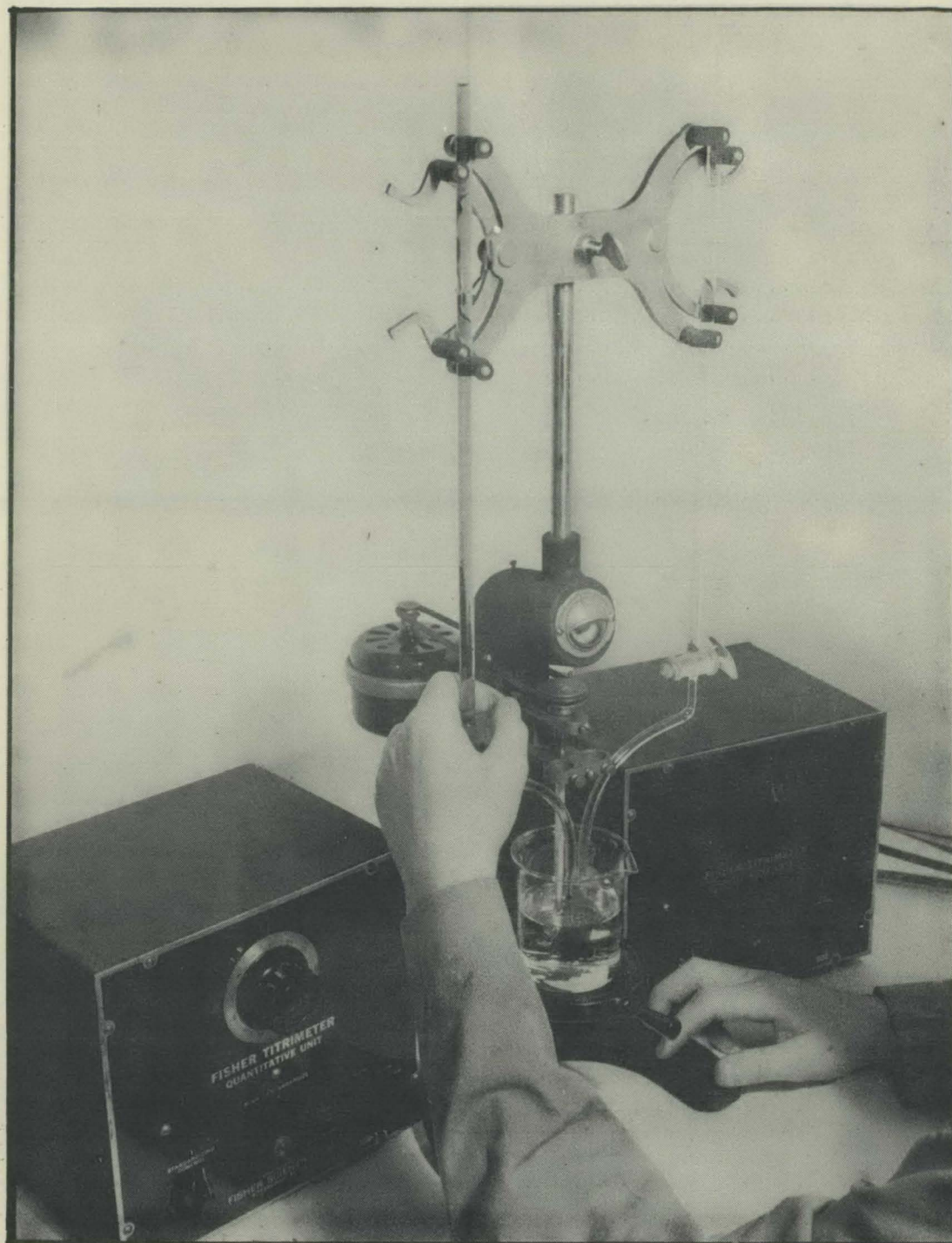
Electro methods are applicable to the quantitative analysis of metals, alloys, metallic poisons, metallic pigments, metallic salts, et cetera. The use of electrosynthesis in changing one substance into another substance may be very helpful in determining the identity of a substance.

It is often impossible to accurately titrate a colored solution because the color change of the indicator is masked by the color of the solution. In such cases the titration may be made in the usual manner but instead of an indicator to indicate the end point, changes in conductance determine the end point. The changes in conductance of a solution are measured with the Kohlrausch alternating current bridge. The conductance of the solution to be titrated (acids) is measured and the base is slowly added and another reading taken. The base is added until the end point is well passed during which time two more readings are recorded. By plotting the bridge readings against cubic centimeters of base added and drawing straight lines through the plotted points, it is found that the two lines intersect. The end point is represented by the intersection of the two lines. The conductance of the acid solution decreases upon the addition of the base as the salt is formed until the end point is reached, then the conductance of the solution increases as an excess of base is added. This method may be used in the titration of processes in solution which involve

(1) "Electro-Analysis" by Edgar F. Smith. Sixth Edition. Published by P. Blakiston's Son and Company, 1012 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., 1918.



ionic changes, provided that sufficiently marked variation in the conductance of the solution is produced by these ionic changes.



**Titrating with the Electric Titrimeter**



**ELMER ABNER JONES**  
**FIVE AND A HALF YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED CHECK FORGING**

Name	Elmer Abner Jones
Age	42 Years
Height	5' 6½"
Weight	165 pounds
Complexion	Medium florid
Eyes	Dark chestnut
Hair	Dark chestnut and curly
Build	Muscular
Peculiarities	Furrows in forehead; brows heavy; large ears.

FBI Number	187530
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(above) Front View  
Elmer Abner Jones

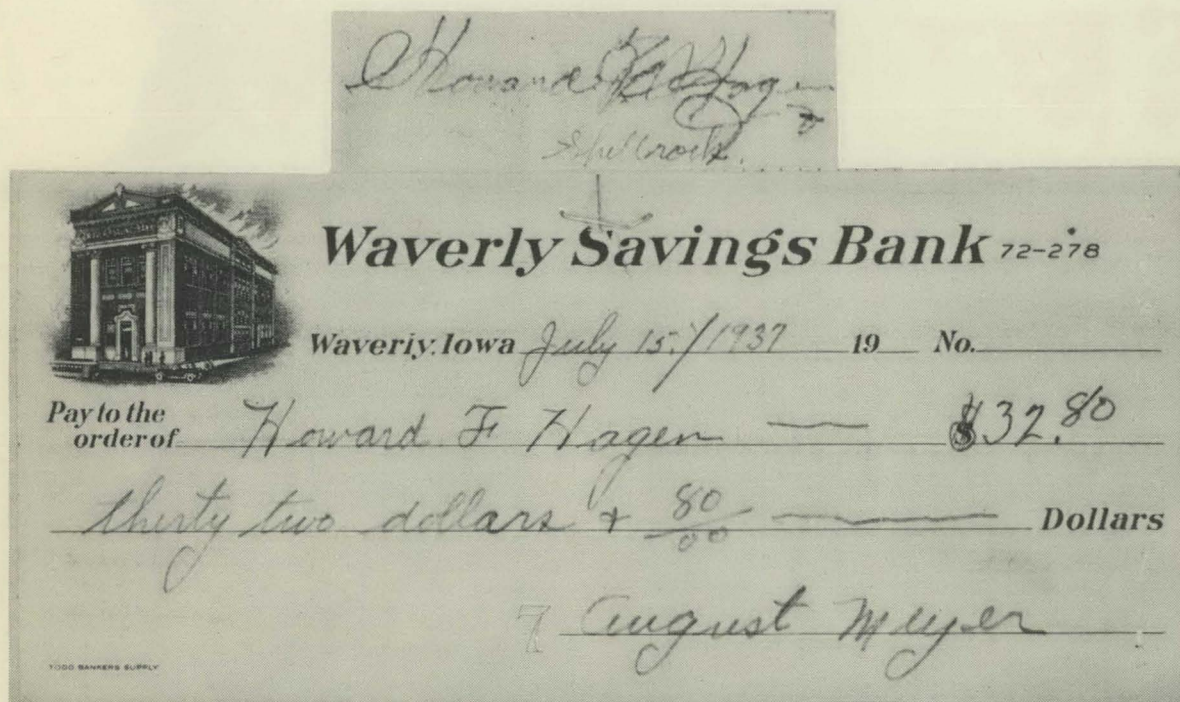


(right) Side View  
Elmer Abner Jones



Elmer Abner Jones met his nemesis in the dogged, persistent and intelligent investigation conducted by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

On January 30, 1941, at Kasota, Minnesota, Jones' career as a check forger was abruptly brought to an end by his arrest. Within two or three hours after his arrest he admitted the forging and passing of this series of checks. Seven days later upon a plea of guilty he was given a sentence up to fifteen years in the State Penitentiary at Stillwater, Minnesota.



#### Check passed by Jones in Iowa, July, 1937

Jones was quite successful in victimizing automotive supply companies, implement dealers, automobile service stations and hardware stores with his bogus checks. During the five and one half years of his fraudulent activities it was reported that he passed 261 checks -- nearly one a week -- valued at \$5,308.21. These figures probably represent only half of the checks passed by Jones. Jones even boasted that he was able to go into almost any small town, stay for thirty minutes, and obtain at least \$50.00 through the forged checks. According to cases reported to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, he is known to have been successful in passing checks in 37 Counties in Minnesota, 29 Counties in Iowa, 11 Counties in South Dakota, 5 Counties in Wisconsin, and 1 County in North Dakota.



*Walter H. Hallstrom*

OSSEO, MINN. *Jan. 15 - 41.* 19 *41* No. *75-559*

75-559 **FARMERS STATE BANK** 75-559  
AFFILIATED WITH NORTHWEST BANCORPORATION

PAY TO THE ORDER OF *Walter Hallstrom* \$ *16.80*

*Sixteen and 80/100* DOLLARS

*August Johnson*

FREE PRESS, HANNAH, MINN.

**Check passed by Jones in Minnesota, January, 1941**

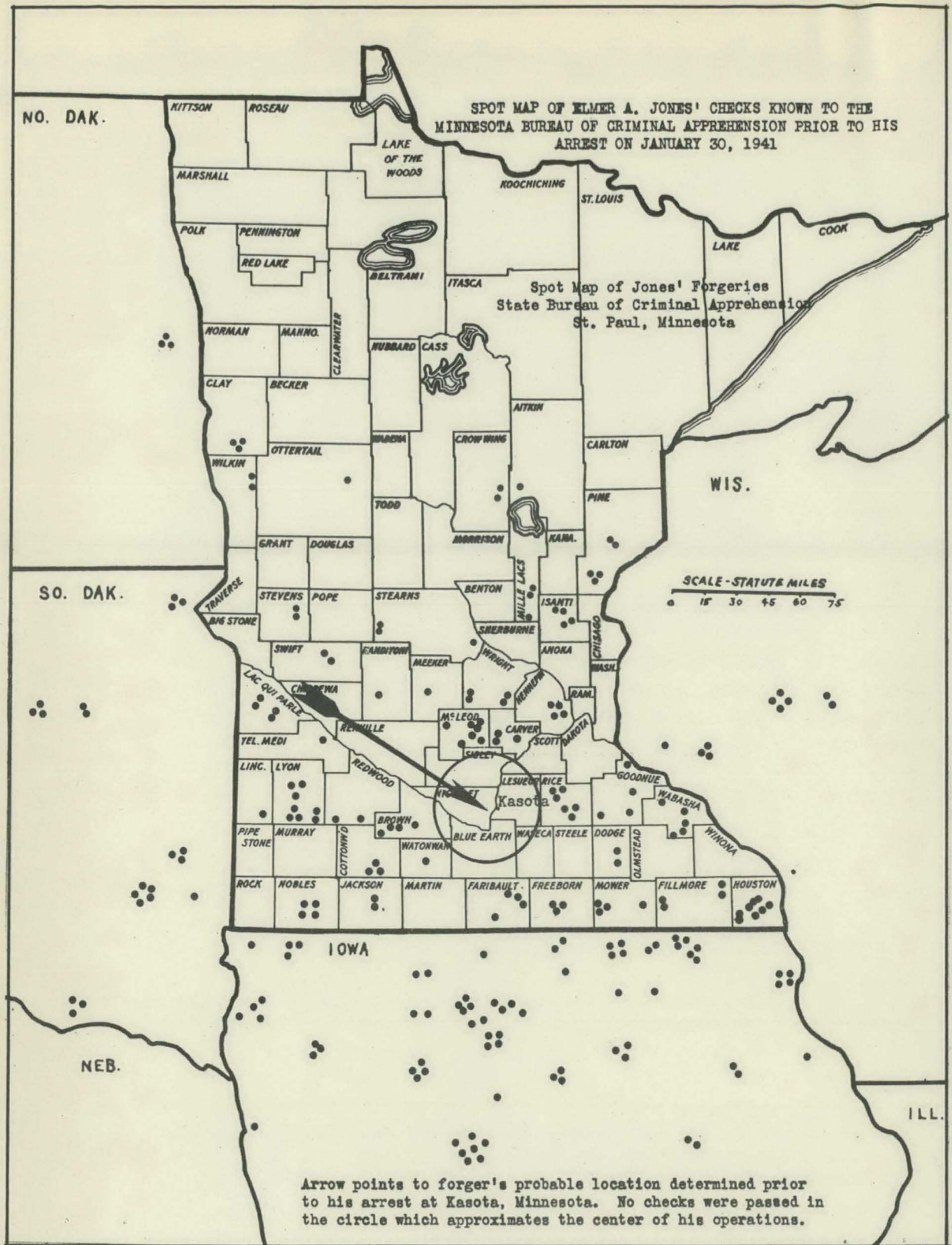
While Jones was passing his fraudulent checks with considerable ease the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension was working doubly hard trying to obtain some information that would supply it with the identity of Jones. Although considerable time was necessary in order to obtain accurate and complete information on all of Jones' checks reported to the Minnesota Bureau the results certainly justified the effort.

