

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

Section 53, Pages 1561 - 1590

This collection reflects E. P. Lamborn's life long interest in crime, criminals and law officers. E. P. Lamborn was an amateur historian and collector of sources on crime and criminals of the Middle West in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His interests ranged from bandits, peace officers, famous detectives, and buffalo hunters. The Correspondence and Research section, presented here, contains much information on these topics from friends, relatives, companies, law officers, etc., who had some connection or dealings with these individuals. The arrangement for this section, generally, is alphabetical by last name of the correspondent. A detailed, searchable calendar of correspondents is available by clicking on "Text Version" below or by accessing the full collection finding aid in the link below. A transcription of this correspondence is not yet available. This series comprises boxes 2 and 3 of the E. P. Lamborn collection. You can find individual items in the order they are described in the "calendar of correspondents" by using the page selection feature available when you are looking at a full sized page image.

Creator: Lamborn, E. P. (Edward Parker), 1890-1978

Date: 1915-1965

Callnumber: E. P. Lamborn Coll. #156

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 221142

Item Identifier: 221142

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E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

taken with the
Prime Minister, Ramsay
McDonald, of England,
and a statement of
how Hammond paid
\$125,000 to save his
neck when sentenced
to death by the Boer
Government. He will
have another story
in the March
Sailors.

You might get some
dope from Joe
Warren - of the Joe
Warren Detective Agency,
Seattle, Washington. He
has been an officer
for 40 years, and
was Chief of Police
of Spokane. I know
him in the town
of Alamosa. He is the
brave Chief of

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Palice, 6 ft. 4, whom
John Hays Hammond
mentioned in his
story - though he
don't give his name.
Well, I've got to
ring off - as I only
intended to write
you a page or
two, an account of
lack of time.
Yesterday I got
a nice letter from
John Hays Hammond,
of Washington D. C.,
stating that he would
be in Los Angeles
this spring and look
me up. Also got
a letter from Major
Geo. Stearns,

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now on the retired
list, asking me
come to his home
in Hollywood next
Tuesday eve. He
is a son of Gov.
Steuernberg of Idaho
whom Orchard
dynamited. I met
him at the Haywood
Bathhouse trial.

Your friend
Chas. A. Siringo

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

6057 Eleanor, Ave.
Hollywood, Calif.
March 15th 1928-
Dear Mr. Lamborn;
I mailed you
the Faviene book
an Enigma a few days
ago. Should you care
to keep it, to save
the trouble of sending
away for a copy, I
will take a copy
of that same Enigma
picture, taken with
Joel and Joe Collins,
to pay for it. Or
you can send
me \$1.50 to pay for
the book. Should
I ever need a copy,
which is doubtful,
I can send for

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Another copy.
I suppose you aim
to have photo-cuts
in your proposed
outlaw book. There
will be no photo-
graph cuts, or ill-
distinctions, in my
"Bad Man Cowboy"
book.

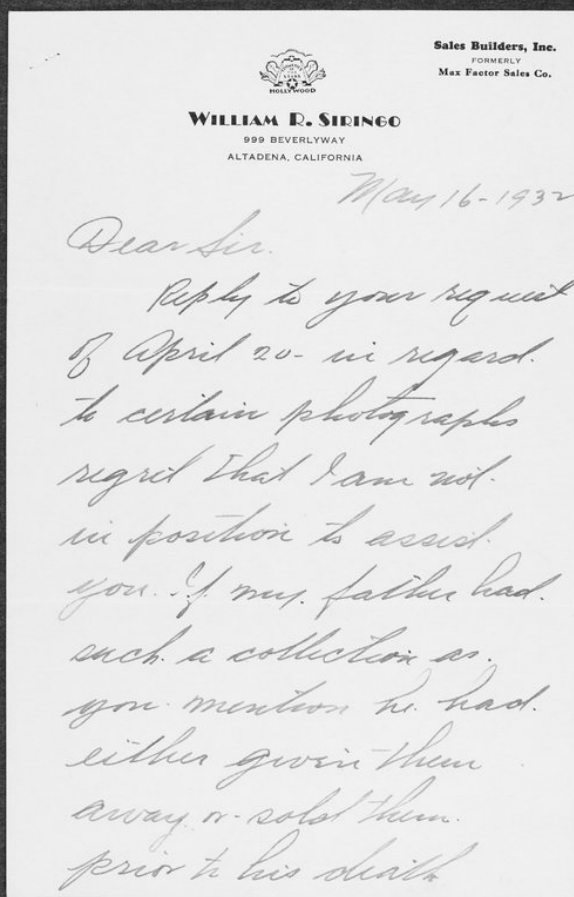
Thanks for sending
me the account of
that statue in the
U. S. Marshals office
in Dallas, Texas.
I have got all the
dope about that
bloody fight between
the Harlow Bros.
and the mob. Nothing
like it for heaven
was ever enacted
in the Woolly West.

Sincerely yours,
Chas. F. Siringo

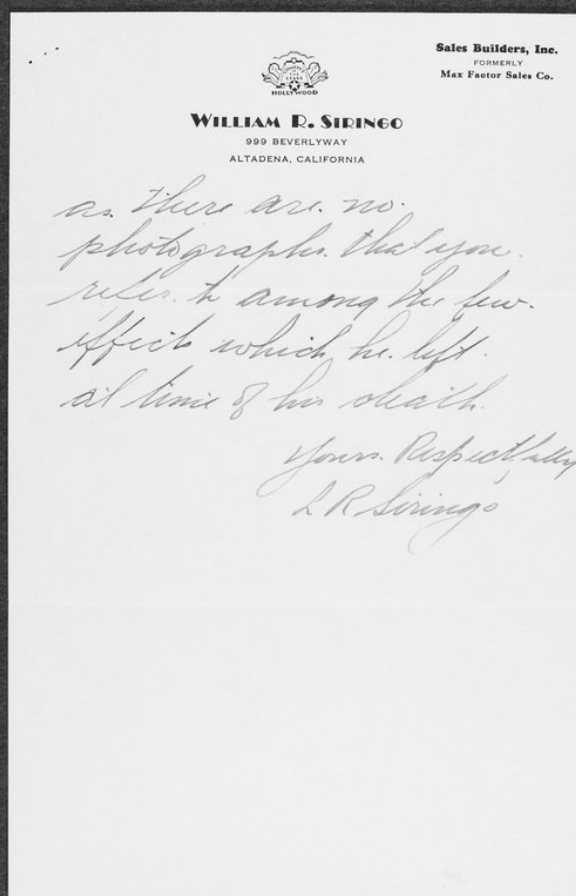
E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

