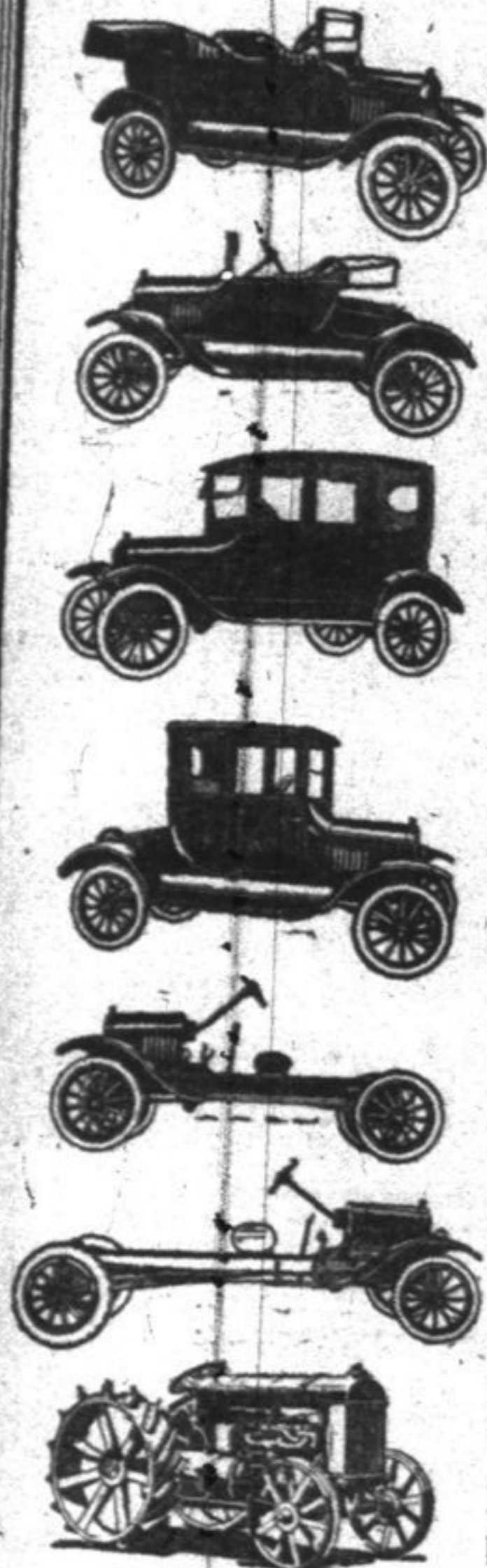


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"MOONSHINE" IS BLAMED

Ignatz Potz Confesses to Murder of Winthrop Harbor Policeman; Three Held Without Bail

Held without bond in the Lake county jail, three Chicago men have confessed to the murder of William Petersen, motorcycle policeman of Winthrop Harbor, signing written confessions in Waukegan at midnight last Friday. Ignatz Potz, in his confession declared that he fired the shots that riddled the officer, according to a statement made Saturday morning by State's Attorney Smith. "Yes, I did it, all right," admitted Potz. But, My God! I couldn't tell you why; it must have been on account of the moonshine we drank at Kenosha.

The men under arrest are: Ignatz Potz, 1838 South Throop St., who fired the shots into Petersen's body.

John Bartole, 1928 South Loomis street, father of several small children and driver of the car.

Michael Radich, 3278 Archer Ave., who was asleep in the rear seat of the machine when the shots were fired.

The men were taken in Chicago Friday night at the saloon of Nicholas Koller, 1920 Allport street, owner of the machine used by the three when the murder was committed, following a three weeks' investigation by James H. McQueeny, head of the McQueeny Detective agency, and his operatives.

Kenosha Gets \$1500 Reward

Several days ago State's Attorney Smith got a letter from a Kenosha man, whose identity the prosecutor declined to divulge because it might cause him trouble, stating that he had talked with a man, whose cousin had driven the car from which a man had been shot. The letter came after a reward of \$1,000 by Lake county, and another of \$500 by Winthrop Harbor had been offered.