For some time prior to Jones' apprehension the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension maintained a spot map showing the various points Jones' checks were reported passed. An examination of the spot map did not readily reveal any central location so various methods were tried by the Minnesota Bureau in order to locate such a point.

The successful method which was to point the way toward Jones' apprehension was based on the assumption that the check forger traveled in all directions from his home and that his residence did not change during the period.

If a line were drawn East and West in such a way that there were an equal number of checks on both sides of the line, and a similar line was drawn North and South, then, it was reasoned, the point of intersection would approximate the forger's location. This, of course, would only be true if the cities of the type visited by the forger were equally common throughout the area frequented by him. The lines drawn intersected in the upper part of Blue Earth County directly south of Kasota. A circle was





Spot Map



drawn in this area so that the circumference was nearly equidistant from adjacent forgeries. The center of the circle proved to be a few miles north of the intersecting lines, but this may be accounted for by the geographical differences in the area victimized by Jones.

It was then seen from the map that within a radius of about 25 miles from St. Peter and Kasota, Minnesota, none of Jones' checks had ever been passed. This led the Minnesota Bureau to believe that the forger lived in that area and it was the intention of the Bureau to go with the Sheriff at LeSueur, Minnesota, to pick up Jones for investigation inasmuch as it was learned that he was living on a forty acre tract of land and appeared to have an income greatly in excess of the revenue from his forty acres of land.

At about this time the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension was advised by the Sheriff at Hillsboro, North Dakota, that the license number of a check forger had been obtained at Hillsboro and the license number checked to Jones at Kasota. The checks were obtained from Hillsboro and it was immediately apparent that they were of the same series which had been passed over the period of approximately five and a half years by this unknown forger. Jones was immediately arrested and within two or three hours after his arrest admitted the forging and passing of this entire series of checks.

During Jones' check passing activities a number of his checks were received for inclusion in the FBI's National Fraudulent Check File. As they were searched in this file they were tied together and all interested law enforcement agencies advised as to the information developed. These interested agencies through submitting Jones' checks for a search in the National Fraudulent Check File automatically placed themselves in the FBI's records as being interested in learning of the activities and of the identity of the forger should this information ever be ascertained.

In the case of Jones the interested law enforcement agencies were advised of the identity of the unknown forger as well as to his location through the fine cooperation and assistance of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.



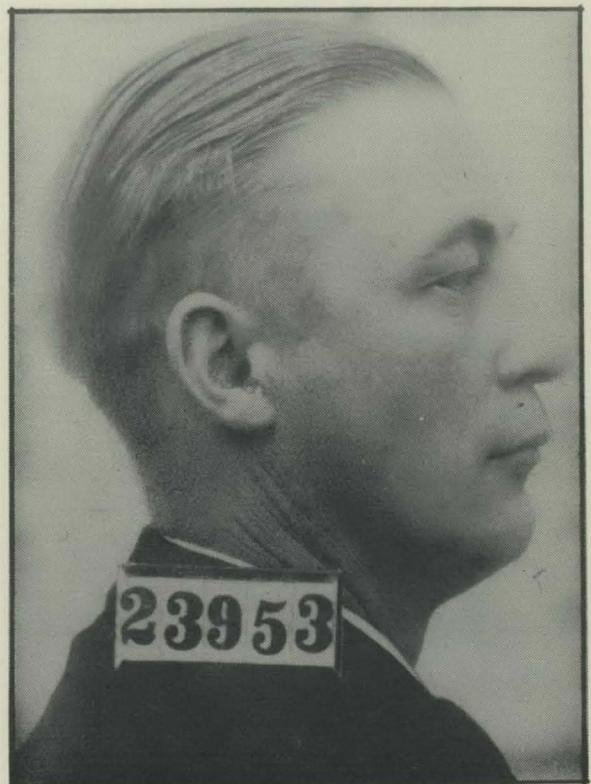


# WANTED BY THE FBI

**BERT EDWARD SOLEM, with aliases**

## For

## BANK ROBBERY - LARCENY



**Detailed descriptive data concerning this individual appear on pages 17 through 32**



**WANTED BY THE FBI**  
**Bert Edward Solem, with aliases, for**  
**BANK ROBBERY -- LARCENY\***

The Nation-wide scope of operations of many criminals is well illustrated by the activities of Bert Edward Solem. He represents the "hit-and-run" type of criminals who play for small stakes over a wide expanse of territory, and such criminals present a vexing problem to law enforcement officers. Bert Edward Solem first felt the long arm of the law in 1922 when he was arrested by the Michigan State Police at Lansing, Michigan, on a charge of forgery and was sentenced to serve 1 to 10 years. At that time he was using the name of William Dunavant. His arrest record since that time does not present a true picture of his field of operations.

He cannot be credited with any amount of ability in eluding apprehension thus far. He uses the age old custom of committing a crime, then running away before the victim realizes a crime has been committed. This sinister, underhanded method of obtaining money has enabled Solem to live like a parasite without pretense of work at the expense of his victims in nearly twenty different States during the past year. Solem's victims thus far have been mostly banks. His "modus operandi" has been consistently the same and successfully the same. The FBI has in its files evidence of more than fifty different aliases he has used in his nefarious and fraudulent schemes.

The FBI became interested in Solem's fraudulent check activities in the spring of 1940 when it was reported to our Des Moines office that an individual named R. C. Carlson had drawn four checks in the amount of \$175.00 each on the Peoples State Bank, Missouri Valley, Iowa, made to the order of R. C. Carlson and signed by Mrs. Morris Carlson. These checks had been cashed at banks at Richland Center, Wisconsin; St. Cloud, Minnesota; Winona, Minnesota; and Dubuque, Iowa.

\*On May 18, 1934, the President approved an Act of Congress making the robbery of National Banks and Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System a Federal offense. This act was amended on August 23, 1935, to also make the robbery of insured banks of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation a Federal offense. Another Act approved by the President on August 24, 1937, further amended the original Act to include burglary and larceny. The Act of 1937 stated: "whoever shall take and carry away, with intent to steal or purloin, any property or money or any other thing of value exceeding \$50.00 belonging to, or in the care, custody, control, management, or possession of any bank, shall be fined not more than \$5,000.00 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both." If the larceny is less than \$50.00 the fine cannot be more than \$1,000.00 and the imprisonment not more than one year, or both. Thus, in cases of the type cited herein, relative to the multifarious violations of Bert Edward Solem where an individual obtains money from a bank through a fraudulent scheme, such as presenting a worthless check and obtaining money on same, he is subject to prosecution under the above-mentioned portion of the Bank Robbery Statute.



From the aforementioned evidence it appeared that R. C. Carlson and Mrs. Morris Carlson, if such a person existed, had violated the Bank Robbery Statute coming under the jurisdiction of the FBI. An immediate investigation was launched to ascertain the identity of R. C. Carlson and Mrs. Morris Carlson. This investigation has now become Nation-wide.

It has been proven that R. C. Carlson is one of the many aliases of Bert Edward Solem; that Solem has operated criminally in nearly twenty different States; that he has violated the Federal Bank Robbery Statutes in each of these States and there are two outstanding Federal Warrants for his arrest.

#### Warrants For Solem's Arrest:

On December 4, 1940, a complaint was filed before the United States Commissioner at Cheyenne, Wyoming, charging Bert Edward Solem with a violation of the Bank Robbery - Larceny Statute on April 2, 1940, in the First Security Bank at Rock Springs, Wyoming. A warrant for Solem's arrest has been issued in connection with this offense.

On January 17, 1941, a complaint was filed before the United States Commissioner at San Diego, California, charging Solem with a violation of the Bank Robbery - Larceny Statute committed by him in the United States National Bank at San Diego, California, on January 9, 1941. A warrant for Solem's arrest has been sworn out in connection with this offense and a non est return has been made by the United States Marshal of that District.

#### Method of Operation:

An excellent example of Solem's method of operation is his successful defrauding of the U. S. National Bank at San Diego, California, during a three day period, January 8, 9, and 10, 1941, of \$128.10.

On January 8, 1941, Solem appeared at the U. S. National Bank, San Diego, and asked if he could open a savings account. He stated he had a check payable to him, B. E. Solem, for \$250.00; that he wanted to deposit \$225.00 in his savings account and obtain \$25.00 in cash. This check was dated January 2, 1940, and drawn on the Mound City Bank, Platteville, Wisconsin. It was made payable to B. E. Solem and signed Mrs. A. L. Solem. The Bank official asked Solem for some references, inasmuch as he was a stranger and Solem gladly complied. He exhibited several cards, his driver's license, and gave the Farmers State Bank at Spring Green, Wisconsin, as a reference.

The Bank official stated that Solem's approach and demeanor were very smooth at all times; that Solem did not seem at all nervous and none of his actions would arouse the suspicions of an ordinary prudent person.



Solem executed the necessary card for opening a savings account. His check was accepted for collection and he was given \$25.00 in cash.

On the following day Solem presented his Savings Pass Book to a teller of this Bank with a check for \$151.50 and asked that \$100.00 be deposited in his savings account and \$51.50 be given him in cash. This was done. This check, a photographic reproduction of which is shown below, was signed by Dr. Wm. H. Solem. The teller did not ask Solem any questions regarding the drawer of this check and Solem volunteered no information as to the drawer's identity.

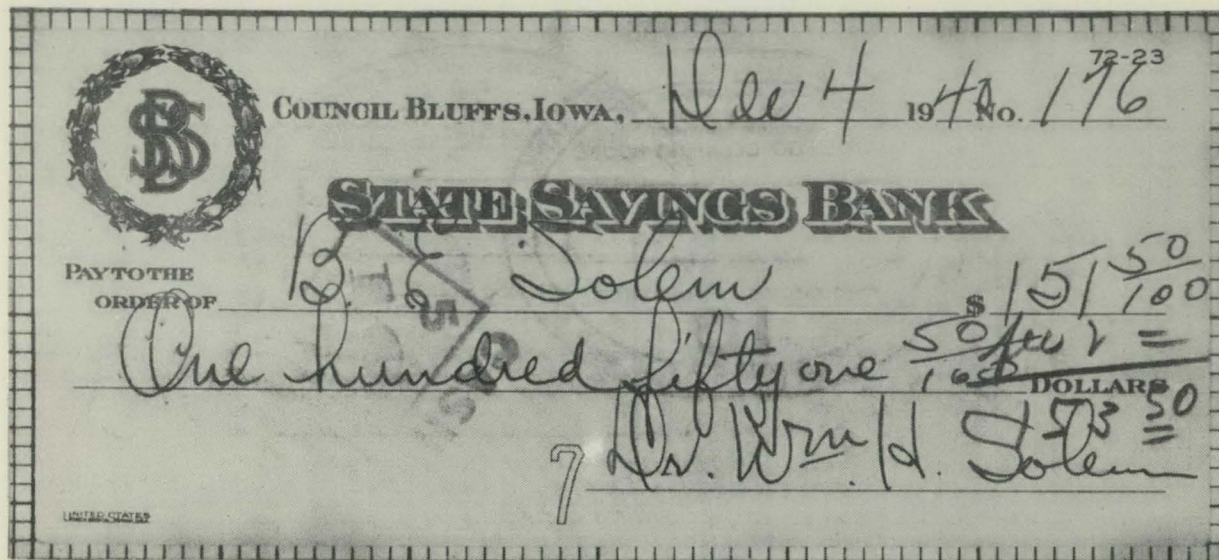
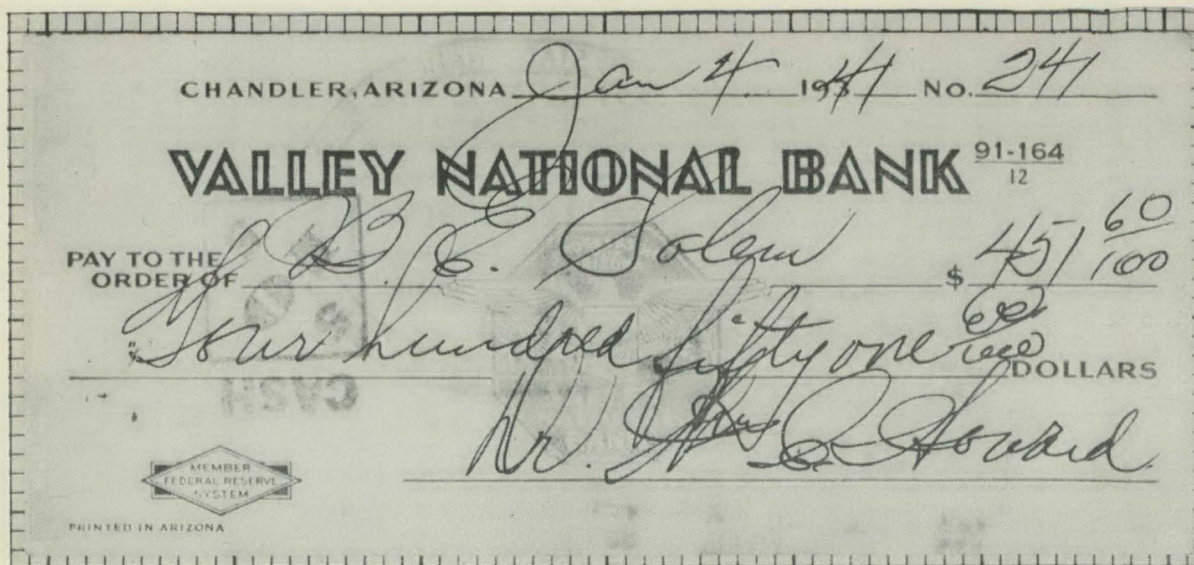