Roswell, New Mex. Jan. 2
Mr. E. P. Lamborn
Leavenworth, Kas.
Dear Mr. Lamborn:
I don't know
exact time that Butch
Casiday held up the train
in Montpelier, Idaho. But
think it was in the middle
'90's. Also think kid Curry was
shot in the wrist in Neb.
during the '90's.
It was in 1900 sometime
that the train was held
up east of Grand Junction,
on the D. & R. G. Ry., and one
of the robbers killed. He
was supposed to be kid Curry
but was not.
Sincerely Yours
Chas. F. Smith

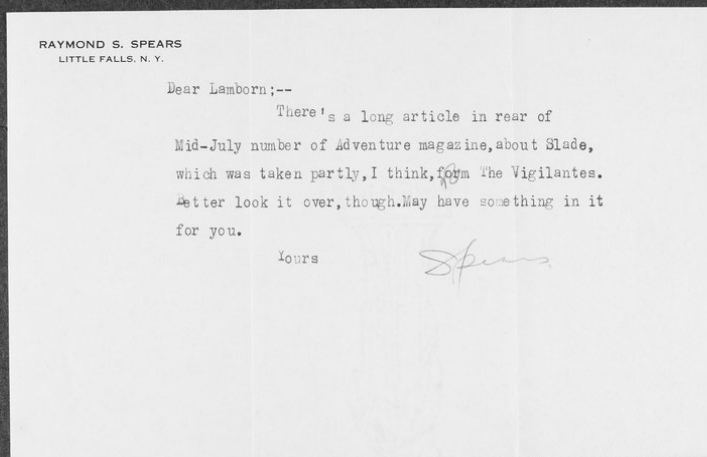
E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers



E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers



E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers



E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

From R. S. Spears.
Little Falls, N. Y.

Ask
Adventure

A Free Question and Answer Service Bureau of Information on Outdoor Life and Activities Everywhere and Upon the Various Commodities Required Therein. Conducted for Adventure Magazine by a Staff of Experts

Adventure
Spring and MacDougal Streets
New York

Feb. 20 '17

E. P. Lamborn
Topeka, Kan.

Dear Sir;--

Referring again to your letter of February 9, about Kid Curry;

You will find a good deal about Kid Curry and Butch Cassidy, of the Wild Bunch in the book "A Cowboy Detective", By Charles A. Siringo, printed by the W. B. Conkey Company, Chicago, Ill.

This book states that Curry was caught afterwards, and that he was brought to trial in a U. S. Court for passing money from the Great Northern holdup, and that he was sentenced to 130 years in jail. He was on his way to jail, when he escaped, and other members of the Wild bunch were sent up for--Kilpatrick for 15 years, and Curry's sweetheart who passed money in St. Louis also went up for a long time.

A sheriff who was taking Curry to jail was arrested charge of having taken \$8,000 from Jimmy T, for letting him make his getaway.

As I wrote you before, they laughed at me out in South Dakota for saying Kid Curry, alias Logan was dead. Bill Carver was killed in Texas.

Siringo was known to the Wild Bunch as Harry Blevins, according to the book, which contains a number of pictures, of the detective and of Kid Curry, his sweetheart, and others.

If I come across any more of this information, I will send it on to you if you want me to.

Very truly yours,

R. S. Spears.

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

From R. S. Spears,
Little Falls, N.Y.

**Ask
Adventure**

Mr. E. P. Lamborn,
Topeka, Kan.
Dear Sir;--

A Free Question and Answer Service Bureau of Information on Outdoor Life and Activities Everywhere and Upon the Various Commodities Required Therein. Conducted for Adventure Magazine by a Staff of Experts

Adventure
Spring and MacDougal Streets
New York

Harvey Logan was the leader of a number of bandits known to fame as The Hole in the Wall Gang. They held up a Northwestern Pacific express and got away with a large number of unsigned National Bank bills. Logan, known also as Butch Cassidy, and his pals scattered. Logan went to Knoxville, Tenn., where he had trouble in a cafe. He shot a policeman, but lost his sixshooter jumping a fence. He was caught and jailed. The jailer brought in his grub, one day, and Harvey just naturally grabbed his gun and stuck the jailer up. He made his getaway safely. He was never tried there. It happened I was in Knoxville at the time.

This was late in ~~the~~ January, or early February, 1902.

Logan beat it for South America. From South America returned word that he was killed after sticking up a bank there--soldiers were said to have caught him and two others, and shot them. Another story was that an Englishman got in with three men there, and worked along with them, ~~not~~ thinking they were cattle raisers--then they stuck up a bank, and the Englishman beat it, but the others, supposed to be Logan, etc., were caught and killed.

Harry Scott, formerly of Missoula, told me two years ago he thought Logan was still alive, but laying low. He said one of the boys was working in a paper mill in Ohio, but did not tell where. Scott--formerly a Deputy U.S. Marshall--was here in Little Falls, but went to Canada, enlisted two years ago, and I wrote to him last year, but they couldn't find him.

Indian Pete Gilbertson, Lemmon, S.D., told me he knew all those boys, and he laughed at me when I said Logan was killed in South America. He wouldn't talk about it, as I was a newspaper writer and might put something in the papers or magazines about it that would hurt somebody.

Logan, so far as known, is no where in jail. The Pinkertons ~~had~~ got a photograph of him and the other boys--Parker, Fitzpatrick, etc. taken in Texas, or down there somewhere. If you write to the Pinkerton Agency or go to the Topeka representative of the organization, you may get some information.

