DRAGNET RADIO
"THE BIG PICK"
N.B.C # CHESTERFIELD #
FOR BROADCAST: DECEMBER , 1953

1 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE
2 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are
3 about to hear is true. The names have been changed to
4 protect the innocent.
5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER
6 GIBNEY: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield, made by
7 Liggett and Myers, first major tobacco company to
8 give you a complete line of quality cigarettes.
9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR
10 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
11 to Bunco Fugitive Detail. An organized gang of pick
12 pockets is working in your city. None of the victims
13 can give a description of the suspects. There's no
14 lead to their identity. ...your job...get 'em.
15 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
16 (COMMERCIAL INSERT)
With the winter season coming on, young America...all of us....will be concentrating on our favorite winter sports....Ice skating - bowling - basketball - skiing.

One thing you'll notice....Whatever young America does - wherever it goes -- Chesterfield goes along. Yes, Chesterfield is the choice of young America. Chesterfield is the choice of more thousands of smokers everywhere....

People are learning the facts about Chesterfield....

Learning that Chesterfield is highest in quality - low in nicotine - learning that Chesterfield is really mild....really satisfying......How about it, friends? Change to Chesterfield yourself. Smoke: America's most popular two-way cigarette. Regular and king-size Chesterfield.

Best for you.
DRAGNET, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
the next thirty minutes in cooperation with the Los
Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by step
on the side of the law through an actual case transcribed
from official police files. From beginning to end...
from crime to punishment... Dragnet is the story of your
police force in action.

1 MUSIC: THEME
2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
3 the next thirty minutes in cooperation with the Los
4 Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by step
5 on the side of the law through an actual case transcribed
6 from official police files. From beginning to end...
7 from crime to punishment... Dragnet is the story of your
8 police force in action.
9 MUSIC: UP TO SEMI BUTTON AND FADE ON SUSTAINED CHORD.
10 SOUND: JOE'S STEPS DOWN CORRIDOR, SLIGHT ECHO AND CORRIDOR B.G.
11 JOE: It was Tuesday, May 10th. We were working the day watch
12 out of Bunco Fugitive Division, pick pocket detail. My
13 partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Didion. My
14 name's Friday. I was on my way back from communications
15 and it was 11:14 A.M. when I got to room 38 ...
16 (SOUND: DOOR OPEN) ... Bunco.
17 SOUND: JOE COMES INTO THE ROOM. THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND HIM.
18 B.G. CHANGES.
19 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Joe
20 JOE: Yeah.
21 FRANK: (FAADING IN) Anything come in from St. Louis?
22 JOE: Yeah. They checked the carneys playing back there. No
23 trace of Beck.
24 FRANK: Tip was wrong then huh?
25 JOE: Looks like it.
FRANK: Where to now?

JOE: 'bout all we can do is sit and wait for a reply on the radiogram. He's gotta be someplace and he isn't gonna stop workin'. There'll be word on him.

FRANK: Be glad when we turn the key.

SOUND: SQUAD ROOM DOOR OPENS OFF

LOUIS: (LITTLE OFF) Excuse me.

JOE: Yes sir?

LOUIS: (OFF) I wonder if you could help me?

SOUND: JOE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS TOWARD HIM.

JOE: We'll try sir. You wanna tell us what it's about?

LOUIS: (FAADING IN A LITTLE) I've been robbed.

JOE: Sir?

LOUIS: They took my money. All of it. Every bit. I don't know how, but they took it all. I don't know what to do.

JOE: You want to sit down.

LOUIS: Yes, please.

SOUND: HE WALKS SLOWLY INTO THE MIKE AND SITS DOWN.

LOUIS: I don't know how they did it. I tried to be so careful. But they took it all, 37 years of doing without and now I've got nothing.

JOE: This is my partner Frank Smith. My name's Friday. Maybe if you'd tell us what happened, we could help you.

LOUIS: Yes...maybe. I'm Louis Bohning.

JOE: Yes sir.
LOUIS: I live at 1820 Woodworth Court, Los Angeles 12. I have a room there.

JOE: Alright sir.

LOUIS: Fourteen dollars a week and privileges.

FRANK: Maybe if you'd tell us what happened Mr. Bohning, we'd be able to do something for you.