Exhibit 1

Photographic Reproduction of Fraudulent Check  
Passed by Bert E. Solem at U. S. National Bank,  
San Diego, California, January 9, 1941

On January 10, 1941, Solem again appeared at this Bank, presented his Pass Book and a check for \$451.60, and requested that \$400.00 be deposited in his savings account and that \$51.60 be given to him in cash. This was done. This check, a photographic reproduction of which is shown on the following page as Exhibit 2, was signed by Dr. William I. Howard. Solem advised the teller on this occasion: "This is the last one of these you will see for a while." All three of the checks were returned "No Account." The total amount of actual cash fraudulently obtained by Solem during this three-day activity of his at the U. S. National Bank amounted to \$128.10. Both the interviewing official and the teller at this Bank who waited on Solem identified him from a photograph contained in the files of the San Diego Field Division of the FBI. It is interesting to note that both of the checks for \$151.50 and \$451.60 contained fictitious signatures beginning with the name "Dr. Wm. ...." even though one was drawn on





## Exhibit 2

### Photographic Reproduction of Fraudulent Check Passed by Bert E. Solem at the U. S. National Bank, San Diego, California, January 10, 1941

the State Savings Bank of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and the other on the Valley National Bank of Chandler, Arizona. It shows how criminals inadvertently have a sameness in their method of operation.

#### Possibility of Additional Federal Violation:

Allegations have been made that Solem has committed a violation of the White Slave Traffic Act and these allegations are being investigated by the FBI in connection with their efforts to apprehend Solem. In connection with the above-described robberies committed by Solem in San Diego, California, it was learned that he had stayed at a local hotel in San Diego between December 31, 1940, and January 7, 1941, and during that time a blond woman was seen with him. The records of the hotel where he stayed showed an item in the Cash Receipts Book that Mrs. Solem had obtained fifty cents on one occasion and that it had later been paid by him. The blond woman referred to who posed as Mrs. Solem was later located through the assistance of the San Diego Police Department and interviewed. She positively identified the photograph of B. E. Solem as the individual with whom she had associated in San Diego. She advised she met him in a cafe in the latter part of November and that they took a trip to Phoenix, Arizona, in Solem's old car, a Cadillac Sedan, bearing Minnesota license number 107433. This woman stated she and Solem stopped at a hotel in Phoenix, stayed there for about a week and returned to San Diego; that subsequent to their return from Phoenix to San Diego, she took a trip with Solem to San Francisco, California, and



Portland, Oregon. She stated that she left Solem at Portland, Oregon, and returned to San Diego just prior to Christmas, 1940. This woman also advised that Solem had returned to San Diego on December 31, 1940, and that she had seen him during his stay there for the next ten days; that he left on approximately January 10, 1941, and advised he was going to Florida. She stated that Solem never spoke of his personal history nor mentioned the source of his income; that on one occasion he had stated that he had returned to San Diego to seek employment but never mentioned to her any places he had tried to get a job; that she had never seen him write checks or give any checks; that he always paid for everything he got in cash. This woman further informed that at the time she and Solem visited Portland, Oregon, they stayed at an unknown auto court there together for about a week.

#### Wide Extent of Operations:

Solem does not confine his activities to any one State. A resume of his activities during 1940 showed that during January he operated in Wisconsin and North Dakota; in April in Wyoming; in May in Idaho and Wyoming; in June, Minnesota and Wisconsin; in September, Iowa, South Dakota, and Oklahoma; in October, Arizona, Florida and Mississippi; by November he had again proceeded to Iowa thence to California then New Mexico and by December back to California again. Therefore, in order to give to law enforcement officers a true picture of the wide extent of this criminal's fraudulent operations, we present herewith a State by State resume of Solem's activities actually known to the FBI during 1940 and 1941. It is, of course, highly probable that he has passed many other checks, but the ones mentioned here are those actually called to the FBI's attention by citizens, banks, and law enforcement officers, or learned of through our own investigation of Solem's activities.

#### ARIZONA

On October 5, 1940, Solem presented to the Phoenix Savings and Trust Company at Phoenix, Arizona, a \$335.00 check signed Mrs. Andrew Howard, payable to Roy C. Howard. This check was drawn on the Stockyards Bank at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

#### CALIFORNIA

On December 6, 1940, Solem, using the name of Robert Hanson and endorsing a check as R. C. Hanson, called at the First National Bank of Merced, California, and presented a check for \$225.00 signed by Mrs. Alma Hanson and drawn on the Valley National Bank at Chandler, Arizona. With this check he opened a savings account under the name of R. C. Hanson and deposited \$200.00 in the account and requested \$25.00 in cash. This amount he received from the bank. On the following day, December 7, 1940, this same individual presented a check dated December 4, 1940, Number 162, in the amount of \$642.50, signed by Dr. William A. Hanson to the order of R. C. Hanson on the Stockyards Bank at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He deposited \$600.00 to his savings account and received \$42.50 in cash. Both of these checks were returned later marked "no account."



## FLORIDA

On October 20, 1940, Solem, representing himself as Robert Halverson, entered the Lee County Bank at Fort Myers, Florida, near closing time and asked to open an account stating he had previously carried an account with that bank in 1936. He presented a check for \$537.50 drawn on the Stockyards Bank, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, dated September 20, 1940, signed by Mrs. Andrew Halverson and made payable to Robert Halverson. The check carried Number 142B. At the same time Solem presented a check in the sum of \$10.00 drawn on the Exchange National Bank, Atlanta, Georgia, signed by M. M. Carley and made payable to Robert Halverson on the account of the Real Silk Hosiery Company. Solem indicated that he wanted to deposit \$500.00 to his account and receive \$37.50 in cash. This the bank did and also cashed the \$10.00 Real Silk Hosiery Company check. He indicated to the President of the bank that he was living in a hotel at Fort Myers. The records of the bank later were checked and revealed Solem never had a previous account with the bank. Although the check for \$10.00 drawn on the Real Silk Hosiery Company, Atlanta, Georgia, was paid, the \$537.50 check was returned with the notation "no account."

## IDAHO

On May 3, 1940, Solem entered the First National Bank of Lewiston, Idaho, opened a savings account at this bank with a check for \$162.50, made payable to the order of B. E. Solem drawn on the First Security Bank of Rock Springs, Wyoming. He requested \$20.00 in cash and received this amount from the teller when he opened the account. The following day, May 4, 1940, Solem again appeared at that bank and proceeded to a different teller than the one who had waited on him the previous day, presented a check for \$106.00 drawn on the same bank and signed by Mrs. Wm. C. Cox, and requested \$35.00 in cash which he received. He advised the teller who opened the account that he was going to work for "Cardiff in the Mill at Weippe." Solem's mode of operation in this particular instance varied a little. He usually presents to a teller a check already drawn to his order under an assumed name by a fictitious drawee but on this occasion he talked to the teller and while talking wrote a check to his own order and signed it B. E. Solem, advising the teller he was on his way to Weippe, Idaho, to take a job with the Cardiff Mill at that place; that he wanted to have his money kept at the Lewiston Bank and only needed a little cash to enable him to get settled at Weippe.

Investigation conducted by the FBI at Weippe disclosed that in March, 1940, Solem appeared in Weippe with a girl whose brother lived there. Solem and this girl indicated that they had met at Spokane, Washington, where he, Solem, had worked as a car painter at some auto shop. Neither Solem nor the girl indicated whether or not they were married but lived together with the girl's brother, allegedly as man and wife for approximately three weeks. At that time he announced that he was going elsewhere to look for work and had received a check through the mail from his mother for \$15.00 which he would like to cash. Thereupon the brother of the woman he



was living with agreed to endorse the check and it was cashed at a store in Weippe. The check was drawn on the First Security Bank of Rock Springs, Wyoming, and later returned "no account." The FBI ascertained that after Solem left Weippe the girl he had lived with continued to live at her brother's home in Weippe and that she had never received any word whatsoever from Solem. It was also ascertained that this girl was married to another individual in Missouri and therefore could not have been married legitimately to Solem.

#### IOWA

On September 25, 1940, Solem entered the Boone State Savings Bank and presented a check for \$235.00, signed by Mrs. Andrew Halverson, drawn on the Mound City Bank at Platteville, Wisconsin, and made payable to the order of L. R. Halverson. The number was filled in as Number 147 and in the left hand corner appeared the notation, "Rent for 1st half." He stated he desired to open a savings account. He deposited the check and received \$35.00 in cash. The teller who waited on him advised that he did not act suspicious in any way and stated he took the signature card usually made out by persons opening savings accounts and stated he would have it signed by his wife and returned later on during the day. The teller positively identified a photograph of Solem exhibited to him by an FBI Agent as being the individual who committed this robbery.

On September 17, 1940, Solem entered the Security State Bank of Algona, Iowa, and made inquiry relative to opening a savings account. He presented a check for \$237.00, drawn on the Mound City Bank at Platteville, Wisconsin, and signed by Dr. R. Sorenson. This check bore the Number 126. On this occasion the check was made out to Lynn Sorenson and this is the name Solem used on this occasion. After Solem had opened the savings account he asked if he could have an advance of \$37.00 on this check inasmuch as he was short of funds. He stated at this time that he worked for the "Truth Tool Company" of Minnesota and that he expected to be in town for some time. Two photographs of Bert Edward Solem were exhibited to an official of this bank who positively identified him as the person who robbed the bank of the \$37.00 mentioned above.

On September 20, 1940, Solem entered the College Savings Bank at Ames, Iowa, opened a savings account, deposited a check for \$235.00 and asked an advance of \$35.00. He was advised that the bank could not make him an advance until the check cleared. Solem consented to this arrangement and left the bank immediately. This check was signed by Mrs. Andrew Halverson, drawn on the Mound City Bank of Platteville, Wisconsin, and bore a notation in the left hand corner, "first half rent." The check was dated September 20, 1940, and filled in as Number 147. The check was later returned "no account."

#### MINNESOTA

On August 24, 1940, Solem entered the American State Bank in Moorhead, Minnesota, and deposited a check for \$200.00 in a savings account. On that same date he returned to the bank and requested them to cash a check



for him in the amount of \$237.50. This check was drawn on the Jackson County Bank, Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

Solem does not confine his fraudulent activities exclusively to banks as can be seen by his operations at Elbow Lake, Minnesota. Agents of the FBI interviewed one of his former brothers-in-law who stated Solem came to him with a hard luck story on one occasion stating he had just returned from a funeral in Wisconsin and had a check made to him by his former employer, L. R. Robinson, in the amount of \$72.85. His brother-in-law advised he felt inclined to call this employer but in view of the fact his sister was newly married to Solem and recommended him highly, he thought he should take the check. The check was drawn on the First National Bank of Buffalo, Wyoming, and dated October 12, 1939, bearing Number 212, made to the order of Bert Solem, "For car repair" in the amount of \$72.85, and signed by L. R. Robinson. The check was of course fraudulent. This brother-in-law also advised FBI Agents that Solem had on various occasions induced various members of his family located in different places to accept fraudulent checks amounting to more than \$400.00.

Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice - 91-2196-57 226

*Buffalo, Wyo. Oct. 27, 1939 Protested for non-payment account No. account*

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BUFFALO WYO.**

*William H. Jones*  
*No cashable*

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK**

*Oct. 12* 19 *39* No. *212*

**BUFFALO, WYO.**

PAY TO THE ORDER OF *Bert Solem*

*Seventy two and*

*100* *72 85/100*

*89 525*

*100* *89 525* DOLLARS

FOR *Car Repair* *10* *L. R. Robinson* *Total 78 10*

Insured against fraud and forgery

Exhibit 3

Photographic Reproduction of Fraudulent Check  
Accepted by Solem's Brother-in-law at Elbow Lake,  
Minnesota

MISSISSIPPI

On October 16, 1940, Solem entered the Hancock Bank of Gulfport, Mississippi, and opened up a savings account by depositing a fraudulent check in the amount of \$335.00, signed by Dr. Wm. Swanson, and payable to the order of H. L. Swanson. This check was drawn on the Stockyards Bank at



Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. After depositing the check for \$335.00, Solem talked the officials out of \$35.00 in cash.