It was another "moonshine" tragedy. Two of the men arrested said: "We had been drinking; we didn't know he was going to shoot. All three of the men are foreigners. According to the confession of one of the men Potz shot Petersen when the officer, riding a motorcycle, who had pursued them from Winthrop Harbor to Beach, as the fugitive car was speeding at the rate of 70 miles an hour, had almost overtaken them and was within 30 feet.

The machine, a dark blue, Nash six, belongs to Koller. Prosecutor Smith has both the car and the shotgun, a Savage pump gun, a 12-gauge, which were used by the alleged murderers. The shooting occurred on Sheridan Road, near Beach.

The murder was one of the most brutal and cold-blooded ever committed in this county and Prosecutor Smith swore he would run the guilty men down no matter what the cost to the county and the amount of work involved. Clue after clue was followed up for nearly a month.

Men Had Hunted Rabbits
According to the confessions, the men had gone to the neighborhood of Libertyville on Jan. 13, where they hunted for a while, killing one rabbit, from there they went to Kenosha. On the way back to Chicago that afternoon they stopped at a farm house south of Kenosha to get some water for the radiator of their car, and also got some moonshine.

Clears Three Under Arrest
The arrest of the three clears Jacob Steinbeck and Thomas Hebson of Evanston and Robert Posen of Chicago of the murder. They were arrested and took them to Potz's

McQueeny, with Detective C. A. Brune of Waukegan, went Friday afternoon to the Koller saloon. With them went a cousin of Bartole from Kenosha. Brune, with the latter entered the saloon at the front. The cousin, whose name was not disclosed, at once pointed out Bartole. Bartole attempted to escape by the side door, where McQueeny nabbed him. He at once admitted driving the death car and pointed out Radich, who also was in the Koller saloon. Both said Potz had done the shooting. McQueeny and Brune then arrested them and took them to Pitz's home. Potz was just entering when they arrived.

Potz Admits Shooting
"Where's the gun you killed that fellow with?" demanded McQueeny, laying a hand on Potz's shoulders. "I—I—" stammered Pitz and then he broke down. "It's back in Koller's saloon," he blubbered.

"I didn't know he was going to fire," said Bartole. "We were just going along when all of a sudden he jumped up and fired two shots. I said: 'My God, Potz, what did you do that for?' 'Never mind,' he answered, it," he said, wearily. "I guess I was Now drive like hell."

"Why did you shoot?" Potz was asked.

"O, I don't know myself why I did it," he said, wearily. "I guess I was drunk; it must have been the moonshine we drank. We had some wine and then we got a pint of moonshine at a road house near Kenosha. All I know is somebody in the car said there was a policeman following us on a motorcycle, and I turned around

and shot him. That's all I know. I was dazed for three days after that." The confessions state that Bartole, who works in Koller's saloon, had borrowed the automobile from his employer that day to go rabbit hunting. The three men were taken to Waukegan where their confessions were taken before Bert McDermott, court stenographer.

Petersen was known as a fearless officer. He helped support his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Petersen, who live on a farm west of Winthrop Harbor. He apparently was instantly killed, but his motorcycle was travelling at such a great speed his machine ran along the road for near-

ly two hundred feet before it plunged into a ditch with its victim, at the side of the road, in front of the Mrs. Mary Durkin home.

The three men were arraigned at 10 o'clock Saturday morning before Justice Hervey C. Coulson. They were brought into court by Assistant Chief of Police Thomas Tyrell and Policeman Harold Cunningham. They were bound over to the March term of the grand jury, to be held without bond. Chief Tyrell turned the prisoners over to Sheriff Elmer Green.

Potz is about 28 years old, Bartole 27, and Radich is 38. The men are known as habitués of Chicago saloons

and Kenosha friends of Kenosha bootleggers. All are Croatians.

It was reported later that the reward of \$1,500 probably would be turned over to the parents of Petersen, who depended largely upon their son for support.

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