

Robbers Attempt Break Into Store

An attempt at burglary was made in this village Sunday morning, which, although the burglars did not even gain entrance to the store, came very near having very serious consequences.

Ole Hanson, who has very efficiently held the job of night watchman for several years past, was making his regular rounds about two o'clock in the morning, when for some reason he became suspicious and went around to the back of the Hannaford Mercantile store. He had no sooner got around the corner than a man lurking in the shadows back of the store opened fire upon the watchman with a revolver, one bullet going so close to Hanson's head that it knocked his cap off, though it did not touch him. Hanson then immediately emptied the three cartridges in his revolver at the man, and as he had no more shells he ran to get his shot-gun and on the way stopped to call Marshal Palm and ring the fire bell so that in a short time several men were on hand and a search for the burglar was made in the store and around the premises. Blood drops were found on the ground near where the burglar had been standing when he was shot at, and later on in the morning a blood saturated newspaper and a bloody curtain, as well as quite a lot of blood on the ground, were found back of C. L. Berg's barn on the creek bank. Further up the valley the broken ice in a narrow point in the creek seemed to indicate that someone had crossed it in the night, but up to noon Monday, that is all the trace that has been found of the burglars. People in the country and in neighboring towns have been notified to be on the watch for a man who is very evidently seriously wounded, but no reports of suspicious characters have come in.

The tool shed at the Great Northern had been broken into by the burglars earlier in the night, evidently for the purpose of securing tools with which to break in the door, as a spade belonging to the Great Northern was found back of the store. Fortunately the alertness of Mr. Hanson frustrated the well-laid plan of the criminals before they succeeded in gaining admittance, and the blood-stains are plain evidence that it was only by a narrow margin that they escaped with their lives.

This is the second time that Mr. Hanson has exchanged shots with burglars while serving the village as watchman, and on each occasion has proved himself cool and fearless in the hour of danger.