#### NEW MEXICO

On November 16, 1940, Solem entered the Albuquerque National Trust and Savings Bank at Albuquerque, New Mexico, and opened a savings account with a check dated November 9, 1940, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, Number 174, drawn on the State Savings Bank of that city, payable to R. L. Halverson in the sum of \$642.00 and signed by Dr. Wm. A. Halverson. He deposited \$600.00 of this check in the savings account and requested \$42.00 in cash, which he received. He furnished a fictitious address in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and investigation reflected no such address in that city. An auditor of this bank who happened to be in the lobby at the time Solem entered the bank mistook Solem for an individual known to him only slightly. He thereupon went up to Solem and shook hands with him, and the teller noticing this asked him if he knew Solem and if his check was O. K. The auditor advised in the affirmative, and thereupon the teller accepted the auditor's recommendation as to Solem and handed Solem \$42.00 in cash.

#### OKLAHOMA

On September 27, 1940, Solem, using the name of Robert Carlson, presented a check to the Stockyards Bank, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in the amount of \$235.00 payable to R. C. Carlson and signed by Mrs. Andrew Carlson, drawn on the Mound City Bank of Platteville, Wisconsin. Solem, in

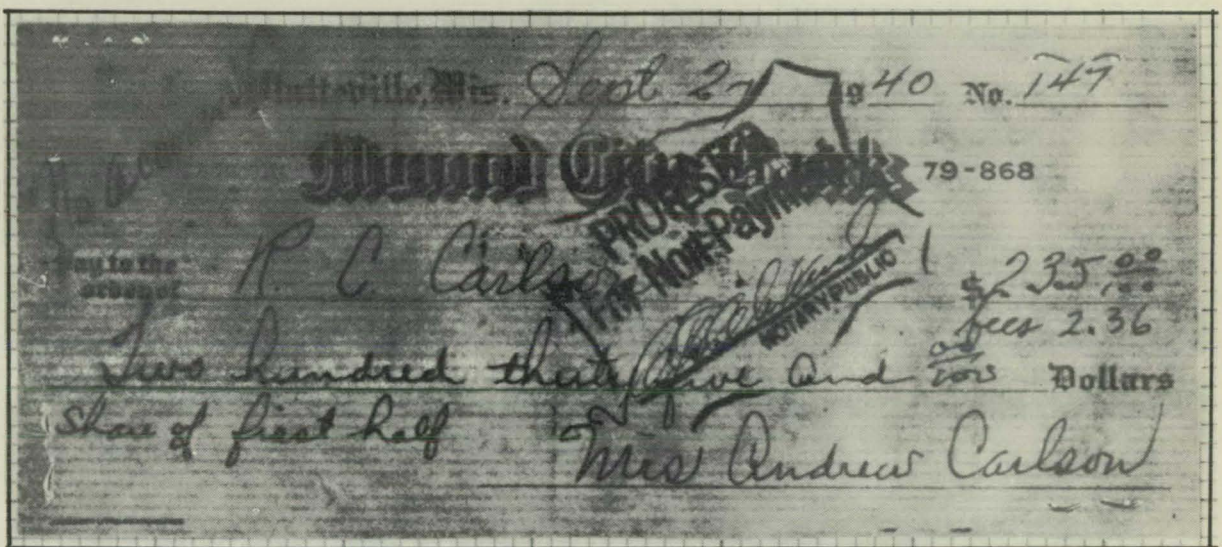


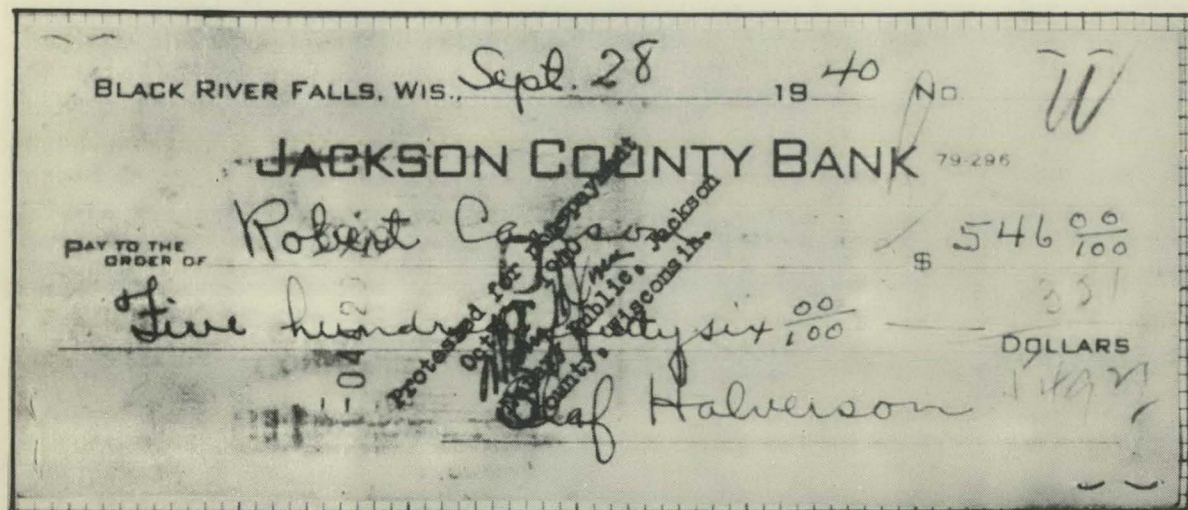
Exhibit 4

Stockyards Bank, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on  
September 27, 1940



accord with his usual method of operation, asked that \$200.00 be deposited to his credit and \$35.00 be given to him in cash. This was refused.

Solem left the bank but returned the following day with a check for \$546.00 drawn on the Jackson County Bank at Black River Falls, Wisconsin. This check was made payable to the order of Robert Carlson and signed by Olaf Halverson. He deposited this check to his credit and then asked for \$46.00 in cash which was given to him. Both checks later were returned marked "no account."



#### Exhibit 5

Fraudulent Check Passed at the Stockyards Bank,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on September 28, 1940.

#### OREGON

On April 20, 1940, Solem entered the Pendleton Branch of the First National Bank of Portland, Oregon, and presented a check for \$130.00 drawn on the First Security Bank of Rock Springs, Wyoming, and stated he wished to leave the check for collection if it was agreeable with the bank. At this time Solem indicated he was short of funds and would like to have an advance of about \$10.00, and thereupon executed a \$10.00 check which the bank cashed for him. The check was made payable to the order of B. E. Solem and signed B. E. Solem. The officials of this bank later identified a photograph of Solem as being identical with the individual who cashed the \$10.00 check.

On July 13, 1940, Solem entered the Sixth and Morrison Street Branch of the First National Bank of Portland, Oregon, and opened a savings account with a check drawn by Andrew Halverson for \$250.00. He presented



several different types of identification cards and requested an advance of \$25.00 for living expenses which the bank granted. Two days later, on July 15, 1940, Solem again appeared at the bank and deposited a check for \$125.00 and again requested an advance and the teller referred him to one of the bank officials who after questioning Solem considerably agreed to advance him \$50.00. Both checks were later returned "no account." The check for \$250.00 was drawn on the United States National Bank of Omaha, Nebraska, and made payable to the order of Lynn Halverson, and a notation appeared on the face of the check, "Lynn Loan." The check was endorsed Lynn Halverson, and L. H. Halverson. The check for \$125.00 mentioned above was drawn on the First National Bank of Missouri Valley, Iowa, payable to the order of L. R. Halverson and signed Albert E. Halverson. A notation appeared on the face of this check, "second quarter loan."

On May 8, 1940, Solem entered the First National Bank at Baker, Oregon, and attempted to open a savings account with a check drawn by himself on the First Security Bank of Rock Springs, Wyoming, in the amount of \$234.00. He insisted on having \$200.00 of this amount credited to a savings account and the remainder of the check paid to him in cash. The bank official who waited on Solem at this time stated he refused to grant Solem's request because of suspicious circumstances surrounding the transaction and the further fact that Solem was a stranger. Thereupon Solem left the bank without leaving the check. The official who interviewed Solem on this occasion identified a photograph of Solem as the individual who entered the bank on this occasion.

The FBI learned from Solem's former brother-in-law at Yamhill, Oregon, that Freda Leis was formerly married to Solem but at the present time was divorced from him, the divorce having been obtained in Sheridan, Wyoming, sometime in 1939. It was ascertained that Solem had robbed his brother-in-law of \$42.75 on the last occasion of their meeting at which time Solem turned over to his brother-in-law a check for \$42.75 drawn on the First National Bank of Buffalo, Wyoming, payable to Bert Solem and signed Bert Robinson.

The largest amount Solem has attempted to obtain was \$700.00 in cash. On January 20, 1941, Solem entered the First National Bank at Albany, Oregon, and stated he wished to open a savings account. He presented a check for \$950.00 payable to Elmer Petit, signed by Guy E. Hartle and endorsed by Elmer Petit. This check was drawn on the First National Bank of Lebanon, Oregon. Solem stated that he desired to place \$800.00 in a savings account and \$150.00 in a joint checking account to be credited in the name of his wife and himself. When advised by the bank that his wife would have to come into the bank and sign the application he advised that recently while moving furniture from Lebanon to Albany his wife had broken her hand and would come in and sign as soon as she was able to do so. On the following day Solem returned to the bank and at this time wanted \$700.00 in cash, stating he had made a deal to purchase a small parcel of land and the \$700.00 was to be used as a down payment. The official waiting on Solem at this time contacted the Lebanon Bank by phone relative to this check and was advised that there was such a person as Guy



E. Hartle living in Lebanon who carried an account at the Lebanon Bank; but he did not have quite enough money to cover the \$950.00 check at that time. The official left the telephone to advise Solem of the conversation with the Lebanon Bank but found Solem had gone leaving the check at the bank. The check later proved to be, of course, fraudulent. The interviewing official identified a photograph of Solem as being identical to the person using the name of Elmer Petit.

At the Bank of Oregon City, Oregon, on December 16, 1940, Solem opened an account in the name of Willard H. Larsen and deposited a check for \$671.00, signed Dr. L. R. Larsen and drawn on a bank in Sacramento, California. He was advanced \$21.00 on this check. The following day another check was deposited for \$250.00 which he claimed to have received from his mother, and on the pretext of buying Christmas gifts, persuaded the bank to advance him \$50.00. Both checks were returned "No account."

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

On September 23, 1940, Solem entered The National Bank of South Dakota at Vermillion and advised the assistant manager that he wanted to open a savings account. He advised that he had a check from his mother in the amount of \$235.00 which he wanted to deposit but desired to have an advance of \$35.00, as he was in need of some ready cash. He indicated that it was his intention to move to Vermillion and start farming. The

Federal Bureau of Investigation U.S. Dept. of Justice - 91-2196-34 019	
Platteville, Wis. <u>Sept. 19</u> 19 <u>40</u> No. <u>147</u>	
<b>Minneapolis City Bank</b> 79-868	
Pay to the order of <u>L. R. Halverson</u>	\$ <u>235.00</u>
<u>Two hundred thirty five and 00/100</u> Dollars	
<u>Rent for 1<sup>st</sup> half.</u>	<u>Mrs Andrew Halverson</u>

#### Exhibit 6

Check Passed by Solem at The National Bank of South Dakota at Vermillion, South Dakota, on September 23, 1940.



check deposited on this occasion was dated September 19, 1940, and was drawn on the Mound City Bank of Platteville, Wisconsin, and signed by Mrs. Andrew Halverson, and made payable to L. R. Halverson, the name used by Solem on this occasion. The bank granted his request and entered a deposit of \$200.00 to his credit in a savings account and gave him \$35.00 in cash.

On the same date, September 23, 1940, Solem appeared at the American State Bank at Yankton, South Dakota, and presented a check identical with the one above in the amount of \$235.00. He went through the same procedure of depositing \$200.00 in a savings account and received \$35.00 in cash. Solem advised on this occasion that he was moving into Yankton and was employed by the "Snap On Tool Company."

Federal Bureau of Investigation U.S. Dept. of Justice - 91-2196-34 Q18	
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WIS.,	Sept 19 1940 No. 146
JACKSON COUNTY BANK 79-296	
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	L. R. Halverson \$ 235 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>
Two hundred thirty five and 00/100 DOLLARS	
1 <sup>st</sup> half of rent Mrs. Andrew Halverson	

#### Exhibit 7

Check Passed by Solem on September 23, 1940 at the  
American State Bank at Yankton, South Dakota.

#### WASHINGTON

It has been determined that a check for \$53.50 made payable to J. B. E. Solem was deposited in the Yakima Valley Branch of the Seattle First National Bank at Yakima, Washington. This check was drawn on the First Security Bank, Rock Springs, Wyoming.