LOUIS: I'm trying to tell you. I'm trying to think of what happened. I don't believe it yet.

JOE: You said you were robbed?

LOUIS: Yes. Five thousand two hundred dollars. All gone.

JOE: Were you held up?

LOUIS: No...nothing like that. If it was that way I'd know.

But just all of a sudden, I put my hand in my pocket to feel the money and it wasn't there. Nothing was there.

FRANK: Do you usually carry that much money around with you?

LOUIS: No mister. I got it from the bank this morning. I'm going away. I was leaving Los Angeles. That's why I had the money. So I could leave.

JOE: Suppose you start at the beginning and tell us the whole story.

LOUIS: My wife passed on four weeks ago...Monday, April 4th.

That's when it happened. April 4th.

JOE: Uh huh.
LOUIS: We came to this country when we were both young. She died 4 weeks ago.

FRANK: Yes sir. If you'd go on about the theft.

LOUIS: Well, I thought I'd maybe go back to Chicago to live with one of my daughters. She asked me to come. And I thought I would. So I drew out the money. 30

JOE: You took the money out of the bank?

LOUIS: Yes. This morning. Five thousand two hundred dollars.

FRANK: Yes sir. If you'd go on about the theft.

LOUIS: It's what we'd saved. I couldn't leave it here in the bank if I was going to be in Chicago.

JOE: You could have had the money transferred.

LOUIS: I guess that's what I should have done but it's too late now. Anyway I was at the bank this morning when it opened. First in line at the window. I went to the same young lady that I always go to and I filled out the...(HE'S GOT TROUBLE REMEMBERING THE WORD)...with withdrawal?

JOE: That's right.

LOUIS: I filled out the withdrawal slip. For all of the money. Then the young lady gave it to me. After that I thanked the man who runs the bank. Told him how I appreciated how nice he'd been to me and my wife. Then I walked out on the street.

JOE: Did you have the money when you left the bank?
LOUIS: Yes. I rolled the bills up and put them here in my pocket. Here...(INDICATES) This one...on the left side. I kept my hand on the money so I knew it was there.

FRANK: What'd you do after you left the bank?

LOUIS: I was going home. I thought I'd walk home. I went down the street and then I thought that I'd stop for some coffee. I was all packed at my room so I didn't want to make a mess. So I thought I'd have a cup of coffee out.

JOE: Uh huh.

LOUIS: I went into the big market. They have a coffee counter there and I went in and sat down. All the time I kept my hand on the money. I could feel it through the pants. It was in my pocket.

FRANK: Yeah.

LOUIS: I had the coffee and then I went to go out of the market. As I walked through all the people, a box fell off a stack of boxes. It almost hit me. I didn't think anything about it. No body was hurt. All the people in the market came over to me and asked if I was alright but I said yes....I was alright. And then I went out of the market. I got on the street and when I remembered about the money...

it was gone.

JOE: It's been taken from you in the market?

LOUIS: Yes mister. It was in the market. I think.

FRANK: While you were in there, did any one bump into you?
LOUIS: I don't understand?

FRANK: I mean did any one jostle you...bump into you without reason?

LOUIS: (THINKING) No...No. I don't remember it.

JOE: Did anyone follow you from the bank to the market that you noticed?

LOUIS: It was hard to tell Mister. There were a lot of people on the streets. It would be hard to tell if there was anyone.

JOE: Yes sir. But was there any one person you recall having seen this morning. One face that you might remember?

LOUIS: No mister. I've tried to think about it. But there's no one.

JOE: Uh huh.

LOUIS: Do you think you'll get it back for me?

JOE: Sir?

LOUIS: The money. It makes a big difference.

JOE: How's that?

LOUIS: Before, when I had the money...I could go and live with my daughter. With the money, I could be independent. It would be a different feeling. You understand don't you?

JOE: Yes sir...I think so.

LOUIS: That's why it's so important you get the money back. So I can go live with my daughter. So I can do that. That's the only reason I trouble you. The only reason I have to ask you to find the man.

JOE: Don't worry about it sir.

LOUIS: Huh?

JOE: We've got another one.

