Boy, 16, Killed, Companion Felled, Detective Shot in Bronx Hold-Up

A detective who surprised two 16-year-old boys in a hold-up last night in a Bronx liquor store shot and killed one of the youths, wounded another and was himself wounded in the exchange of shots. A third youth, also 16 and a member of the same gang, was seized a short time afterward in a neighborhood candy store.

The shooting took place at 6:20 P. M. in the store of Jacob Moskowitz at 850 Longwood Avenue, near Prospect Avenue, a busy Bronx intersection. The dead bandit was Gerald Dowell of 376 Morris Avenue, the Bronx, and the wounded youth, William Cadigan of 232 East 144th Street, the Bronx. Cadigan is in Lincoln Hospital in a critical condition from two wounds in the head and one in the groin.

The detective, Edward Haran, 24, of 3336 Perry Avenue, the Bronx, attached to the Simpson Street precinct, was treated at Lincoln Hospital for a superficial bullet wound of the right forearm. He later returned to duty and took part in the questioning of the third 16-year-old, Thomas Fox of 402 East 162d Street, the Bronx. Fox, the police said, had acted as a lookout for his two companions.

This was the sixth hold-up committed in the city yesterday. Two payroll hold-ups in the morning in lower Manhattan netted gunmen $8,442. In another morning hold-up a Lexington Avenue dentist captured a thug in a hand-to-hand struggle. A Brooklyn business man was shot and killed in the afternoon, by one of two thugs when he refused to obey a command. In an attempted hold-up last night, a 58-year-old tailor was shot and killed.

The Bronx hold-up was reminiscent of the robbery on Dec. 13, also in a Bronx liquor store, in which Detective James Burke was shot and killed by two young thugs. Detective Burke had been "planted" in the store for just such an eventuality; last night Detective Haran and another detective, Peter Vander Drift of 711 Cauldwell Ave-

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nue, the Bronx, also had been sent to the Longwood Avenue store as "plants."

Haran and Vander Drift went to the store in a police car shortly after 6 o'clock. Vander Drift remained in the car, parked outside, while his partner walked in with the intention of informing the proprietor that the two policemen were placing the establishment under surveillance, in anticipation of a hold-up.

The store appeared normal as Haran walked in. A young man was standing at a counter; nearby stood a woman. Both appeared to be customers. The youth, later identified as Dowell, allowed the detective to walk to the rear of the store, then stepped up behind him. He produced a pistol and said harshly: "This is a stick-up. Get in back or I'll kill you."

Haran began walking slowly to the rear. Suddenly a second youth, who the police said was Cadigan, emerged from a rear room, pistol in hand. The youth brushed by the detective, jostling him somewhat. Taking advantage of the opportunity, Haran whipped out his service pistol, wheeled and fired three shots at Dowell. Dowell returned the fire, then fell dead with a bullet in his head.

Second Detective Shoots

Cadigan, meanwhile, according to the police, also opened fire and a bullet from either his pistol or that of Dowell struck Haran in the arm. Detective Vander Drift, who had heard the shots, came running into the store and began firing. Cadigan fell, wounded critically.

As soon as the shooting began the woman in the store, who proved to be a customer and who said she was Bertha Johnson of 78 Dawson Street, the Bronx, dropped to the floor and was unhurt.

Also unhurt and out of the line of fire was Mr. Moskowitz, the proprietor, his clerk, Joseph Greenfeld and a second customer, Roger Taylor of 26 East 127th Street, the Bronx. They had been herded into a rear room shortly before Detective Haran arrived, and after one of the thugs had taken $550 from the cash register and $10 from Mr. Greenfeld's pockets.

The police picked up young Fox after they had questioned Cadigan in the hospital. He had been posted in the doorway of a shop near the liquor store, the police said, but had fled when the shooting started.

The questioning of Cadigan, and later Fox, disclosed that the trio had embarked on a career of crime on Dec. 12 and had held up and robbed at least a dozen other liquor and shoe stores. The police described the young thugs as "trigger happy," explaining that in several ofthe hold-ups one or two of them had fired their pistols without cause.

Shortly after 11 P. M., the police also arrested Arthur Milton, 17, of 589 East 139th Street, the Bronx, as a fourth member of the hold-up gang. The police said Milton had admitted having been involved in fifteen hold-ups, some with Cadigan, Dowell and Fox and some with other thugs.

Less than an hour before the Moskowitz hold-up, the police said, Dowell and Cadigan, with Fox presumably acting as look-out, robbed Max Spector, manager, and Emanuel Emanuel, clerk, of $125 in a Rival Shoe Store at 977 Southern Boulevard, the Bronx. The police said Mr. Spector and Mr. Emanuel had identfied Dowell and Cadigan after the Longwood Avenue robbery.

Detective Edward Haran
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The police also charged that the youths had staged still another hold-up last night—presumably immediately after the shoe store robbery—in the Corday Men's Furnishings Store at 953 Southern Boulevard, the Bronx. They escaped with $240 after locking the manager and a clerk in a washroom.

Police Commissioner Arthur Wallander visited the scene of the hold-up at 10 o'clock and had high praise for the work of Detectives Haran and Vander Drift. He called their actions "a real outstanding job—no question about it," and added:

"The boys were cool-headed, although pressed. Notwithstanding the age of the kid robbers, they had plenty of murder in their hearts. I am going to recognize both detectives for promotion."

A reporter remarked that the outcome of the hold-up was a "bit different" than in the case of the fatal shooting of Detective Burke.

"You bet it was," Mr. Wallander said with a smile.

In what the police described as an attempted hold-up, Kaufman Newman, 58, was shot and killed at 7:30 o'clock last night in his tailor shop at 2437 Seventh Avenue, near 143d Street, by three unidentified 'teen-age youths.

The police said the three youths were seen fleeing from the shop, and a few minutes later Mr. Newman's body was found with a bullet wound in the chest. The police believed the trio attempted to rob the man and that he was shot when he resisted.

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