There have been several articles about Logan printed in The Wide World Magazine, International News Company, 63 Duane St., New York city. Write to them asking what magazines the stories appeared in about Kid Curry, Harvey Logan, Butch Cassidy, Hole in the Wall Gang, etc., and if you get those magazines, you will find what is known about him, publicly; the Pinkerton people, if you asked them, might tell you his story and where he died, if he is known positively to be dead.

Very truly yours,

R. S. Spears.

Write to Knoxville Sentinel, Knoxville, Tenn., and ask for account of Harry Logan's trouble, shooting, escape, capture and reescape in January or February, 1902. They will tell you about it--send envelope and stamped and addressed.

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From R.S. Spears.
Little Falls, N.Y.

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Adventure
Spring and MacDougal Streets
New York

Mr. E.P. Lamborn,
202 Branner St.
Topeka, Kansas.

February 27 '17

Dear Mr. Lamborn;--

wrote amieg 3-1917
If you will write to The New York Herald, New York city, sending stamped envelope, they may be able to tell you the date when they printed articles about Harvey Logan, alias Kid Curry (use both names, and The Hole in the Wall Gang, as they may index under one or the other. Also, write to the New York Sun, New York city, same way. They keep clipping bureaus from which to obtain accounts of such men. Try, too, the St. Louis Globe Democrat.

If you write to "The Sheriff" of the county seats of the counties in which robberies occurred you would obtain information. Also, the U.S. Marshall, Missoula, Montana, and to the U.S. Secret Service, Washington, D.C., all of whom had to do with these crimes, you will pick up information--Ask them where to obtain accounts of the bad men from newspapers and magazines;

wrote Mary 1917
Write to H.W. Wilson & Co., ~~now~~ White Plains, N.Y., and ask ~~how~~ if they have any magazine accounts of the Hole-in-the-Wall, Butch Cassidy, Harvey Logan, or Curry gangs.

I've long been interested more or less, in the career of the Hole-in-the-Wall bunch, and I should like to read the story of their doings, if you are going to write them out.

Very truly yours,
R.S. Spears.
Little Falls, N.Y.

*wrote to the new york Sun and Herald
may 24-1917.*

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

From R. S. Spears,
Little Falls, N.Y.

Ask
Adventure

A Free Question and Answer Service Bureau of Information on Outdoor Life and Activities Everywhere and Upon the Various Commodities Required Therein. Conducted for Adventure Magazine by a Staff of Experts

Adventure
Spring and MacDougal Streets
New York

January 25, 1919

Mr. E. P. Lamborn,
202 Branner St.,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Sir;--

You wrote me, in February, 1917, asking about the Hole-in-the-Wall long riders, and about Harvey Logan, alias Kid Curry, Dutch Cassidy, and others. I find that there is a long account of them in "A Cowboy Detective", a book, and in a number of other articles. Also, I had talks about them with a man who knew some of them in Idaho and the Bad Lands.

If you will let me know what information you want, I'll send you whatever data I can get on the subject out of the things I have here. Probably some of the things you have are the same as I have, now, so it'll probably save time to let me know what you want, if you are still interested in the subject.

Very truly yours,

RS 8/1919

Post Office Little Falls, N.Y.

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

RAYMOND S. SPEARS
LITTLE FALLS, N. Y.

February 1, 1919

Dear Mr. Lamborn;--

I don't know whether they rounded up Sheriff Fox in the matter of Logan's escape, or not. Perhaps you can get information straight by writing to The Sentinel, Knoxville, Tenn. They'll write you yes or ~~know~~ no, anyhow, and perhaps give you some details. I happened to be in Knoxville, when Logan was there, but when I wrote you, I couldn't find my notes on the subject, and couldn't recall anything about it. If you could get a copy of the Sentinel for December 21, ~~1901~~ 1901, you would find there a group picture taken at Fort Worth showing Harry Longbaugh, Bill Carver, Ben Kilpatrick, Harvey Logan and George Parker (Butch Cassidy). This was "the Wild Bunch".

The last word I have of Logan is June 27, ~~1903~~ 1903. That was when he lassoed Jailer Bell with a wire, drew him to the cell grate, obtained his keys, and gun, and took Sheriff Fox's best horse and rode away. But a man who worked here in Little Falls in a paper mill, "Harry Scott"--do you know him?--formerly deputy U.S. Marshall at Wallawalla, told me in 1914-15, that he thought Logan and Cassidy were still alive. He said several of the old hole in the wall gang were in Ohio and New York paper mills--he was himself a paper mill worker. He went to the war.

When I was in Lemmon, S.D., in 1915, Indian Pete Culberson laughed at me when I told him Logan and Cassidy had been killed in South America. He told me about the Wild Bunch raiding the ~~W~~ Crow Indians, on the Montana reservation, and bringing 500 Indian ponies down into Nebraska and selling them for shipment east. Crows were on the Little ^{Big} Horn river, and horses shipped from Black Hills. Indian Pete told me it was the same gang that held up the Yellowstone Park stages on July 9, 1915. I think he thought I was a Pinkerton looking for them--I rode a motor cycle out there from Little Falls at that time.

Logan
But in 1903, when he escaped, he was the only one abroad. Ben Kilpatrick had been sent to Columbus, Ohio, Federal Prison, and Laura Bullion, Kid Curry's

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

girl (see picture p 370 Cowboy Detective)
 was sent to Jefferson City. The Texan, Kilpatrick drew 15 years. Scott told me several of the old gang are all shot up, and have hid out in the paper mills. He met Parker, alias Cassidy in Idaho--served a warrant on him, and the next he knew, the station platform was ringed around by Curry, Kilpatrick, ^{Kid} Longbaugh. He was a lone, and Parker told him the warrant was interesting reading, and handed it back. Scott folded it up, put it into his pocket and walked away. Cassidy was the brains of the crowd, and leader, Kilpatrick the "smooth one"; Logan, alias Curry, the killer. Claimed in 1903 only 3 members of the Wild Bunch left alive. Ketcham, who was hung on Apr. 25, 1901, at Clayton, N.M., had his head jerked off by the rope. On page 292, 365, and 371 of Cowboy Detective, you'll find "Black Jack" Franks and Bill Carver were mixed up--Franks being Bill Carver, of Cassidy's gang.