END SCENE 1
For the past several weeks, we'd been getting reports of the existence of an organized gang of pickpockets working in Los Angeles. Contrary to most opinion, a pickpocket seldom works alone. Like everything else, it's gotten to be a highly specialized operation. Normally, there are several men to each team. The Jug Mob, who usually spends his time in banks looking for the victim, the shover who pushes or bumps the victim so his money can be taken, and the wire who does the actual pocket picking. In certain types of operation, the jug mob is replaced by the short who works streetcars and spots people who have large amounts of money. Under normal circumstances, a professional group of pickpockets, can take approximately 5 thousand dollars a day out of a tip, or crowd. 11:47 A.M. we had the victim, Louis Bohning look through the pictures of known pickpockets for a possible identification of the man who'd taken his money. He was unable to find anyone who looked familiar. We told him to go home and said that we'd be in touch with him. 12:35 P.M. Frank and I checked back into the office.

SOUND: DOOR CLOSE AND SQUADROOM B.G. JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO SQUADROOM.

FRANK: Rough one.

JOE: They all come out that color. Sure hope we can do some good for him.
1 FRANK: Yeah. Sure seems like a nice old guy.
2 JOE: You wanna get in touch with Slim Ramos. Let's go down
and talk to him...he might be able to come up with
something.
3 FRANK: Yeah. I'll get his number.
4 SOUND: WE HEAR FRANK GO THROUGH HIS PHONE BOOK.
5 FRANK: (AS HE LOOKS) I gotta get a new book. This one's gettin'
almost impossible to use.
6 JOE: Uh huh.
7 FRANK: Got the numbers all crossed out. Y'know when they changed
the prefixes.
8 JOE: Yeah.
9 FRANK: Sure made a mess outa this book. (HE FINDS THE NUMBER)
10 Here it is.
11 SOUND: FRANK PUNCHES A BUTTON AND PICKS UP THE PHONE. HE DIALS
12 NINE. THEN CONTINUES TO MATCH FOLLOWING DIALOGUE.
13 BEAT
14 FRANK: (AS HE DIALS) Exbrook ... (DIALS) ... 478. (BEAT) Slim
Ramos there? Slim this is Frank Smith. Yeah. Good.
15 How's it goin' with you? Uh huh. Yeah well that's good.
16 Yeah say Slim...the reason I called, Joe and I'd like to
come down and talk to you. Y'gonna be in this afternoon?
17 Uh huh. No...nothin' wrong. Just a couple of things we
wanna check over with you. Yeah...Okay. We'll see you
about 2:30...around in there...Yeah. I know where it is.
18 Right...see you then.
19 SOUND: FRANK HANGS UP THE PHONE.
1 FRANK: (TO JOE) He's gonna be in all afternoon. Said he'd be
glad to see us.
2 JOE: Good. Maybe he's got something we can use on this thing.
3 FRANK: He'll lay it out for us if he has.
4 JOE: It's the one good thing about startin' with nothin'.
5 FRANK: Yeah?
6 JOE: We can only go one way.
7 END SCENE 2
8
9 JOE: 12:06 P.M. Frank and I checked out of the office and:
started for Santa Monica. Slim Ramos had been one of the
best pickpockets in the business. He'd been arrested and
served a term in San Quentin. After his release he'd
opened a small stand on one of the amusement piers near the
beach. From his past record, Ramos had been cooperative
with the police department and several arrests were
attributed to his information. Ramos was operating a
wheel of fortune booth at the end of the pier. Frank and
I parked the car and walked out.
19 SOUND: AMUSEMENT PIER B.G. FRANK AND JOE'S STEPS.
20 FRANK: Quite a place isn't it?
21 JOE: Yeah.
22 FRANK: I gotta bring the kids down here some Sunday. They'd get
a real kick out of it.
24 JOE: Uh huh.
FRANK: 'Let's get somethin' to eat before we go back to the office.

huh? Place back there that sells Coney Island hot dogs.

Great.

JOE: You eaten 'em before?

FRANK: Sure Joe. Last time we came down to see Slim. You remember.

JOE: Yeah... I guess so.

FRANK: Sure y'do Joe. Last time here, I ate a half a dozen hot dogs. Good.

JOE: Yeah... that's Slim's booth isn't it?

FRANK: (LOOKING) Yeah.

SOUND: THEY WALK UP TO BOOTH.

JOE: Don't see him.

FRANK: He said he'd be here.

JOE: Might be in the back.'

FRANK: Yeah... Sure like to win one of those hams. Big ones aren't they.