#### WISCONSIN

On November 6, 1940, a man approached the teller at the North Side Bank of Racine, Wisconsin, and presented a check dated November 1, 1940, bearing the Number 174. This check was drawn on the Mound City Bank



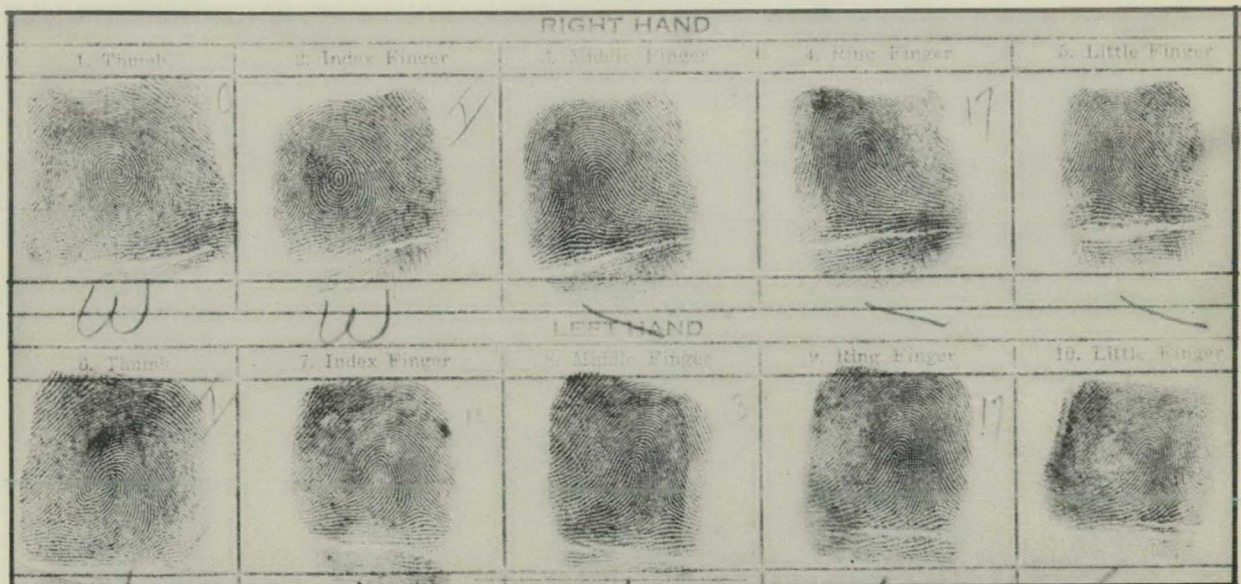
of Platteville, Wisconsin, to the order of R. L. Halverson in the sum of \$342.00 and signed by Mrs. Andrew Halverson. The man endorsed the check as R. L. Halverson and stated he wanted to open a savings account in his name and his wife's name, "Either or Survivor." He stated he wished to deposit \$300.00 in the account and take the balance in cash. The teller felt perfectly safe in giving the stranger the \$42.00 cash, "knowing" he had \$300.00 in the savings account. Of course the check was returned subsequently marked "no account."

There is contained below a complete physical description of Bert Edward Solem, as well as all of his known aliases:

Name	Bert Edward Solem	
Aliases	Carlson, R. C. Carlson, Robert Dunavant, William Dunovant, William Halverson, Albert E. Halverson, Alford E. Halverson, Andrew Halverson, Dr. Andrew Halverson, H. L. Halverson, L. H. Halverson, L. R. Halverson, Lynn Halverson, Olaf Halverson, Robert Halverson, Dr. Wm. A. Halverson, Dr. William A. Halverson, Dr. William S. Hanson, R. C. Hanson, Robert Hanson, Dr. William A. Helverson, Dr. Andrew W. Helverson, L. R. Howard, Roy C. Johnson, Willard R. Larsen, Dr. L. R. Larsen, Willard H. Larson, Dr. L. R. Larson, William	Larson, William H. Martin, Warren C. Nelson, Art Petit, Elmer Robinson, L. R. Robinson, R. F. Solem, A. E. Solem, Albert Solem, Albert E. Solem, B. E. Solem, Bert Solem, Bert E. Solem, J. B. E. Solem, N. A. Solem, V. E. Solem, Dr. Wm. H. Solen, Bert Solen, Bert Edward Sorenson, H. L. Sorenson, L. R. Sorenson, Lynn Sorenson, Dr. R. Sorenson, Dr. William Swanson, H. L. Swanson, William Swanson, Dr. Wm. Swanson, Dr. William Swanson, Dr. William A.
Age	39 (Born August 15, 1902 at Zion City, Illinois)	
Height	6'	
Weight	180 pounds	
Eyes	Blue	
Hair	Sandy	
Teeth	Bad	
Glasses	Occasionally wears pince-nez	
Dress	Dresses neatly	



Mustache	Occasionally wears mustache
Scars and marks	Raised welt across back - medium sized light pink mole, upper back
Occupation	Mechanic
Relatives	Father and Mother: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Solem, Spring Green, Wisconsin Brothers: Glen Solem, Spring Green, Wisconsin, Grant and Robert Solem, Plain, Wisconsin, Garagemen Sister: Mrs. Dexter Haney, Lone Rock, Wisconsin
Marital Status	Married and divorced Wife No. 1: Lucy Solem, care of James Slausen, Mazemanie, Wisconsin Wife No. 2: Freda Leis, Sheridan, Wyoming Children: Betty Lou Solem, age 7, with wife No. 1
Peculiarities	In a number of instances Solem has referred to his victims or advised otherwise that the check was given to him by his mother. There follows a number of names used by Solem in signing fraudulent checks: Mrs. Alma Hanson, Mrs. Andrew Halverson, Mrs. Andrew Howard, Mrs. Wm. C. Cox.
FBI Number	1,396,056
Fingerprint Classification	13 O 21 W 100 12 I 17 U 000



**Exhibit 8**  
**Reproduction of Finger Impressions of Bert Edward Solem**



Criminal Record of Bert Edward Solem:

On August 26, 1922, as William Dunavant, #7812, he was received at the Kansas State Penitentiary, Lansing, Kansas, from Edwards County, Kansas, where he had been sentenced on August 24, 1922, to serve one to ten years on a charge of forgery, second degree. He was listed as a parole violator by this institution on February 2, 1924 and entered as "discharged" on January 6, 1926.

On March 18, 1924, as Albert E. Solem, #24549, he was arrested by the Police Department of Cleveland, Ohio, on a charge of issuing checks to defraud.

On March 29, 1924, as A. E. Solem, he was received at the Warrensville, Ohio, Workhouse from Cuyahoga County to serve a term on a charge of "Checks to Defraud."

On April 10, 1931, as Bert Edward Solem, #20573, he was arrested by the Police Department at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for defrauding a hotel keeper. This charge was dismissed upon payment of costs on April 13, 1931.

On November 8, 1937, as Willard R. Johnson #7249, he was arrested by the Police Department of Mason City, Iowa, for investigation and intoxication.

On November 19, 1937, as Bert E. Solem, #1525, he was fingerprinted by the Madison, Wisconsin, Police Department for the Dane County, Wisconsin, Sheriff. He was held on a charge of "Forgery" for the La Crosse and Ashland, Wisconsin, authorities.

On January 19, 1938, as B. E. Solem, #23953, he was received at the Wisconsin State Prison at Waupun, Wisconsin, from the Superior Court of Dane County, Wisconsin to serve a sentence of one year for forgery. He was discharged from this Prison on December 19, 1938.

On October 28, 1939, Solem was apprehended by the Sheriff's Office at Yamhill, Oregon, and held in custody for the Sheriff's Office of Sheridan, Wyoming. ON OCTOBER 29, THE DAY FOLLOWING HIS ARREST, HE ESCAPED FROM THE SHERIFF OF YAMHILL, OREGON.

If any information is obtained concerning Bert Edward Solem please notify the nearest Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the addresses of which will be found on the inside back cover of this Bulletin, or wire the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.





### A QUESTIONABLE PATTERN

In order to correctly classify those patterns which lie close to the border line between loops and central pocket loops, it is necessary to keep in mind the rule concerning appendages which spoil the recurves of whorls and central pocket loops. "Any appendage abutting upon a recurve directly in the line of flow spoils the recurve, regardless of the angle at which it strikes." The line of flow is an imaginary line extending from the inner delta to the center of the innermost recurving ridge.



In the pattern shown here, the line of flow is from point D to point C. It can be readily seen, then, that every potential recurving ridge is spoiled by an appendage. Therefore, this pattern does not meet the requirements of a central pocket loop, but should be classified as a plain loop of thirteen counts.





## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

by  
DR. HANS GROSS

Adapted from the original German of Dr. Hans Gross  
by John Adam, Crown and Public Prosecutor, Madras: and,  
J. Collyer Adam, Public Prosecutor, Madras.

3rd Edition: Edited by Norman Kendall, Assistant  
Commissioner, C. I. D., Metropolitan Police, London.

Published by: Sweet & Maxwell, Ltd., 1934, London.

"Criminal Investigation" is a comprehensive treatise of criminology prepared as a practical textbook of instruction for all engaged in the investigation of crime. The present English edition is adapted from the original German "System der Kriminalistik" written over fifty years ago by Dr. Hans Gross who was for many years Professor of Criminology in the University of Prague and special lecturer in the University of Vienna. The book is divided into four parts, the first of which outlines in a general way the principles of conduct and the essential qualities of the investigating officer. These qualities are not acquired by mere wishful thinking when the need arises, but are habits born of constant application to his daily tasks by the officer who wishes to be successful in his work.

The most important phase of investigative work is that of interrogation. In the opinion of Dr. Gross the credence and weight which should be accorded the testimony of witnesses and accused are absolutely dependent on the art with which the investigator conducts his examination. Only as he knows life and men can he ever adduce the knowledge and the circumstances surrounding the existence of a crime, and the measure of success which he attains later in the case can only arise from the ability which the officer displays at this point in his investigation. The inspection of localities, their comprehensive and accurate description are also of fundamental importance. The report of this inspection must be all-inclusive to the smallest detail, logically arranged, and clearly expressed. Of necessity the investigating officer should have ready for instant use the equipment necessary for this important phase of his investigation.

Of considerable interest is the author's development of the functions of the scientist and specialist possessing expert knowledge. The use of experts as a matter of purely academic interest, uselessly, or in



an ill-advised manner is discouraged, while on the other hand the investigating officer is urged to avail himself on every possible occasion of the services which the expert by reason of his special knowledge can contribute towards an early solution of the case. The effective use of the expert can only be realized when the investigating officer has due regard for the limitations of that individual's knowledge. Thus in the words of the author, "It is often less important who is to be questioned than to know how, upon what, and when questions must be put." The roles of the medical jurisperit, the microscopist, and chemist, the expert in firearms, handwriting, fingerprints and others are discussed for a better understanding of the services which these can render. Numerous instances are cited in which experts assisted the investigating officer much to that individual's advantage.

The sphere of the press, its relation to, and influence upon the problems of the investigating officer are treated in a somewhat brief manner. The important note sounded here is the author's conviction that information concerning a crime should not be broadcast unless it is believed such publication will materially aid in furthering the ends of justice.

The second part of this volume deals with "knowledge special to the investigating officer." A knowledge of the tricks and dodges employed by criminals is constantly drawn upon by the alert investigator that he may know the direction and manner of conducting his investigation and for the purpose of gaining an insight into the character of the individual under his observation. Thus all types of criminals constantly resort to disguise in an effort to alter their identity. In the words of the author, "There is nothing which malefactors will not try to simulate, nothing they will not try to dissimulate." Changes in face and other personal characteristics or the assumption of aliases are the most common means used to escape identification, the novice disguising himself after the crime, while the expert criminal usually disguises himself before the commission of the offense.

Continuing, Dr. Gross observes, "hardly one of the afflictions to which humanity is subject has not been worked up and simulated by criminals." The reasons for such shamming are many, nor is the practice confined to criminals alone. It is all the more insidious when we learn that otherwise respectable witnesses may use this means to escape the ordeal of testifying in court. Thus, it behooves the investigator to view with well-grounded suspicion the sudden illness of the accused or witnesses when these are under examination.

Many of the signs and secret modes of communication described in this work are of historical interest only. However, in this regard, every contemporary police officer and jail warder will readily attest to the efficiency of the devious ways of the "grapevine." Likewise the practice of stigmatizing, or the marking of informers who have been guilty of treason to their fellows seems peculiarly reminiscent of the "one way ride" of modern gunmen.



A short chapter on the slang of criminals recommends the reader to an early acquaintance with the argot of the underworld. This the investigator must learn for himself, since these terms are somewhat peculiar to the type, nationality and "locale" of the criminal.

The author's remarks concerning the customs and character of gypsies are both entertaining and instructive. These observations have particular value to the American officer in those cases where the practices described have been adopted by tramps and other wandering vagabonds. The problem of superstition and crime is discussed at some length by Dr. Gross. This subject should not be treated in too light a manner by the investigating officer as such a knowledge of superstitions may explain criminal acts of an otherwise puzzling nature. Here again this is particularly true in those cases in which the American officer has to deal with members and native customs of our large foreign-born population.

