

ROBBERS ENTERED WIMBLEDON STORE

Exciting Time at Wimbledon Last Week—Set Fire to Store in Order to Escape.

The town of Wimbledon was stirred to the highest pitch of excitement a week ago last Monday morning about 2 o'clock when three men were seen in the store of the Joos Mercantile Co. One of the alleged robbers was caught and two escaped.

The agent at the depot at Wimbledon observed three men working in the store shortly before 2 o'clock in the morning and he called the chief of police and his deputies. The chief took a revolver and with his two deputies stood guard at the doors of the store.

The robbers finding that the store had been surrounded, set fire to the rear end of the building with the view of attracting attention to the fire and making their escape in the excitement. They were partially successful in their efforts and when they thought the time was ripe, bolted out the front door.

The chief pulled the gun on the men and ordered them to stop. The trigger was pulled twice and the gun failed to go off. Later it was discovered that the revolver of the officer was not loaded. However, the officers captured one of the men as he was attempting to hide himself.

As soon as the robbers made their escape chemicals were turned on the fire and the blaze extinguished, with little loss to the building. An examination was made of the store and it was found that the men were working on the safe, but had not progressed very far when they stopped, evidently finding out they were discovered.

The captured robber had a hearing at Valley City and was bound over to the district court.