JOE: Yeah. (UP) Slim? You around?

SLIM: (OFF MIKE) Yeah... hold on... I'll be right out.

SOUND: WE HEAR SLIM WALK ON MIKE

SLIM: Hi Joe... Frank.

JOE & F R A N K : SAY HELLO ETC.

SLIM: I was in back packaging some groceries.

JOE: Uh huh.

SLIM: What can I do for you?

JOE: Like to talk to you about a cannon operation.
SLIM: Should have known. C'mon back here. We can sit down.

JOE: Okay.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK DUCK DOWN AND WALK UNDER THE COUNTER.

SLIM: (AS THEY DO) Watch your head on the counter.

FRANK: Yeah.

SLIM: Gotta couple of chairs back here. C'mon...I can finish up the sacking.

JOE: Go ahead.

SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS SIT DOWN. SLIM CONTINUES TO PUT GROCERIES INTO PAPER SACKS AS HE TALKS.

SLIM: What's it about?

JOE: You got any rumbles about a bunch working the downtown area?

SLIM: What kind of an operation?

JOE: Jug mob.

SLIM: Seems like I heard something about a bunch comin' in from the east, K.C. I think. Seems I heard they worked a couple of still dates with a carney back there. Boss didn't know they were workin'. When he found out he had 'em kicked off the lot.

JOE: You got any names for us?

SLIM: Not right off. I gotta check around. Might be able to come up with 'em. What's the bit?

JOE: They been scorin' good. Workin' the downtown area. Took an elderly man for his life savings this morning.

SLIM: Figures.
FRANK: Huh?

SLIM: They always pick on the elderly ones. Y'bump into a young guy and he might give you trouble. Pick the old ones and they don't seem to notice it.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: How you been doin', Slim?

SLIM: Good. I got it real good. I ain't killin' the world but my rent's paid and I know that there ain't gonna be a fuzz on my tail t'night. I got it real good.

JOE: How long you been here now?

SLIM: Guess it's been about a year. I thought if I could get permission I might go out with a carney this year. Y'know work the front end.

JOE: Uh huh.

SLIM: I got a letter from a friend that's got a grind store with one of the big ones. He says he might be able to get me in.

FRANK: Grind store?

SLIM: Yeah. Y'know. Everybody plays...everybody wins. Y'pay a dime to win a piece of slum worth maybe a couple of cents. This carney I might go with's got no Grift in the front end. All percentage games. Way I figure it, if you get out with a good one...weather holds you're gonna do alright.
FRANK: You figure you can come out better than you do here?

SLIM: Yeah. Y' see, we get a real good play over the weekends.

Regular days, it's kinda slow. Go out with a big Carney,
you're gonna draw crowds anytime if the weather's good.

Bound to come out better.

JOE: Uh huh. You'll check into those names for us huh Slim?

SLIM: Yeah. I'll make a couple of calls.

JOE: You make 'em now?

SLIM: No. Have to get in touch with the guys tonight. I'll
get back to you the first thing in the morning.

JOE: Okay.

SLIM: Same number...Michigan 5211?

JOE: Yeah. Bunco Fugitive.

SLIM: Alright I'll give you a call.

SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM GET UP AND WALK OUT INTO FRONT OF BOOTH.

SLIM: Buy you guys a cuppa coffee?

JOE: We're just gonna eat. C'mon along and we'll buy you one.

SLIM: Okay. Hold on while I check with Harry. Have him keep
an eye on things.

JOE: Okay

SLIM: Go ahead.

SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM GO UNDER THE COUNTER.

SLIM: Watch the counter. I came up to fast the other day. Like
to took all the skin off my back.

SOUND: THEY GET OUT FROM THE COUNTER.

SLIM: Hold on a minute and I'll be right back.
JOE: Okay.

SOUND: SLIM WALKS OFF MIKE.

FRANK: Nice lookin' place huh?

JOE: Yeah. He's painted it since we were down here last time.

FRANK: Uh huh.

SOUND: SLIM WALKS BACK ON MIKE.

SLIM: Let's go.

SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM START TO WALK DOWN THE PIER.

FRANK: You painted up the place huh, Slim?

SLIM: Yeah. Thought I might turn a bigger tip if the place looked good. Y'know...people like a clean lookin' place.