A chapter on the construction and use of weapons introduces the reader to the general subject matter and problems of ballistics. The author has confined his remarks to a discussion of the so-called small arms, or guns, pistols, revolvers and the like. This includes a description of their mechanisms, the type of propellant and projectile used, and as is frequently of vital importance, the nature of the wound inflicted. Cutting and stabbing weapons are mentioned only briefly and in passing since it is assumed that such weapons are well known to all.

Part three deals with certain manual skills and technical processes which greatly facilitate the tasks of the investigating officer. Of these, drawing must be placed first. The investigating officer must be able to sketch accurately and to scale the general outlines of a crime scene, whether it be a room, a house, or an entire city block. Directions are given as to the best means of accomplishing this task and various legends are suggested for use in making the sketches readily intelligible even by people to whom they have not been specially explained. The construction of models in relief is next described. These are best made from an accurate survey map and should only be undertaken in important cases where the topography of the scene of a crime plays a considerable part. The reproduction of footprints and other significant impressions are of such fundamental importance that one can hardly conceive of an investigating officer neglecting these operations. Various methods and substances are described for preserving imprints, such as moulding with plaster, clay, wax or putty. As would be expected, the material used is dependent on the nature of the impression as also the physical conditions surrounding it.

Considerable emphasis is placed upon the importance of properly describing, detaching and preserving stains of blood and bloody impressions, for it is only by these efforts that the investigator can fully profit from the examination of the expert and the mute testimony of the stains themselves.

Secret writings are met with in judicial inquiries more often than one would imagine. The investigating officer should ever be alert for



the discovery of cipher communications and should make every effort to read them. These efforts afford a real test of the competency of any investigator, since most secret writings require perseverance and observation in a remarkable degree for successful solutions.

The fourth and concluding part of this book describes the nature of, and manner of committing particular offenses. Bodily injuries and poisoning are the first topics discussed. The investigating officer should possess sufficient knowledge of these subjects to render the closest collaboration possible with the medical examiner. However, as emphasized in previous sections, no attempt should be made by the investigator in his preliminary examination to intrude into the province of the specialist. Accordingly, the author's remarks are made solely from a legal, rather than a scientific point of view.

Wounds by blunt instruments are among the most frequent and often the most difficult to properly distinguish. A number of these are described to enable the officer to identify them when he meets them in his investigations. Next, Dr. Gross treats of wounds made by sharp instruments, or, those instruments used for cutting and stabbing. Frequently the two are combined, but generally the nature of the weapon can be determined from the outlines of the wound. Wounds from firearms depend upon numerous points such as, the type of weapon, the nature of the projectile, the kind of powder, and many others. Here again a consideration of the necessary factors will enable the officer to properly distinguish and identify the different kinds of gunshot wounds.

The question of hanging or strangling resolves itself into one: Was the person dead before being hanged? Here again, careful consideration of the exterior circumstances surrounding the offense will enable the officer to determine whether the subject has been a victim of foul play or of self-destruction. A body found in water suggests a number of possibilities; suicide, murder, or accidental death, hence it is always necessary to exercise the greatest caution in advancing an opinion where any of these possibilities present themselves. The subject of poisons and poisoning introduces the officer to a field which may prove fraught with many difficulties. At the very least, he should have a general working knowledge of toxicology, especially those poisons which occur native to his district, either as plants or minerals. A brief description of the more common poisons together with their effects completes the chapter.

Dr. Gross next devotes a chapter of considerable length to the subject of theft. The first or most important consideration in this matter is that of thieves' scouts and spies. These accomplices perform the highly important task of exploring the premises, and studying the habits of the prospective victim, in addition functioning as watches during the actual commission of the theft. Women or attractive young girls are to be preferred since their natural qualities are admirably adapted for this task. In the commission of a theft the practiced thief always leaves an unmistakable mark of his work - his modus operandi. This principle is predicated on the well-known fact that criminals are creatures of habit, strangely wanting



in initiative and originality; hence a close observation of the methods used in carrying out their misdeeds will inevitably result in a greater number of cases solved and convictions obtained.

Following these introductory remarks the author discusses house breaking, burglary, and the various methods of entering by force. Illegal entry can be gained in many ways, through the windows, by breaking open the door, or by attacking the locks. In cases of safe breaking the thief may attack any part but the lock itself. This act requires a considerable amount of skill and rather special equipment with which it is possible to rip open the whole side of a steel safe. Less common, but not rare instances are those in which the thief may even enter by breaking through the walls, floors or ceilings of a building. Again, one may meet with all manner of sneak thieves, cat burglars, and the like. Among the most skillful and clever of thieves are to be found successful pickpockets; these rarely work alone, but following the rule of most thieves operate with the assistance of a confederate.

Dr. Gross next discusses cheating and fraud; and particularly those confidence tricks which do not presuppose a fund of special knowledge for the investigator. Once more the officer is urged to instruct himself on all these questions and to avail himself of the assistance of experts in their respective fields. For example, document identification is properly a subject for the expert, but the officer may be called upon to perform his own examination in order to establish the validity or source of a document. The cardinal principle of such an examination is never to alter in any way the original document. Photography with the aid of proper filters and ultraviolet or infrared light should be the first consideration in such an examination. Chemical tests while of considerable value entertain the risk of destroying the document both for further tests and evidentiary purposes.

Counterfeiting and the fabrication of false seals and other instruments deserve a special study in themselves. The materials used are many in number, and frequently easy to obtain. As, for instance, ordinary roofing slate and French chalk are admirably adapted to the execution of fraudulent stamps. Various methods for the duplication of wax seals are described, while as a matter of public policy the methods of false coiners are passed over in silence.

"Sharps," and confidence men of all types, operate among every class of people. To explain the tricks of card sharps would require many volumes the size of this book, but fundamentally considered they all prey upon the avarice and lack of wits of their victims. Still other types of fraud are described, some relating to business methods, and others to the falsification of antiques and objects of art. In connection with this latter class it may be stated that anything which becomes the object of a collector's fancy will be manufactured for fraudulent sale if the genuine article is lacking and a profit can thus be made.



Arson and combustions of suspicious origin are serious problems for the officer and require much tact and considerable special knowledge in their investigation. Fires of an incendiary nature should be carefully distinguished from accidental and spontaneous combustions. Fraud, desire for excitement, and even mean revenge are responsible for many of these fires which are set. The spontaneous ignition of certain combustible materials is a well-known phenomena, and the investigator should acquaint himself with those substances which possess this dangerous property.

The last chapter of this book is devoted to a consideration of public disasters. Generally it falls to the lot of the investigator to establish the responsibility of the culpable parties in such catastrophes. Steam boiler explosions are treated as a type of these accidents, since with the appropriate changes the same methods of inquiry can be applied to all disasters of a similar nature.

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### INTERESTING ITEM

In a Southern State in connection with a holdup the robber shot and killed the victim of the holdup. Subsequently a suspect was located and in his possession was found a Smith and Wesson revolver. The fatal bullet from the body of the victim and the revolver were examined in the Technical Laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the bullet was identified as having been fired in the revolver referred to. All the evidence against the subject was circumstantial. Accordingly, the identification of the fatal bullet as coming from the subject or defendant's revolver was very material. An expert from the Technical Laboratory testified at the trial of the defendant resulting in his conviction and sentence to life imprisonment.

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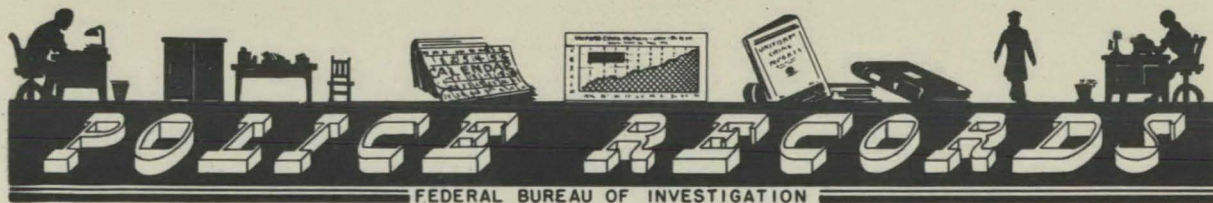




## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**OF INTEREST TO ALL FBI NATIONAL POLICE  
ACADEMY GRADUATES IS THE ANNOUNCEMENT  
THAT A CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE IN THE  
DATES  
OF THE FORTHCOMING RETRAINING SESSION  
FROM  
SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 4, 1941  
TO  
OCTOBER 6 - 11, 1941**





**INTERESTING STATISTICS  
COMPILED FROM FINGERPRINT CARDS  
RECEIVED IN THE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FROM  
JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1941.**

**Source of Data:**

During the first three months of 1941 the FBI examined 158,921 arrest records, as evidenced by fingerprint cards, in order to obtain data concerning the age, sex, race, and previous criminal history of the persons represented. The compilation has been limited to instances of arrests for violation of State laws and municipal ordinances. In other words, fingerprint cards representing arrests for violations of Federal laws or representing commitments to any type of penal institution have been excluded from this tabulation.

The number of fingerprint records examined was somewhat larger than for the first quarter of 1940, which was 147,989. The increase in the number of arrest records examined should not necessarily be construed as reflecting an increase in the amount of crime, nor as an increase in the number of persons arrested, since it quite probably is, at least partially, the result of an increased tendency on the part of local agencies to contribute fingerprint records to the Identification Division of the FBI.

The tabulation of data from fingerprint cards obviously does not include all persons arrested, since there are individuals taken into custody for whom no fingerprint cards are forwarded to Washington. Furthermore, data pertaining to persons arrested should not be treated as information regarding the number of offenses committed, since two or more persons may be involved in the joint commission of a single offense, and on the other hand one person may be arrested and charged with the commission of several separate crimes.

**Offense Charged:**

More than 38 per cent (61,769) of the records examined during the first three months of 1941 represented arrests for major violations as set forth on the following page:



Criminal homicide .....	1,664
Robbery .....	3,403
Assault .....	8,404
Burglary .....	8,978
Larceny (except auto theft) .....	15,928
Auto theft .....	3,368
Embezzlement and fraud .....	4,299
Stolen property (receiving, et cetera) ...	950
Arson .....	255
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	1,984
Rape .....	1,372
Narcotic drug laws .....	1,249
Weapons (carrying, et cetera) .....	1,490
Driving while intoxicated .....	8,425
TOTAL .....	61,769

Persons charged with murder, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny, or auto theft numbered 41,745 which represents 26 per cent of the total arrest records examined.

#### Sex:

During the first quarter of 1941, 8.3 per cent (13,162) of the records represented women. This is an increase over the corresponding period in 1940 when the percentage of women was 7.7.

Males arrested outnumbered females arrested for all types of crimes except commercialized vice and narcotic drug laws. However, there are significant differences in the criminal tendencies of males and females which are revealed when a study is made of the figures representing an average group of 1,000 men arrested in comparison with an average group of 1,000 women arrested. Such a comparison indicates there were more women than men charged with murder, commercialized vice, and narcotic drug violations. In the average group of 1,000 men arrested and the average group of 1,000 women arrested, 13 women and 10 men were charged with criminal homicide; 51 women and 4 men with narcotic drug violations. On the other hand, men predominated in most of the remaining types of crimes, particularly in robberies, burglaries, and auto thefts.

#### Age:

During the first quarter of 1941 age 19 predominated in the frequency of arrests and was followed by ages 18 and 21, respectively. This differs from the situation during the first quarter of 1940 when arrests for age 18 were less frequent than for ages 21 - 23.

During five of the past nine years age 19 has predominated in the frequency of arrests, 1932 - 1934 and 1939 - 1940, as well as the first quarter of 1941. Arrests for ages 21, 22, and 23 exceeded arrests for age 19 during 1935 - 1938.



Figures for the groups in which the largest number of arrests occurred during the first quarter of 1941 are as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Number of Arrests</u>
19 .....	6,462
18 .....	6,055
21 .....	5,998
20 .....	5,881
22 .....	5,800

The percentage of the total persons arrested who were less than 21 years old was 17.9 for the first quarter of 1940 and 17.4 for the first three months of 1941.

There were 27,644 persons less than 21 years old arrested and fingerprinted during the first three months of 1941. In addition, there were 22,651 (14.3 per cent) between the ages of 21 and 24, making a total of 50,295 (31.6 per cent) less than 25 years old. Arrests in age group 25 - 29 numbered 25,106 (15.8 per cent) resulting in a total of 75,401 (47.4 per cent) less than 30 years of age.\*

Confirming studies made in prior years, the figures for the first three months of 1941 indicate that youths commit a large proportion of the total offenses against property. This is particularly true with reference to robbery, burglary, larceny, and auto theft, as revealed by the following tabulation:

Percentage Distribution of Arrests by Age Groups

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>All Offenses</u>	<u>Criminal Homicide</u>	<u>Robbery</u>	<u>Burglary</u>	<u>Larceny</u>	<u>Auto Theft</u>
Under 21 .....	17.4	11.9	30.7	45.4	32.7	57.2
21-29 .....	30.1	35.2	43.9	31.7	31.3	30.3
30-39 .....	25.8	28.0	18.4	14.9	19.9	9.0
40-49 .....	16.4	14.5	5.5	5.7	10.3	2.9
50 and over ..	10.1	10.0	1.4	2.2	5.4	.6
Unknown .....	.2	.4	.1	.1	.4	.0
TOTAL .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The extent to which youthful offenders committed crimes against property is further revealed by an examination of the age distribution of all persons arrested for such crimes. During the first three months of 1941 there were 39,165 persons of all ages arrested for robbery, burglary,

\*With reference to the ages of persons represented by fingerprint cards received at the FBI, it should be borne in mind that the number of arrest records is doubtless incomplete in the lower age groups because in some jurisdictions the practice is not to fingerprint youthful individuals.



larceny, auto theft, embezzlement and fraud, forgery and counterfeiting, receiving stolen property, and arson; and 13,085 (33.4 per cent) of those persons were less than 21 years old. The corresponding percentage for the first quarter of 1940 was 31.3.

