

Gypsies in Elliston

GYPS FARED HARD NEAR ELLISTON

The band of Gypsies that passed through here Friday morning of last week got into trouble at Elliston Station and at Zion, due to the exercising of the proverbial talent of the "Gyp" for separating rightful owners from some of their possessions. The party went into the store of McAtee and McCoy at Elliston and robbed the postoffice, which is located in that building of about \$30.00 in cash, in addition to picking up numerous other things about the premises. They also visited the store of Jeff Thornton and exacted some slight tribute as a memento of their visit.

Clerks of the two stores and several citizens of Elliston formed a party and started in pursuit of the Gypsies, overtaking them a short distance out of Elliston. At that point they demanded the return of the money and emphasized the request with a liberal display of good old shooting irons. The persuasive effect of the six shooters was not to be resisted, and the "Gyps" handed over the money. Later the sheriff of Grant county and the marshal of Dry Ridge formed a posse, and, surrounding the nomads at Mt. Zion, gave them just four hours in which to get clear of the county. The Gypsies then started on their way north, and it is presumed went into camp at the old camping ground back of Cincinnati, where they were evidently headed for when they passed through here Friday morning. One thing that attracted more than the usual attention to the band that passed through here was the fact of their having in their use a big 8 cylinder Cole automobile and which they offered for sale here at \$250.00. The low price of the machine proved in the present instance no bait, as every one was afraid to take hold of the machine at the very attractive price offered, fearing that it was stolen property. This was likely the case, as the average Gyps bank roll never attains the dimensions of a Cole Eight.

The band stopped here, as usual, and tried to follow the old trick of imposing on the unwary who had a desire to peer through the misty veil of the future and were willing to give up so much silver for that pleasureable bit of self-delusion. However, no coins were gathered here on that plea, as practically all approached were so well satisfied with their present that the future did not give them any great concern. Members of the party also entered some of the different stores, and, squirrel like, started to hop behind the counters, but were unable to gather any booty. Aside from the rather unusual prosperity that attended their way and as was reflected in the ownership of the big touring car, this was about the usual band, with the regulation number of small and dirty brats, running from the size of a cigarette to that of a joint of stove pipe. They also carried the regulation quantity of filth and the usual malodor, as attesting their supreme indifference to hygiene. At that, they seemed healthy, and we often think that the "gyp" is the one irrefutable argument against the laws of health and hygiene. However, this is but a surface sign and one that really cloaks a mistake, for statistics show that the Gypsies are frequently victims of the great White Plague and their death from this cause occur in large numbers.