A lot of the desperadoes were mixed up. Cassidy killed John M. Bennet in May, 1886, in the Big Horn mountains. Bennet's friends hired men to kill Cassidy (name then George M. Parker)--and Cassidy had to hide out. He organized the Wyoming cattle rustlers in 1887, and in 1898, Governors Wells of Utah, Adams of Colorado, Richards of Wyoming and Stegensenberg of Idaho met in Salt Lake city, and each offered \$5,000 reward for Cassidy. \$200,000 worth of cattle had been stolen in Utah alone by the rustlers.

That means, of course, that there were several hundred men in the Hole-in-the-wall gang, and The Wild Bunch five were the leaders. Cassidy was about 29 years old in 1886; Harvey Logan was 39 years old in 1903.

The stories I have are badly mixed up. Here are the ^{data} days I have.

Wagner, Mont., Northern Pacific Hold Up, July 4, 1901; \$83,000, including unsigned banknotes. They went to Fort Worth, and had their picture taken.

Union Pacific Express, Tipton, Wyoming, 1901 (mistake, I think).

Lonny Logan killed Dodson Feb 23, 1900.

Wilcox, Wyoming, Union Pacific train, June, 1890.

Galle Fourche, S.D., Butte County Bank, June, 1897. Logan was captured, but escaped from Deadwood Jail, in October of same year.

Arrested, Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 13, 1901, ~~was~~ He went there to escape police, after digging up notes at Rawlins. (See cowboy Detective book).

Live Stock Association of Wyoming organized in 1892 to fight Cassidy's cattle rustlers.

The Wild Bunch robbed several little banks were robbed in Wyoming, Western Colorado, and Southern Utah in 1894, 1895. In 1895, Evanston, Wyoming bank robbed and band followed to Sweetwater Mts., and then the posse was held up and their guns taken.

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A Colorado Coal Company paymaster robbed at Price, Utah, in May, 1897. The satchel of money--\$7,000 to \$10,000--was snatched out of his hand, tossed to man on horseback, and the band rode away w atw top speed. This on a w the railroad platform.

They had locations at Hole in the Wall, right in the gap, in a little cabin; in "robbers' roost, in heights of Shoshone mountains, in Idaho; in Snake mountains in Teton Basin, on Milk River, in Montana; and the abandoned a regular fort up in Escalante mountains in Northwestern Colorado.

In December, ~~1899~~ 1899, they robbed bank at St. George, in southern Utah. (Cassidy's sister postmistress down there. See Cowboy Detective.

\$500 holding up two stages in Teton Basin.
\$200,000(?) robbing U.S. Army paymaster on way to pay Indians and soldiers in a reservation near northern border (Idaho).
Silver bullion at Armargossa,
Wells Fargo Stage, El Paso Smelter to White Hills Mining Co.

Vermillion Cliffs, Utah, old hiding place of gang.

Jim ~~McGhan~~ ^{McGhan}, dying of consumption at St. George, said gang from 25 to 75 members, and 35 commonly--80 or more secretly in league with them. said there were 5 subdivisions of gang, known as squads--each squad a captain, and Cassidy supreme. "Wild Bunch" evidently the leaders. (*probably 300 friends*)

Denver and Rio Grand Wells Fargo car robbery at Cottonwood, gold bullion Cassidy gang raid. This in middle '90s.

\$25,000 in Nevada bank raid, about 1900--had picture taken while on spree in Fort Worth--favorite rendezvous, apparently.

The gang rode from Milk river to Old Mexico; from Fort Worth, Missouri, west into Nevada. Probably Knoxville accident, but other highwaymen met at Tennessee city by detectives (Frank Shercliffe, the Minnesota bad man of 1908, for example).

Cassidy ranged from 1886 to 1902 or 3. Logan about 22 years to 1903. Bill Carver killed about 1900; place in gang taken by ~~Wannamaker~~ O.C. Hanks, (Deaf Charley).

Logan apparently train and bank robbery leader; Cassidy cattle thief and horse thief leader.

In December, 1892, Harry Longbaugh, Bill Madden and Harry Bass held up great Northern train at Malta, Montana. Bass and Madden caught, but Longbaugh escaped! ~~to Wassenaar~~ June 23, 1897, ~~when~~ as "Frank Jones," joined Logan, Tom Day and Walter Putney in the Belle Fourche robbery. All were caught, but, Longbaugh and Logan escaped, Oct. 31, 1897.

Cassidy, Longbaugh and another, First National Bank at Winnemucca, Nevada, Sept. 19, 1900. Cassidy was in Knoxville with Logan--but escaped to Decatur, Alabama, ~~and made his getaway~~ made his getaway in an ice wagon, but how I ~~damn~~ don't know.

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

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I haven't any details of the Sheriff Hazen killing, and I don't find anything about Turkey Creek canon fight.

Sam Bass was 27 years old when he was killed on July 19, 1878. He was 4 ft 8 inches tall (probably misprint for 5 ft) weighed 140 lbs. He lost \$300 on horse races, and went out to rob it back. His first band was organized in 1874; they operated along Rio Grande. Tried silver bullion train robbing, and then quit that kind for two years--too dangerous. Went back at ~~it~~ it in 1876 and operated Black Hills, Kansas, Nebraska, into Texas. \$25,000 reward offered for him.

Big Springs, Neb. Union Pacific. \$60,000--\$20 gold pieces. Bass, Joel Collins, Tom Hotaling (Hoalting), Jack Davis, and unknown. Hoalting killed in Kansas. Collins killed by another Sheriff posse. \$20,000 recovered on them. Davis shot at Mexico, Mo. He had \$10,000. Bass, more than \$20,000 for share.

Then Bass joined by one Nixon. Bass threw money away in sprees at Fort Worth and Denton, Tex.