The extent of the participation of youth in the commission of crimes against property is further indicated by the following figures: During the first three months of 1941, 31.6 per cent of all persons arrested were less than 25 years of age. However, persons less than 25 years old numbered 54.6 per cent of those charged with robbery, 62.6 per cent of those charged with burglary, 49.1 per cent of those charged with larceny, and 75.3 per cent of those charged with auto theft. More than one half of all crimes against property during the first three months of 1941 were committed by persons under 25 years of age.

#### Criminal Repeaters:

The current figures again disclosed the extent of the serious problem of the criminal repeater. During the first three months of 1941 there were 17 persons arrested for criminal homicide whose records showed prior convictions of murder or manslaughter. Similarly, the figures listed hereafter indicate instances of persons charged with crimes during the first three months of 1941 whose criminal histories contained prior convictions of the same type of offense:

Robbery .....	217
Burglary .....	980
Larceny .....	1,653
Auto theft .....	188
Embezzlement and fraud .....	305
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	227
Rape .....	21
Narcotic drug laws .....	191
Driving while intoxicated .....	401

The compilation generally reflects a tendency on the part of recidivists to repeat the same type of offense. This is particularly true with reference to crimes against property.

More than one half of the persons whose records showed prior convictions had been convicted of a major violation before they were arrested and fingerprinted during the first quarter of 1941. Prior convictions for the more serious types of crimes were revealed as follows:



Criminal homicide .....	512
Robbery .....	2,178
Assault .....	3,042
Burglary .....	5,745
Larceny (and related offenses) .....	12,092
Arson .....	62
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	1,673
Rape .....	384
Narcotic drug laws .....	958
Weapons (carrying, et cetera) .....	573
Driving while intoxicated .....	2,104
TOTAL	29,323

Of the 158,921 arrest records examined during the first three months of 1941, there were 79,185 (49.8 per cent) representing individuals who already had fingerprint cards on file in the Identification Division of the FBI. There were, in addition, 1,611 current records bearing notations relative to previous criminal activities of persons arrested during the first three months of 1941 although their fingerprints had not been on file prior to 1941. This makes a total of 80,796 persons arrested during the year concerning whom there was information on file dealing with prior criminal activities, and the records showed that 56,678 of them had been convicted previously of one or more crimes. This number is 70.1 per cent of the 80,796 records containing data concerning prior criminal activities, and 35.7 per cent of the 158,921 arrest records examined. The records of the 56,678 persons reveal a total of 212,048 convictions prior to 1941. In 74,620 instances the convictions were of major offenses, whereas in 137,428 cases the convictions were based on violations less serious in nature.

#### Race:

Most of the persons represented in this study were members of the Caucasian and Negro races. Excluding Mexicans, who numbered 6,609, members of the White race represent 114,751 of the 158,921 arrest records received, while 35,730 were Negroes, 812 Indians, 234 Chinese, 212 Japanese, and 573 were representatives of other races.

Inasmuch as Whites greatly outnumber Negroes in the general population of the United States, it is significant to express the figures representing whites and blacks arrested in terms of the number of each in the general population. According to the 1930 decennial census, there were, exclusive of those under 15 years of age, 8,041,014 Negroes, 13,069,192 foreign-born whites, and 64,365,193 native whites in the United States. (Similar figures based on the 1940 decennial census are not yet available.)

Of each 100,000 Negroes in the general population of the United States, 444 were arrested and fingerprinted during the first three months of 1941, whereas the corresponding figure for native whites was 162 and for foreign-born whites 53. The relationship between the three figures will, of course, vary considerably for individual types of violations.



In connection with the foregoing data, it is of some significance to point out that the figure for native whites includes the immediate descendants of foreign-born individuals. Persons desiring to make a thorough study of the comparative amounts of crime committed by native whites and foreign-born whites should refer to existing compilations showing the number of instances in which offenders are of foreign or mixed parentage. Such information cannot be presented here for the reason that fingerprint arrest records do not provide for the recording of such data.

#### Size of Fingerprint File:

At the end of March, 1941, there were 16,253,146 fingerprint records and 17,151,573 index cards containing the names and aliases of individuals on file in the Identification Division of the FBI.

Of each 100 fingerprint cards received during the first three months of 1941, more than 65 were identified with those on file in the Bureau. Fugitives numbering 1,723 were identified through fingerprint records during that period, and interested law enforcement officials were immediately notified of the whereabouts of those fugitives. As of March 31, 1941, there were 11,247 police departments, peace officers, and law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and foreign countries voluntarily contributing fingerprints to the FBI.

Percentage with previous fingerprint records, arrests,  
January 1 - March 31, 1941

Offense	Percent
Vagrancy .....	67.9
Narcotic drug laws .....	60.8
Robbery .....	57.9
Drunkenness .....	57.4
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	56.2
Prostitution and commercialized vice .....	55.9
Embezzlement and fraud .....	51.3
Burglary-breaking or entering .....	48.7
Suspicion .....	48.3
Disorderly conduct .....	47.4
Auto theft .....	46.5
Larceny-theft .....	46.3
Liquor laws .....	46.2
All other offenses .....	44.2
Assault .....	43.8
Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc. ....	41.7
Stolen property; buying, receiving, etc. .	39.6
Gambling .....	39.4
Offenses against family and children ....	38.7
Parking violations (1) .....	38.5
Other traffic and motor vehicle laws ....	38.2
Other sex offenses .....	35.4
Rape .....	34.8
Driving while intoxicated .....	34.1
Arson .....	32.5
Criminal homicide .....	31.9
Road and driving laws .....	31.3

(1) Only thirteen fingerprint cards were received representing arrests for violation of parking regulations.



Number of cases in which fingerprint records show one or more prior convictions, and the total of prior convictions disclosed by the records, male and female, January 1 - March 31, 1941

Offense charged	Number of records showing one or more prior convictions	Number of prior convictions of major offenses	Number of prior convictions of minor offenses	Total number of prior convictions disclosed
Criminal homicide .....	341	436	363	799
Robbery .....	1,413	2,542	1,646	4,188
Assault .....	2,572	3,367	3,119	6,486
Burglary-breaking or entering .....	3,196	5,940	3,758	9,698
Larceny-theft .....	5,366	11,212	8,953	20,165
Auto theft .....	1,043	1,621	999	2,620
Embezzlement and fraud .....	1,484	2,730	1,703	4,433
Stolen property; buying, receiving, etc.	241	380	339	719
Arson .....	53	74	46	120
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	782	1,497	595	2,092
Rape .....	337	468	313	781
Prostitution and commercialized vice ...	828	1,997	856	2,853
Other sex offenses .....	592	760	689	1,449
Narcotic drug laws .....	535	1,308	560	1,868
Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc. ....	434	545	686	1,231
Offenses against family and children ...	501	539	498	1,037
Liquor laws .....	899	734	1,796	2,530
Driving while intoxicated .....	1,886	1,894	2,345	4,239
Road and driving laws .....	322	316	411	727
Parking violations .....	3	-	4	4
Other traffic and motor vehicle laws ...	662	760	919	1,679
Disorderly conduct .....	2,680	2,815	7,041	9,856
Drunkenness .....	14,984	12,478	63,120	75,598
Vagrancy .....	6,985	8,162	22,333	30,495
Gambling .....	779	937	750	1,687
Suspicion .....	4,713	7,259	8,544	15,803
Not stated .....	351	373	643	1,016
All other offenses .....	2,696	3,476	4,399	7,875
Totals .....	56,678	74,620	137,428	212,048



Arrests by age groups  
January 1 - March 31, 1941

Offense charged	Not known	Age										
		Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Criminal homicide .....	6	5	4	10	27	30	62	60	65	65	72	73
Robbery .....	5	11	19	91	122	261	276	265	252	217	182	163
Assault .....	24	11	23	77	110	197	303	252	303	339	346	345
Burglary-breaking or entering .....	13	223	233	637	767	895	717	608	497	383	351	313
Larceny-theft .....	56	289	239	663	935	1143	1023	924	763	650	610	587
Auto theft .....	1	69	117	322	399	367	378	275	213	158	115	124
Embezzlement and fraud .....	8	2	4	13	28	67	85	92	118	122	142	139
Stolen property; buying, receiving, etc. ....	1	2	7	19	31	39	50	37	34	34	38	39
Arson .....	1	3	1	3	5	5	7	10	12	11	4	11
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	4	4	5	28	40	67	73	90	81	85	74	87
Rape .....	1	5	4	30	38	88	116	90	80	78	62	65
Prostitution and commercialized vice ...	6	2	-	4	10	28	62	67	108	170	167	131
Other sex offenses .....	6	6	9	28	44	77	90	96	121	107	128	120
Narcotic drug laws .....	1	2	-	6	14	35	61	40	46	76	78	68
Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc. ....	2	3	4	20	29	69	65	67	74	76	66	65
Offenses against family and children ...	4	-	-	1	4	13	40	40	57	65	114	87
Liquor laws .....	2	-	1	17	15	43	72	68	105	85	83	88
Driving while intoxicated .....	8	3	1	6	15	45	111	118	173	225	216	248
Road and driving laws .....	-	-	-	8	27	65	81	76	84	98	80	91
Parking violations .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Other traffic and motor vehicle laws ...	2	3	4	26	42	104	170	136	163	121	140	131
Disorderly conduct .....	11	20	18	90	124	256	322	259	291	296	306	270
Drunkenness .....	21	6	11	31	117	320	472	485	680	724	714	724
Vagrancy .....	17	20	21	161	346	646	647	614	514	548	462	394
Gambling .....	4	3	2	12	25	43	61	58	74	87	101	104
Suspicion .....	28	188	165	290	502	726	683	652	713	626	569	534
Not stated .....	2	4	4	18	11	28	40	40	37	36	31	36
All other offenses .....	11	229	174	294	331	398	395	362	340	317	286	278
Totals .....	245	1113	1070	2905	4158	6055	6462	5881	5998	5800	5538	5315



## Arrests by age groups (continued)

January 1 - March 31, 1941

Offense charged	Age						Total all ages
	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49	50 and over	
Criminal homicide .....	310	254	212	158	84	167	1664
Robbery .....	681	390	234	119	68	47	3403
Assault .....	1673	1337	1121	751	537	655	8404
Burglary-breaking or entering .....	1299	808	526	329	182	197	8978
Larceny-theft .....	2375	1720	1455	998	644	854	15928
Auto theft .....	408	204	100	58	39	21	3368
Embezzlement and fraud .....	704	682	663	547	385	498	4299
Stolen property; buying, receiving, etc.	165	111	100	63	61	119	950
Arson .....	35	33	24	33	20	37	255
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	365	289	243	189	129	131	1984
Rape .....	236	176	91	92	37	83	1372
Prostitution and commercialized vice ...	549	386	247	133	82	85	2237
Other sex offenses .....	398	334	274	202	148	276	2464
Narcotic drug laws .....	271	176	152	107	56	60	1249
Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc. ....	296	208	154	113	69	110	1490
Offenses against family and children ...	466	439	362	259	172	164	2287
Liquor laws .....	466	410	375	290	224	385	2729
Driving while intoxicated .....	1463	1505	1407	1156	795	930	8425
Road and driving laws .....	338	221	136	112	80	76	1573
Parking violations .....	4	1	2	3	1	-	13
Other traffic and motor vehicle laws ...	518	348	231	164	88	156	2547
Disorderly conduct .....	1234	1024	897	772	468	851	7509
Drunkenness .....	4386	5153	5667	5176	3754	6141	34582
Vagrancy .....	2015	1853	1806	1421	965	1870	14320
Gambling .....	635	636	566	463	318	430	3622
Suspicion .....	2460	1909	1533	1095	678	912	14263
Not stated .....	167	131	125	103	78	124	1015
All other offenses .....	1189	940	792	627	430	598	7991
Totals .....	25106	21678	19495	15533	10592	15977	158921



Distribution of arrests by sex  
January 1 - March 31, 1941

Offense charged	Number			Per cent		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Criminal homicide .....	1,664	1,491	173	1.0	1.0	1.3
Robbery .....	3,403	3,261	142	2.1	2.2	1.1
Assault .....	8,404	7,755	649	5.3	5.3	4.9
Burglary-breaking or entering .....	8,978	8,810	168	5.7	6.0	1.3
Larceny-theft .....	15,928	14,647	1,281	10.0	10.1	9.7
Auto theft .....	3,368	3,318	50	2.1	2.3	.4
Embezzlement and fraud .....	4,299	4,058	241	2.7	2.8	1.8
Stolen property; buying, receiving, etc.	950	879	71	.6	.6	.5
Arson .....	255	235	20	.2	.2	.2
Forgery and counterfeiting .....	1,984	1,855	129	1.3	1.3	1.0
Rape .....	1,372	1,372	-	.9	.9	-
Prostitution and commercialized vice ...	2,237	621	1,616	1.4	.4	12.3
Other sex offenses .....	2,464	2,045	419	1.6	1.4	3.2
Narcotic drug laws .....	1,249	581	668	.8	.4	5.1
Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc. ....	1,490	1,444	46	.9	1.0	.3
Offenses against family and children ...	2,287	2,232	55	1.4	1.5	.4
Liquor laws .....	2,729	2,277	452	1.7	1.6	3.4
Driving while intoxicated .....	8,425	8,202	223	5.3	5.6	1.7
Road and driving laws .....	1,573	1,548	25	1.0	1.1	.2
Parking violations .....	13	12	1	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other traffic and motor vehicle laws ...	2,547	2,493	54	1.6	1.7	.4
Disorderly conduct .....	7,509	6,682	827	4.7	4.6	6.3
Drunkenness .....	34,582	32,535	2,047	21.8	22.3	15.6
Vagrancy .....	14,320	13,010	1,310	9.0	8.9	10.0
Gambling .....	3,622	3,445	177	2.3	2.4	1.3
Suspicion .....	14,263	12,625	1,638	9.0	8.7	12.4
Not stated .....	1,015	908	107	.6	.6	.8
All other offenses .....	7,991	7,418	573	5.0	5.1	4.4
Totals .....	158,921	145,759	13,162	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) Less than 1/10 of 1 percent.





