

Fruit Merchant Beaten, Robbed

JULY 1, 1940

Bandits Escape With \$1,100 Here,
C. G. Frick Taken to Hospital 7-6-40

C. G. Frick, wholesale fruit and produce merchant here, was clubbed over the head and seriously injured Saturday by two bold daylight robbers who took \$1,100 from him. Late last night the robbers were still at large.

The daring robbery took place just before 7 o'clock. Two men strangers to Frick, he said later at the Lowery hospital, came in his place at 128 East Council street, and said they wanted to buy some bananas. Mr. Frick, who was alone at the time, took them to the basement section of his place, where bananas are stored. There he was clubbed and beaten over the head until unconscious. The

money was taken from his person.

The prostrate merchant was found some minutes later by Wiley Lash, who runs a store nearby, and who was there to get a new supply of bananas.

The hospital attaches said the merchant was badly hurt but in a favorable condition. He was conscious. Doctors thought he was hit with a rock, or some other jagged instrument with sharp edges. His head was badly cut in at least seven places, indicating repeated blows on the part of the assailants.

Whether or not the skull was fractured had not been determined pending X-ray pictures to be made Sunday morning.

Frick lived in Morgan township, Gold Hill, RFD No. 1. He had been in the fruit business for 10 years.

City police officers immediately launched a hunt for the men. They were aided by officers from the sheriff's department. Late last night, however, very little progress in the manhunt could be reported. Frick, questioned briefly by the officers, said his assailants were strangers

to him, both were white men, and each weighed about 150 pounds, he estimated. Other description from the badly wounded man was meager.

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Frick Robbery Case Is Solved Here With Three Men and Woman Held

Local Officers Clear '40 Crime Detection Slate

**Four Are Charged
With \$1,100 Theft
And With Assault**

Four defendants—three men and one woman—are under arrest on charges of feloniously assaulting Chalmers G. Frick, 57-year-old wholesale produce and fruit merchant of Salisbury on the night of July 6, 1940, and stealing more than \$1,100 from his person, Chief of Police John D. Poole and Sheriff J. H. Krider announced today.

The defendants are: Fred Carpenter, 27; Roy Linn, 31; Clifford Goins, 28, and Mary Lou Woods, 23, all of whom were living in Lincolnton and vicinity at the time of the robbery.

The solution to the baffling case came during the past few days and after incessant work on the part of local officers since the robbery and assault.

The local officers report that they were generously assisted in their investigations by Sheriff R. L. Furr of Stanly county, Deputy Sheriff David Graham of Rowan, Sgt. H. R. Frymoyer of the state highway patrol with headquarters here, and officers in several other counties. Various members of departments here also cooperated in helping solve the case, the officers report.

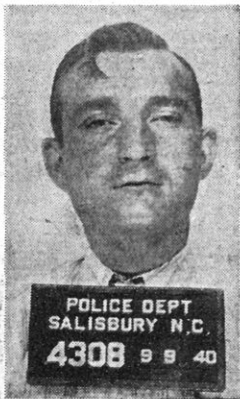
WIDE INVESTIGATION

Extensive investigations conducted over a wide area, questioning of the defendants, and the accumulation of evidence, have resulted in filing of charges of felonious assault and robbery from person against the defendants, according to the officers. The same defendants also face charges of breaking and entering a service station in Stanly county, the reports continued, but because of the gravity of the Salisbury charges, will be tried here at an immediate date.

Implicated In Robbery Here



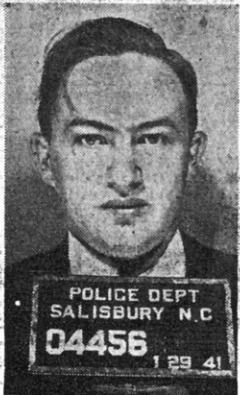
ROY LINN



CLIFFORD GOINS



MARY LOU WOODS



FRED CARPENTER

Raises Unusual Crop for Rowan County



C. G. Frick . . . cabbages are kings on his farm.

(Post Staff Photo.)

Rowan Personalities

Attack By Robbers Materially Changed Course of Frick's Life

By MACK McKA

A blow on the head with a machine hammer six years ago changed C. G. Frick from a successful Salisbury wholesale fruit and produce merchant into a "produce producer" on his farm a quarter of a mile from the Liberty school in Morgan township.

Mr. Frick had operated his wholesale business at 128 East Council street, Salisbury, for 15 years, with nothing of an unusual nature happening. Then one day early in July, 1940, the entire course of his life was changed in the twinkling of an eye.

Two strangers came to his store in broad daylight, said they wished to buy some bananas, and when he took them to the basement and started showing his bunches of bananas one of them struck him over the head with a hammer. They robbed him of \$1,000 cash and some checks and fled, leaving him unconscious.

"They caught the two men and also caught another man and woman, who were accomplices. The three men were sentenced to 15 to 20 years and the woman to two years. All of them are out of prison now but one man," he said.

"I was in Duke hospital for a considerable period, and I still feel the effects of that rap on the head. But I am able to do a great deal of work on my truck farm here, and working with growing produce seems to help me," he said.

18,000 Cabbage Plants

Mr. Frick set out 18,000 cabbage plants. Some froze but he managed to save a large percentage of the plants and now he is harvesting some of the finest cabbage grown in Rowan county. He markets the most of his produce in Salisbury.

He has a fine bed of sweet potato plants, all ready to set out in the two acres now prepared. He also has an acre of fine Irish potatoes coming on and says he expects to dig them in about 28 days.

Asked if he had any experience in growing truck before his 1940 injury, he replied:

"I was raised between the plow handles on the home place in Morgan township, a mile from my farm, so I knew something about farming. However, I keep learning more and more about truck farming each year. Experience is the best teacher at anything, and that is especially true with trucking. I get a grand thrill out of raising produce of high quality, and trying to make it better each year. I hated to give up my business in Salisbury, but this work out in the open has its compensations."