Feb 22, 1878, robbed Texas & Pacific train at Allen station. One at Eagle Fort, March 1, and Mesquite on Apr. 20. Got \$3,100 in three loots. They robbed Southern Pacific, Houston and Texas Central,--got little money.

In June, 1878, Dept. of State of Texas heard Bass planned to rob State treasury. Rangers on guard--all hands armed, Governor to porters. Bass heard of it, and went to Round Rock, to rob bank instead. Co. of Rangers, Capt. Lee

all, to look for Bass there. July 19, Rangers scattered around town.

Dep. Sheriff Grimes to general store. Saw three strangers ride up, into it. All had pistols--against law. Ordered them under arrest. One shot--fell dead. Rangers heard--hot day, and they'd scattered. Citizens, rangers found three men mounting horses. Capt. Richard C. Ware into mid street, rifle in hand, and shot Bass. Bass darted out of sight. Trailed 3 miles away found Bass. Other two, Jackson and Barnes escaped. Bass died talking of mother and sisters.

No apparent connection between Harry Bass of Wild Bunch and Sam Bass, but there are a lot of those boys who grew up--two or three generations, as in the Starrs.

There seem to have been Bill Cook, killed near Ardmore, I.T., and the Cook brothers, mere boys, who made one raid and were killed off. Bill Cook had 25 to 75 men, and got \$100,000--died without a cent in his pockets. Wife back to her people. Cook brothers, about 1896. Haven't any thing about Farringtons of Ann, Miles Bros., or Mettenhouse brothers.

Capt. Bill McDonald wrote a book about the Rangers--subscription, printed in Texas, I think. I ordered a copy some time since through local book store but nothing from it yet.

What books have you got about Western desperadoes? I use my material in fiction, chiefly, and occasional newspaper articles, and I like, besides, to read up, look through files of Wide World Magazine.

Logan was with Broken Nose George Curry, first; was with "Bob" Lee, a half breed named Robinson, and Harry Longbaugh. Broken nose killed at Thompson, Utah, resisting arrest. This was year after Sheriff Hazen killed at Casper, Wyo. after Union Pacific robbery at Wilcox, Wyo--during pursuit, after robbery. Harvey and Lonny Logan with Broken nose at Thompson, escaped.

This will help you fill in; let me know if my data agrees with yours.

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

RAYMOND S. SPEARS
LITTLE FALLS, N. Y.

February 11, 1919

Dear Mr. Lamborn;--

You've a great bunch of outlaw books. My material of this kind is almost all clippings from newspapers, some of them dating back to ~~the~~ 1900. My father went from Idaho to Texas for the N.Y. Sun, in the late '80s and '90s and he saved many clippings; I got a lot of these myself, from time to time. As I wrote you, I use this ~~xxxxx~~ in writing fiction. Current ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ ALL Story magazine has one type of yarn.

You can get ^{to borrow} a copy of that Pinkerton book ~~and~~ if you can get your deputy Justice of Peace, ^{to the Pinkerton} sheriff or city marshall to write for information about "The Hole in the Wall" gang, or about "Butch" Cassidy. It's a speech William Pinkerton made in 1907 before the International Association of Chiefs of Police. It lists a lot of robberies. If you can't get it, I'll borrow and copy dates for you. I've written to several places trying to locate material. I hope to send ^{magazines with Logan} you a Wide World ^{with} story of Cassidy, Longbaugh and Atta Longbaugh (Place) in Argentine. I've a copy in my material--June, 1916. Englishman hired out to them, and next he knew he was sticking up a bank.

I made the list I sent you out of old newspaper clippings, magazine articles, etc. There isn't any Sam Bass history I know of. I have about 3,000 words about Capt. Ware, who caught and killed him. I sent you the hold ups mentioned. There's a big, bad gang operating down South, now; the Detroit and Chicago jeweler robbers were Italians, ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ I think. Boy's Life, magazine, is starting a story of Creed, Bob Ford--Broken Nose Creek, etc. There's good material in it, though fiction, I understand.

If you could get hold of files of old newspapers of the hold up days, you'd get a lot of material; but don't clip them, as those old papers are sometimes valuable to historical societies. I've written to see if I can't get a line on old magazine articles, about these bad men. I've ordered some of the books you mention which come inside the scope of my fiction work. By the way, the Boy Scout book "Crooked Trails", by Frederick Hemington contains some material you may like. Story of the Outlaw by Hough is one of the best.

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(February 18, 1919)

I am sending you by mail a magazine, Wide World, with one of the Wild Bunch stories in it. I sent to New York and got it from a second hand book dealer. It is one of the best. I'll watch out and get any other stories of the type that I can find for you. I've a bound volume here that contains "The Evolution of a Bandit"--Wide World story. That seems to be the one you mentioned, October, 1910.

The hold ups have moved East; they're using in Chicago, southern States, Brooklyn and New York, and in New England States. I think you'll do well to clip all the hold up yarns, as there must be two or three bad gangs at work, who'll do a lot of mischief before they are rounded up, and who will be as famous as the western outlaws. Some of the bad ~~man~~ westerners, by the way, were products of the east. Look up Billy the Kid, and some of them. You've the Dough story in his Outlaw book. I'm trying to get that book myself. Been trying to for years.

I'll get around to tabulating the Wild Bunch hold ups, and will send you the list. By the way, in Leavenworth prison, you should be able to get the Warden to give you some data about some of the hold ups, for the prison there held some of the minor ones. The Cincinnati Federal prison, however, was generally used to curb the worst ones. A few ~~Kilpatrick~~ ^{among them} of the Wild Bunch (the Long Texan) went to Atlanta.

I think I'll work some of my bad man facts up into articles, but I don't like to get them printed, because I use the same material in fiction. You'll find, if you take a note book, and just index under "Logan Cassidy", etc. that you can get every fact about each man under one head, and you'll know what you've got, then. A loose leaf notebook is best for it. You'll find the story in one place, the date in another, who did it in another of your books--Cowboy Detective is a mine of scattered information--"Franks", for example, Tom Horn, Logan's connections, etc. but it's a job to sort it out!