JOE: How're the rest of the booths doin' down here Slim?

SLIM: Pretty good. I told you...week ends we do great. Other times it's a little slow.

JOE: Any grift down here?

SLIM: No. Least if there is, I haven't heard of it. Guy in the Santa Monica Police Department...Lieutenant Cunningham...he keeps the place pretty clean.

JOE: Uh huh.

SLIM: Last thing I heard about was a guy who was workin' with a camel back wheel.

FRANK: What?

SLIM: Camel back. Like mine only this was gaffed.

JOE: How?
SLIM: Smoothest pitch around. The arrow is connected to a spindle. Spindle goes through a stand. Looks like there'd be no way to "g" it. Plain pipe. Looks clean.

FRANK: What's the gimmick?

SLIM: Frame rests on four pins. Pins are supposed to be what anchors it to the counter.

FRANK: Uh huh.

SLIM: Three of the pins go one piece of the counter. They really do hold the wheel in place. The other one goes through a separate piece of wood, on the booth side of the counter. There's a space between the board on the booth side and the one the three legs go through.

FRANK: Yeah.

SLIM: The pin in the forth leg is loose. It's connected up with a bunch of levers inside the pipe. Acts as a brake on the wheel. All the operator has to do is lean against the board and he's got complete control of the wheel all the time.

JOE: Nice deal.

SLIM: The way they figure it, it's perfect. Case they get a cowboy in the crowd, the mark can pick the wheel up out of the counter. Show that there's no wires runnin' to it. Wheels gaffed and there's no way to prove it. Set it up with a couple of sticks in front...let them win a couple of times and you got it made. That's the way they figure it. Doesn't work out though.
JOE: Yeah.
SLIM: Like on my wheel, I got a hundred and twenty numbers on it. Figure I got good action and I'm gonna have maybe half of 'em covered. Right off the odds are on my side.
JOE: Uh huh.
SLIM: Out of the rest, there's only one winner. Half of 'em covered, means a gross of about 6 bucks. I give away five dollars worth of groceries. Even with a winner....
JOE: I gotta come out everytime. Percentages prove it.
SLIM: Look at it that way and you don't need a gaffed wheel.
JOE: Too bad more of 'em don't figure it like that. Yeah....but you came up with the answers.
SLIM: I suppose....it took me a long time to find it out.
FRANK: Yeah....but you came up with the answers.
SLIM: Hope I can do the same for you on the cannon operation.
JOE: So do we.
SLIM: Funny. I get to thinkin' of when I was workin' as a wire. How we figured that anytime we could lift a poke from a mark.....it was a big laugh. Lotta difference now.
JOE: That right?
SLIM: Yeah. Now I sleep nights.
END SCENE 3
2:15 PM. We continued to talk to our informant, Slim Ramos. He said that he didn't know the name of the carnival the possible suspects had been fired from. He said that he'd call some of his contacts and try to get the information for us. We set up a time for him to get in touch with us and then Frank and I drove back to the office. We contacted Captain Didion and made arrangements for additional men to be assigned to help us. Sergeant John Di Betta and Danny Gilmore were asked to aid us in a search of the market where the victim had been robbed. We spent the next three hours in the market looking at the crowd in the hopes that we'd see a known pickpocket or even see a wire in operation but the surveillance netted us nothing. We made arrangements for the victim's bank to be watched the following morning. 6:15 PM. Frank and I got back to the office to wait for the phone call from Ramos.

SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G.

Place sure does a good business doesn't it?

What?
The market Joe. Lotta people go in there.

Uh huh.

What's the matter with you?
JOE: Just thinkin'. Guess it comes down to the point where
the only way to hang onto your money is to carry it in
your hand and keep your fist closed.
FRANK: Darned close. I was talkin' with Lt. Jack Swan. He
was tellin' me that a guy came in here from Nebraska.
Came in by bus. He was sittin' in the station, waitin'
for a coach to take him up north. Had all his money in
his shoe.
JOE: In his shoe?
FRANK: Yeah... had it in his left shoe. Had the money all
flat so he could walk on it. Figured that it'd be safe
there.
JOE: Should be.
FRANK: Wasn't. He dozed off for a minute and the next thing
he knows, his shoe's off and the money's gone.
JOE: How'd the wire know where it was?
FRANK: I dunno. He found out though. Guy dozed off for a
minute..... loses his shoe and all his money.
JOE: Anything turn up on it?
FRANK: No.
SOUND: PHONE RING
JOE: I'll get it.
SOUND: JOE MOVES TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP.
JOE: (INTO PHONE) Bunco Fugitive..... Friday. Yeah. Yeah
Slim.... Uh huh. What was that name again? Yeah......
Uh huh. What'd he say about it? Yeah. Wait a minute
.....(TO FRANK) Frank?
FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: WE HEAR FRANK TOSS A PAD OF PAPER TO JOE.