#### ALABAMA

Mr. G. T. Keeble has been appointed Chief of Police at Roanoke, Alabama, succeeding Mr. C. W. Heard.

#### ARKANSAS

Mr. F. V. Haynie is now Chief of Police at Hope, Arkansas, having succeeded Mr. J. W. Jones.

#### CALIFORNIA

Mr. Ronnie Voyles has succeeded Mr. Ernest Cox as Chief of Police at El Centro, California.

#### GEORGIA

Mr. Raymond Shipp recently assumed the duties of Chief of Police at Acworth, Georgia, succeeding Mr. N. B. Terry.

#### IDAHO

Mr. Fritz Linney has been appointed Chief of Police of the Kellogg, Idaho, Police Department, succeeding Mr. E. C. Walker.

#### ILLINOIS

Mr. William O. Freeman has been reappointed Chief of Police of Evanston, Illinois, succeeding Mr. Charles F. Paasch.

Mr. William Hegstrow has succeeded Mr. Ray C. Houtchens as Chief of Police at Macomb, Illinois.

#### KANSAS

Mr. Harry Gardner has assumed the duties of Chief of Police at Iola, Kansas, succeeding Mr. Otis V. Kelley.

Mr. W. A. Cranston has been appointed to the position of Chief of Police for the city of Leavenworth, Kansas, succeeding Mr. John T. Glynn.



## LOUISIANA

Dr. S. L. Calhoun recently assumed charge of the Sheriff's Office for Rapides Parish at Alexandria, Louisiana.

## MAINE

Mr. Thomas I. Crowley has been appointed Chief of Police at Bangor, Maine, succeeding Mr. Carl R. Lobley.

## MINNESOTA

Mr. Elmer O. Stovern, a graduate of the FBI National Police Academy, recently assumed the duties of Chief of Police of the Duluth, Minnesota, Police Department.

## MISSISSIPPI

Mr. G. Rice has been elected Sheriff of Coahoma County, Mississippi. Mr. Rice was formerly District Attorney of Coahoma County.

## NEBRASKA

Mr. Clarence Moncrief has been named Sheriff at Elwood, Nebraska, succeeding the late Robert L. Bragg.

Mr. Philip Nelson has succeeded Mr. Edward Ranslem as Chief of Police at Fremont, Nebraska.

Mr. George Maul has assumed the duties of Chief of Police of the Hastings, Nebraska, Police Department, succeeding Mr. J. Floyd Arnold. Also, Mr. Adolph Meyer of the Hastings Police Department has been promoted to the position of Captain.

Mr. O. L. Discoe has succeeded Mr. Walter L. Roberts as Chief of Police at North Platte, Nebraska.

Mr. Louis Kestler has been appointed Chief of Police at Springfield, Nebraska.

## NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Wiley has been named Acting Chief of Police at Hempstead, New York, succeeding Mr. James H. Ricker.

## NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. E. L. Ivey is now Sheriff at Graham, North Carolina, succeeding Mr. W. V. Copeland.



## OKLAHOMA

Mr. P. M. Montgomery has been appointed Chief of Police at Claremore, Oklahoma, succeeding Mr. John Thurman.

Mr. Floyd Blair has been appointed Chief of Police at Frederick, Oklahoma.

Mr. W. A. McAfee has been named Sheriff at Frederick, Oklahoma.

Mr. Gene Davis has succeeded Mr. Robert Jones as Chief of Police at Hooker, Oklahoma.

Mr. William Ritchie has been elected Chief of Police at Hugo, Oklahoma.

Mr. Erie Upton has been appointed Chief of Police at Okmulgee, Oklahoma, succeeding Mr. K. L. Alexander.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. Paul G. Schelhas has assumed the duties of Chief of Police of the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Police Department.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. J. L. McDowell has succeeded Mr. William E. Sullivan as Chief of Police at Loris, South Carolina.

Mr. Eugene M. Mull is now Chief of Police at Summerton, South Carolina, having succeeded Mr. D. M. Rogers.

## TEXAS

Mr. Albert S. Harper has been appointed Chief of Police of Amarillo, Texas, succeeding Mr. W. R. McDowell.

Mr. LeRoy Brigman has succeeded Mr. Guy Black as Chief of Police of the Greenville, Texas, Police Department.

## WASHINGTON

Mr. Robert Woods is presently Acting Chief of Police at Grand Coulee, Washington, succeeding Mr. J. E. Jeremiah.

## WEST VIRGINIA

Mr. Deney Cain has succeeded Mr. J. W. Kerr as Chief of Police at Hollidays Cove, West Virginia.



Communications may be addressed to the Field Office covering the territory in which you are located by forwarding your letter or telegram to the Special Agent in Charge at the address listed below. Telephone and teletype numbers are also listed if you have occasion to telephone or teletype the Field Office.

CITY	AGENT IN CHARGE	TELEPHONE NUMBER	BUILDING ADDRESS (Letters or Telegrams)
Albany, New York	Clegg, J. E.	5-4595	707 National Savings Bank
Atlanta, Georgia	Hammack, F. R.	Walnut 3698	501 Healey
Baltimore, Maryland	O'Connor, H. T.	Plaza 6776	800 Court Square
Birmingham, Alabama	Guinane, E. P.	4-1877	320 Federal
Boston, Massachusetts	Peterson, V. W.	Liberty 8470	10 Post Office Square, Room 1016
Buffalo, New York	Madigan, J. T.	Cleveland 2030	400 U. S. Court House
Butte, Montana	Banister, W. G.	2-2304	302 Federal
Charlotte, N. C.	Scheidt, E.	3-4127	914 Johnston
Chicago, Illinois	Devereaux, W. S.	Randolph 6226	1900 Bankers'
	Johnson, A. H. (Assistant)		
Cincinnati, Ohio	Suran, R. C.	Cherry 7127	637 U. S. Post Office & Court House
Cleveland, Ohio	Boardman, L. V.	Prospect 2456	1448 Standard
Dallas, Texas	Kitchin, A. P.	2-9086	1200 Tower Petroleum
Denver, Colorado	Nicholson, G. A.	Main 6241	518 Railway Exchange
Des Moines, Iowa	Dalton, J. L.	3-8998	739 Insurance Exchange
Detroit, Michigan	Bugas, J. S.	Cadillac 2832	911 Federal
El Paso, Texas	Bryce, D. A.	Main 1711	202 U. S. Court House
Grand Rapids, Mich.	McFarlin, M. W.	6-5337	715 Grand Rapids National Bank
Honolulu, Hawaii	Shivers, R. L.	4621	302 Dillingham
Houston, Texas	Abbatechio, R. J.	Capitol 9717	2706 Gulf
Huntington, W. Va.	Cook, L. K.	8928	700 West Virginia
Indianapolis, Indiana	Wynn, E. J.	Riley 5416	323 Federal
Jackson, Miss.	Wyly, P.	3-5221	700 Mississippi Tower
Juneau, Alaska	Vogel, R. C.	618	515 Federal and Territorial
Kansas City, Missouri	Brantley, D.	Victor 3113	707 U. S. Court House
Knoxville, Tennessee	Fierstone, C. K.	4-2721	407 Hamilton National Bank
Little Rock, Arkansas	Hallford, F.	2-3158	500 Rector
Los Angeles, Calif.	Hood, R. B.	Madison 7241	900 Security
	Vincent, J. W. (Assistant)		
Louisville, Kentucky	Moss, H. K.	Wabash 2133	633 Federal
Memphis, Tennessee	Kuhnel, E. E.	8-4236	2401 Sterick
Miami, Florida	Danner, R. G.	3-5558	1300 Biscayne
Milwaukee, Wisconsin		Daly 3431	735 U. S. Post Office, Customs & Court House
Newark, New Jersey	Conroy, E. E.	Market 2-5511	1836 Raymond-Commerce
New Haven, Conn.	McGuire, J. J.	7-1217	510 The Trust Company
New Orleans, La.	Fletcher, H. B.	Magnolia 7643	1308 Masonic Temple
New York, New York	Sackett, B. E.	Rector 2-3520	607 U. S. Court House, Foley Square
	Guerin, R. A. (Assistant)		
Oklahoma City, Okla.	Andersen, H. E.	2-8186	940 First National
Omaha, Nebraska	Stein, C. W.	Atlantic 8644	629 First National Bank
Philadelphia, Pa.	Sears, J. F.	Walnut 0555	4058 U. S. Court House
Phoenix, Arizona	Duffey, H. R.	4-5766	307 W. C. Ellis
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Thornton, J. E.	Grant 0800	620 New Federal
Portland, Oregon	Swenson, J. D.	Broadway 0469	411 U. S. Court House
Richmond, Virginia	Hennrich, C. E.	3-0169	601 Richmond Trust
Saint Louis, Mo.	Norris, G. B.	Central 4115	423 U. S. Court House & Custom House
Saint Paul, Minn.	Rutzen, A. C.	Garfield 7509	404 New York
Salt Lake City, Utah	Newman, J. C.	4-4338	301 Continental Bank
San Antonio, Texas	Jones, G. T.	Garfield 4216	478 Federal
San Diego, Calif.	Nathan, H.	Main 3044	728 San Diego Trust & Savings Bank
San Francisco, Calif.	Pieper, N. J. L.	Yukon 2354	One Eleven Sutter, Room 1729
	Van Pelt, H. C. (Assistant)		
San Juan, Puerto Rico	McCormack, D. L.	1971	504 Banco Popular
Savannah, Georgia	Ruggles, J. R.	3-3054	305 Realty
Seattle, Washington	Cornelius, A.	Main 0460	508 U. S. Court House
Sioux Falls, S. D.	Hanni, W.	2885	400 Northwest Security National Bank
Springfield, Illinois	Crowl, A. H.	2-9675	1107 Illinois
Washington, D. C.	McKee, S. K.	Republic 5226	1437 K Street, N. W.

The teletypewriter number for each Field Office, including the Bureau at Washington, is 0711, except the New York City Office, which is 1-0711, and Washington Field, which is 0722.

Communications concerning fingerprint identification or crime statistics matters should be addressed to:-

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

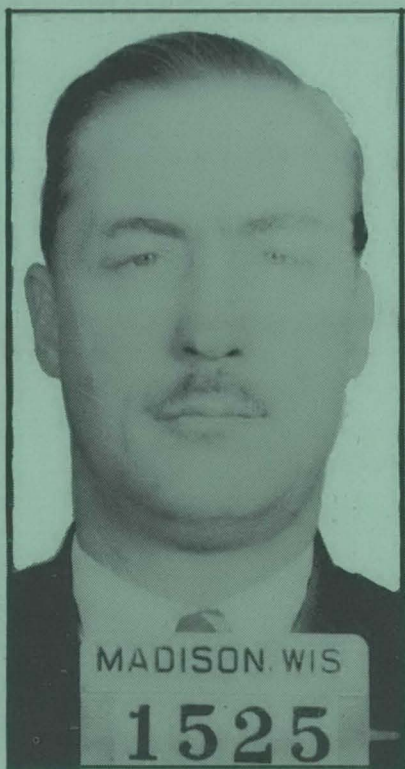
The office of the Director is open twenty-four hours each day.

TELEPHONE NUMBER:  
EMERGENCY (KIDNAPING)

REPUBLIC 7100  
NATIONAL 7117



WANTED BY THE FBI. . . .



## **Bert Edward Solem**

**with aliases**

**For**

### **Bank Robbery - Larceny**

Detailed descriptive data concerning this individual appear on pages 17 through 32.