How did Longbaugh, alias Place get the name "Sundance Kid"?

Sincerely yours,

R. S. Lamborn

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

RAYMOND S. SPEARS
LITTLE FALLS, N. Y.

April 13, 1919

Dear Lamborn;--

I've been so busy lately, no time to get my correspondence straightened out. Will send you copy of the story in Wide World one of these days, but I've held off, thinking I could get a copy for you of the magazine. I'm trying for it, now. I've just had a rush of fiction work to swing to, which kept me busy nearly all winter, and I've got to go looking for some lines of story material this summer, and may get out west of the Mississippi and down through the Santa Fe trail to New Mexico, or else down across Oklahoma to Texas. Can't be sure, yet. If I get down that way, I'll get notes on our favorite Bad Men, and will help fill out your stuff with them. You'll find it a good idea, unless you do it, to keep a note book, and put down all the little anecdotes you hear about the men you know. I've gather facts on the Mississippi about men I knew in the mountains of Tennessee, and picked up a lot of Wild Bunch material from a former U.S. marshal (Deputy), right here in Little Falls.

If you should change your address, keep me posted--

Yours

Spears

E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

RAYMOND S. SPEARS
LITTLE FALLS, N. Y.

June 14, 1919

Dear Lamborn;

I copied the Wide World article you wanted, at last. It gives a fairly consecutive account of Curry, but I think that Cassidy was the cattle-rustling leader, Curry of hold ups. There are some minor matters in the article that are doubtful.

They say the Wild Bunch stuck up the stages in the Yellowstone National Park in 1915--anything later from the gang than that?

I couldn't find copy of the magazine--was to several stores in New York city the other day--none there. Copy is word for word clear through, with probably ~~many~~ errors of letters and poor typewriting.

I am going out west in my automobile, with family next week or two, for two or three months in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, etc.

Get me know you get this ok.

Yours



E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

From R.S. Spears,
Little Falls, N.Y.

The Evolution of a Bandit,

By John H. McIntosh, 1910
(Wide World Magazine, Oct. 1919)
Illustrated by John H. A. Hogg.

An Account of the career of "Kid" Curry, a notorious Western outlaw who, by his appearance in the Argentine Republic, where the authorities have asked for the Assistance of the United States law officers -- bids fair to become of international interest. "Every word in the story is true," writes the author, "The narrative is based upon my own personal experience and the records of the National Bureau of Criminal Identification"

A few months ago the State Department of Washington, D.C., received the following cablegram from the U.S. Consul stationed in Buenos Ayres, the capital of the Argentine Republic;--

"'Kid' Curry, and gang operating in Argentine on very big scale. Have demanded booty of government, accompanied by threats. ~~Consul~~ here unable to cope with them. Be assistance of the United States to free Argentine from desperadoes."

To many people it may not seem clear why a South American Republic should call on the United States to free it of an outlaw and his gang, but to any one who has heard of "Kid" Curry the matter is not so obscure. His name was one to conjure with in the Rocky Mountain region of the West long before he was ever heard of in the Southern Hemisphere, and there can be no doubt that the Argentine authorities would be more than willing for Uncle Sam to take back this strenuous and formidable American citizen.

Uncle Sam and his officers are willing enough. Indeed, in less than a week after the receipt of the message above mentioned, five detectives from as many different states were traveling swiftly southward with South America as their destination. If, however, their efforts to apprehend "Kid" Curry or his prominent members of his present gang prove no more fruitful than those of their predecessors--some of the best trained man-hunters America could produce--then the redoubtable "Kid" and his merrie men will long continue to terrorize the Argentine Republic.

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The names of the five men who have undertaken the hazardous task of capturing and bring this daring outlaw back to the United States are withheld for obvious reasons. In time, the world will know them, for they will either report their venture a failure or will achieve success--and failure in a case of this kind may mean death.

One of the five went as a detective for the National Bankers Association, which would like to see the outlaw brought to trial for three bank "hold ups"; a second was sent direct from Chicago by the Pinkerton^{National} Detective Agency; a third was equipped and commissioned by Major Sylvester, head of the International Association of Police Chiefs; Three big western railroads combined to send the fourth, while the fifth criminal-hunter started out at the instigation of Capt. W. S. Swain of Spokane, Washington, who is now head of a big detective agency and who himself spent years trying to bring "Kid" Curry to justice.

The news from Argentine is the first authentic information the American authorities have had for five years concerning Curry. It has been repeatedly stated that this notorious Western character had met his death. In the summer of 1906, for instance, a report came from Tucson, Arizona, to the effect that a man positively identified as Curry had been killed while cattle-rustling. The cowboy who shot him even put in a claim for the immense reward offered by the railroads, banks, States and the Government. It was later, however, proved that the dead man was not Curry.

Early in January, 1907, a relative of "Kid" Curry, living in the Little Rockies, Northern Montana, gave out that he had received a letter from a man in Brazil who had known Curry in the latter country, ~~when~~ and who stated that Curry had been killed in a fight with a Spaniard. But it was not long after this that the same relative declared the report of Curry's death to be false, and he accompanied this with ~~the~~ a promise that Curry would live to return to the United States and settle old scores with some of his enemies;

It has since transpired that most of these reports were started by Curry himself, who used the news of his death as a means to throw pursuers off the

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track, In fact, it is now pretty well established that the desperado has for the past four years been carefully laying his plans and reorganizing his band. Now he is in a position to strike, and strike hard.

"Kid" Curry's real name is Harvey Logan, but the outlaw has been known so long by the former name that it has stuck to him. The American members of his band are George Leroy Parker, alias "Butch" Cassidy, and Harry Longbaugh, alias "The Sundance Kid".