FRANK: Here y'go.

JOE: (INTON PHONE) Okay Slim....(HE WRITES) Yeah....With a "K"? Uh huh....Yeah...What? (SPELLING)
0-L-O-T-T? Right...You know where they're stayin'.
Uh huh. Well, give us a call if anything more turns up huh? Right. Okay Slim....thanks.

SOUND: JOE HANGS UP THE PHONE

FRANK: How'd he do?

JOE: Pretty good. Three names of the guys who worked the carney in K.C.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Slim talked to a friend. Got the information that the guys are workin' the downtown area. Been scorin' real good.

FRANK: He say where we could find 'em?

JOE: No. He's gonna try to get the address for us.

FRANK: We just took a big jump knowin' who they are.

JOE: Deal now is to make it work.

FRANK: What d'ya mean?

JOE: Slim says this bunch is pretty hinky. They're playin' it real careful.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Words out they got two more big scores to make and they're gonna leave town.

END SCENE 4

END ACT I
1 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of
2 your police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
BE 8., 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL:

1 FENN: Smokers by the thousands are now changing to Chesterfield
2 ......because they're learning the facts about
3 Chesterfield. Facts like these........
4 GIBNEY: A doctor has been examining Chesterfield smokers for
5 twenty months......almost two full years now. We've just
6 received his latest report and it confirms again.....no
7 adverse effects to the nose, throat and sinuses from
8 smoking Chesterfield.
9 FENN: That's a matter of record. And so is this........
10 Chesterfield is the only cigarette proved highest in
11 quality - low in nicotine. Those are the facts about
12 Chesterfield.....more good reasons why Chesterfields
13 taste so good....smoke so much milder. How about it,
14 friends? Smoke America's most popular two-way
15 cigarette. Chesterfield - regular and king-size......
16 Best for you!
The three names our informant had given us were Howard Kremer, Victor Lydon and Edward Olcott. We had the names checked through our record bureau but found that none of the three men had been arrested in Los Angeles. We got a radiogram off to the police department in Kansas City, the last place the trio were known to have worked. We asked that all information on the thieves be forwarded to us. We also sent a teletype to George Brereton in Sacramento asking him to check the names for us. The following morning, Wednesday, May 11th, we got word from Kansas City, that the officials there were forwarding mug shots and descriptions of the three men. During the day, Frank and I met with Captain Didion and a surveillance of the downtown area banks was set up. On Friday morning, when Frank and I checked into work, a special delivery letter was waiting for us. In it we found the records and pictures of Kremer, Lydon and Olcott. The pictures were handed over to the photo lab and they started to reproduce them. The descriptions were sent to the print shop and M.O. sheets were made up. As soon as possible, the pictures and the bulletins were distributed to all bank guards in the area. Additional officers from Bunco Fugitive were placed in the Vicinity. Frank and I maintained a rolling stakeout in the downtown area. At 9:00 PM Friday night, the banks closed and we'd gotten no report that the thieves had worked. (MORE)
Local broadcasts were gotten out on the men but there were no replies. Monday, May 16th, the plan was put into effect again. No results. Tuesday, the gang didn't work. It began to look as if they might have closed up operations in Los Angeles and moved on.

Wednesday May 18th, Frank and I came back from lunch."

SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. FRANK AND JOE ENTER. TELEPHONE RING.

JOE: I'll get it.

SOUND: JOE WALKS TO THE PHONE....PUNCHES BUTTON AND PICKS UP.

JOE: (INTO PHONE) Bunco Fugitive....Friday. Yes sir.......

it is. That's right. Uh huh. Where? Right. Don't do anything to let him know.......right. 