Curry operated in Northern Montana for years. His home was in Choteau County, about twenty miles from Chinook, and it was in that section that he started on his career of outlawry. Later he became leader of what was known as the "Wild Bunch", a gang of outlaws that infested the Hole-in-the-Wall country, Wyoming. Parker held forth in "Buzzard's Roost," an inaccessible mountain retreat near the point where the Colorado, Utah and Wyoming boundary lines run together. Longbaugh was a dreaded cattle-rustler and horse-thief of Eastern Montana. Each of these men, with his followers, preyed upon the railroads; they participated in scores of train robberies and are credited with many murders. Curry was the most desperate and by far the most resourceful of all. No prison has been strong enough to hold him, and it is said that the Union Pacific Railroad alone has spent half a million dollars in trying to capture him.

At one time the rewards for the capture of Curry, dead or alive, aggregated forty thousand dollars. Of this amount, the Union Pacific offered \$10,000, the Great Northern, \$10,000, the National Bankers Association, \$5,000, and the States of Montana and Utah \$5,000 each. Yet more was offered by a great detective agency as an incentive to its employees.

According to Mr. Eugene Van Buskirk, Supt. of the National Bureau of Criminals' Identifications, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., Curry holds the distinction of having the longest criminal record ever known in the United States.

No chance has been too desperate for this daring outlaw. He has seven murders to his credit in the States alone. The largest robbery in which he ever participated was near Wagner, Montana, in 1901, when with Butch Cassidy

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and one another, he held up a Great Northern train and obtained \$41,500 in bank notes from the Express car.

The earliest date of any felonious crime committed by Curry in the possession of the detectives of the West is Dec. 25th, 1894, when he killed a man named Pike in Landusky, Montana. In 1897, he participated in a bank robbery at Belle Fourche, S.D., was arrested at Dillon, Mont., under the name of Tom Jones, and placed in jail at Deadwood.

In less than two weeks he had figured out a plan that gave him his liberty. Nothing more was heard of him for nearly two years, when he ~~was~~ took a leading part in the holding up of a Union Pacific train at Wilcox, Wyoming.

Headed ~~mouth~~ by Sheriff Hazen, a posse started out after the robbers. Two days later they came upon the gang at Teapot creek, near Casper, Wyoming. The posse was closing in on the gang when Curry stepped from ambush and shot Haze through the breast killing him instantly. Curry and the men with him got away.

The band separated and one of the members was run to cover. Refusing to give himself up, he was shot and killed by John Hyler, Sheriff of Grand Co., Utah, and Sam Jenkins, an acting deputy sheriff. Curry, at the time, was being sought in the South-West, where he was supposed to be hiding. In some way word reached him that one of his comrades had been killed by the officers.

Purely ~~vw~~ for the purpose of revenge, he went to Moad, Utah, where he sought out the sheriff and deputy-sheriff, and murdered them. Poses of citizens scoured the surrounding country for miles, but no trace of the outlaw ~~curry~~ was found.

Curry again stepped into the limelight in August, 1900, when he held up the Union Pacific train at Tipton, Wyoming. A year later he held up a Great Northern train near Wagner, Montana, and got away with \$45,500; all this time the State and county officers of half a dozen different States were anxiously seeking him.

The next crime ~~winter~~ charged to the outlaw occurred on July 26th, 1901 when he killed James Winters, for revenge, as Winters had been assisting the

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authorities ~~stom~~ in their efforts to apprehend him.

Two months after killing Winters, Curry was seen in Helena, Mont., accompanied by a woman, with whom he traveled through the Southern States for several weeks. In Nashville, Tenn., the woman was arrested while trying to pass some of the money stolen in the Great Northern robbery, but Curry, as usual, got away. He was next heard of in Knoxville, Tenn., where he shot and dangerously wounded two policemen who were trying to arrest him. Other officers came to their aid, ~~however~~ however, and Curry was overpowered and locked up.

Convicted of assault with intent to kill, he was later convicted on ten counts for altering banknotes. The sentences aggregated 130 years in the Columbus, Ohio, State Penitentiary.

While awaiting removal to the Ohio Penitentiary, Curry managed to escape from the Knox County jail. His escape was one of the most cleverly planned, as well as one of the most ~~valuable~~ daring in the criminal annals of the country.

In some unknown ^{way} the prisoner got hold of a small length of brass wire (Out of broom handle, R.S.S.). With this Curry made a noose and waited his chance. Next morning, as the jailer was making his rounds the desperado accosted him;

"Hey, Bill," he said, pleasantly, "There's a w big spider crawling up the back of your coat. Step up close quick, and I'll brush him off."

Curry was in his cell; the jailer was in the corridor, and in the circumstances, never suspected a trick. He stepped against the cage holding the outlaw with his back to the man who he believed was to brush the spider from his coat. Quick as lightning, the outlaw's hand slipped through one of the holes in the grating, but instead of attending to the supposed spider he deftly slipped the wire noose over the jailer's head.

The turnkey's hand darted to ^{his} ~~the~~ holster, but Curry was quicker. The wire, drawn tight, cut like a knife across the jailer's windpipe until his tongue protruded from his mouth.

"Quick, out with the gun and give me the keys, or I'll give this wire

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an extra pull and choke you to death like a rat in a trap!" said Curry in a fierce whisper.

It was a life-and-death matter with the officer and he had no option but to hand over the articles demanded. Having obtained them, Curry coolly fastened his end of the wire inside the cell, the noose remained around the unfortunate jailer's throat.

For the prisoner to unlock his cell, meanwhile keeping the revolver aimed at the helpless jailer was the work of a moment. Next he securely tied and gagged the man held tight by the wire, and unlocked and swung open the big door leading to the jail proper. The sheriff's office stood open between the front door of the building and the jail; yet Curry sauntered by as unconcernedly as though he were going to church.

"Who was that man?" asked the sheriff of one of his deputies.

"I didn't get a good look at him, Why?"

"Well, he looked like our prisoner, Curry," replied the sheriff carelessly. ~~wasn't he in prison~~

While this conversation was going on, Curry ran out to the stable at the rear of the jail and forced the astonished man in charge there to saddle and bridle the best horse available, a spirited animal belonging to the sheriff. In the meantime his escape had been discovered and the officers rushed out pell-mell just as Curry waved his hat at them before turning the street corner, riding at a gallop.

Quickly organizing a posse, the sheriff gave chase. The trail led into the Blue Ridge mountains, and time and again it seemed the pursuers would surround and capture the pursued, but in the end Curry made good his escape. He traveled northward by easy stages, then west to the Jackson Hole Basin of Wyoming, and still later he turned up at his old haunts in Choteau Co, Mont.

It must not be understood that Curry ~~evaded~~^{eluded} the clutches of the law, year after year, without aid. He had friends, most of whom helped him because they feared him, but they counted as friends just the same. I had occasion to learn this, and will tell here of my first and last experience with this noted outlaw.

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About a year after Curry's spectacular escape from the jail in Tennessee I was sent to Montana by a big detective agency for which I was working, with instructions to visit Curry's hometown in Northern Montana and learn, if possible, whether the outlaw was in the State. I had no instructions to try and effect his capture.

My experience as a detective covered less than a year, but I had been successful in a big case, and was delighted on hearing I was ~~young~~ to trail the most noted outlaw in all the west.

"You are young," the superintendent told me, "but we have faith in your nerve and judgment. Go to Chinook, Montana, and under some sort of a disguise, learn if possible of Curry's whereabouts. If you think his capture possible, advise me at once, and we will detail a dozen tried men on the case."

Ten days after that a soap "drummer" (commercial traveler), hailing from St. Paul, stepped ~~in~~ off in Chinook, with his case of samples, put up in the only hotel in the little cattle town. That evening, as the "drummer" was reading a paper, two uncouth looking men dropped in.

"Join us in havin' a drink, pardner?" said one.

The "drummer" was about to decline the invitation, but his visitors were insistent and he joined them. He was plied by his hosts with questions, some of which he found embarrassing. Later he was glad to part from his new-found friends and retire for the night.

In the morning, the "drummer" called on the proprietor of a general merchandising store with his samples, but was taken aback when the merchant gave him a cool reception.

"I don't want none of your goods, stranger," he said, "You may be all right, but your looks are agin you. There's talk around here that you're working ~~on~~ up a case agin 'Kid' Curry. Now, I'm an honest myself an' don't uphold no thief; but 'Kid' Curry didn't never bother nobody nor nobody's property in Chinook, an' I ain't givin' help to those what's lookin' for him."

The "drummer" protested that he was what he ^{represented} ~~pretended~~ to be, but to no avail. Then it occurred to the supposed soap salesman that he might get the hotel proprietor, ~~xx~~ who seemed to be well known and popular, to say a few

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words in his favor.

"Nothin' doing," said the hotel man, laconically, after the salesman had recounted his experience with the merchant, "My business is in this town, and Curry's friends are my ~~friends~~^m customers. If you ain't a detective the gang around this town is fooled and that's all there about it. Anyway, stranger, it will be a whole lot healthier for you somewhere else, no matter what you are. 'Butch' Cassidy sent word in this mornin' ~~he~~ that him an' his ~~was~~ pals will give you one hour to git out of town."

The "drummer" looked at his watch. The east-bound Great Northern express would be in at eleven-forty-five. It was then eleven. The drummer gave up the struggle and took the express.

Thus baffled and humiliated, at being outwitted, he returned to headquarters, of the detective agency and voluntarily resigned. The "drummer" was none other than the writer of this article. I had had enough of detective work and gave it up in sheer disgust.

~~From two to three years following Curry~~ My experience had demonstrated how well Curry's friends protected him in certain parts of the West, and that any plan that would effect his capture must be out of the ordinary.

For the two or three years following, Curry jumped from place to place about the west, stealing horses and robbing trains. In the spring of 1906, two boys got a clue that Curry was in Arizona; they traced him to St. Johns and were murdered just outside the town. Although there were no witnesses to the shooting, ~~and~~ authorities say there is no doubt that Curry killed the boys when they tried to close in on him.

After the murder of the boys the Sheriff of Apache county, endeavored to apprehend the outlaw. The sheriff found his hiding place in the woods but when the office stepped up to place him under arrest, Curry drew his gun and shot him dead.

After that the search for the desperado became more and more determined than ever; it was also better organized. In Colorado, ^{Uta}, Arizona, Wyoming and Montana large rewards were offered by the local authorities, and many fearless Sheriffss swore they would "get" Curry or forfeit their lives in the

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attempt.

Whether the hunt became too warm for the outlaw, or whether he hoped for a bigger booty in foreign lands is not known, but certain it is that "Kid" Curry suddenly dropped from view. Then came the news that he was living in South America, but ~~reports~~ all reports from there were hazy until the American Consul notified the State Department that the former terror of the Western States was operating on a large scale farther south.

It is reported that the Argentine robberies have been of the most daring ~~kind~~ character, and that those who have tried to stop them have been put out of the way with bullets.

Hiding to the scene of a robbery on horseback, the outlaws leave one of their members in charge of the horses while they hold up the employees of banks with revolvers and rifle the safe and vaults.

Reading of the lawless doings of an outlaw of the Curry type, one wonders what could start a man out on a career of ~~such~~ wanton crime.

In Curry's case it seems that it was conviction ~~for~~ and a small fine for a petty theft that launched him on the downward path. After that, it he considered all officers of law as his natural enemies and all property as his for the taking.

An old justice of Peace--Tim Hobbs by name--tried Curry for the theft of a yearling calf ~~was~~ near Fort ~~at~~ Benton Montana. The justice thought the evidence conclusive and fined the prisoner \$50. Curry continued to protest his innocence so strenuously that the justice fined him an additional \$5.00 for contempt of Court. ^{jumped to his feet,} whereupon Curry, knocked ~~him~~ down, pushed the heavy table over on top the justice, and mounting his horse, rode away.

Up to that time he had been employed as a cowboy on a ranch ~~in~~ in Northern Montana, and was considered unusually quiet and well behaved. After the episode ~~at~~ near Fort Benton, however, Curry became known as a cattle wrangler and gun-fighter. He was scarcely twenty years old when he started on his career of outlaw.