SOUND: JOE HANGS UP THE PHONE AND HE STARTS FOR THE DOOR.

JOE: Let's go.

FRANK: Somethin' good?

JOE: The shover, Victor Lydon.....bank guard just spotted him.

END SCENE 5
The call had come from a bank at the corner of 7th and Jackson. The guard told me that he'd seen one of the suspects enter the bank and, under the pretense of filling out deposit slips, observe the withdrawals the customers were making. It took us a little under three minutes to get to the address. We checked with the guard and he pointed out the suspect. Frank pretended to make out a deposit slip while I waited at the new account desk. When we entered the bank, the suspect was standing at a teller's window. In front of him was an elderly man. As the line moved up, the suspect began to examine the slip he'd made out. Then as the elderly man took his turn at the window, the suspect walked away and stopped by the door. He waited for the man to finish his business at the teller's counter then as he passed through the door, the suspect fell in step behind him. Frank and I followed him down the street. As he walked, through the crowds, he was joined by Edward Olcott, the shover in the operation. The elderly man entered a small tobacco store and as he went through the door, the wire, Howard Kremer joined the other two suspects. As the elderly man stood at the counter waiting to be served, the shover walked to a magazine rack. He stood looking at the magazines for a moment, then as he turned away, he seemingly tripped and fell against the elderly man. We knew what was coming. We were watching for it and yet we missed the actual theft. The wire moved in, removed the victims money so fast that we couldn't see it. The shover took the wallet from the wire and the gang was ready to move on. Frank and I step into the...
JOE: Alright Mister, Police officers, you're under arrest.

KREMER: For what?

JOE: Stop dreamin'. You know the route.

KREMER: Beat it.

SOUND: KREMER, LYDON AND OLCCOTT START TO MAKE BREAK.

JOE: (IN FAST) Grab 'em Frank.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK GO AFTER THE THREE.

KREMER: Get away from me cop. Leave me alone.

SOUND: FIGHT. REAL ONE WITH THE TOBACCO STORE BROKEN UP.

FINALLY JOE BELTS KREMER AND IT'S OVER.

JOE: Alright Mr. On your feet.

SOUND: JOE SNAPS THE CUFFS ON KREMER AND LIFTS HIM TO HIS FEET.

KREMER: You're gonna regret this. Shovin a citizen around. No reason for this.

JOE: How 'bout the other two.

FRANK: They're out.

JOE: Let's get 'em down.

FRANK: How 'bout the victim?

JOE: He left when the beef started. Better try to catch him.

FRANK: Yeah.

KREMER: You're gonna be sorry for this. You wait, you're gonna be real sorry.

JOE: It'll all work out then won't it.

KREMER: What? D'ya mean?

JOE: You'll be able to show us how.

END SCENE 6
The three suspects were taken into custody and brought downtown. The victim's wallet was found on the person of Edward Olcott. It was identified by the owner and booked as evidence, 3:15 P.M. We took the wire Howard Kremer to the interrogation room.

KREMER COMES INTO THE ROOM. DOOR CLOSE BEHIND HIM AND

JOE AND FRANK WALK TO CHAIRS AND SIT DOWN.

Sit down, Kremer.

Yeah.

You wanna give us a statement?

For what?

Come off it. You know what we're talkin' about. You gotta have me crossed with somebody else. I'm tryin' to level with you. I don't know what you're talkin' about.

You want us to lay it out for you?

I don't much care either way. You guys slam into a store where I'm tryin' to buy a pack of cigarettes and all of a sudden I got handcuffs on and you tell me I'm hooked for bein' a pickpocket.

That's the way you wanna tell it huh?

There ain't any other words.

You're two friends tell it a different way.

What two friends?

Two fellas we picked up with you.
1 KREMER: This is a big town. Lotta people. Y'walk into a store.
2 You don't ask who's standing next to you.
3 FRANK: They put the whole deal on you.
4 KREMER: Who?
5 FRANK: Lydon and Olcott.
6 KREMER: Never heard of 'em.
7 BEAT:
8 JOE: How long do you figure you're gonna keep this up?
9 KREMER: As long as it takes to get you on my side.
10 JOE: They don't build days that long.
11 KREMER: That's your loss...I'm a nice fella if you'll take the
time to get to know me.
12 JOE: Alright Kremer, this is way off the road. Now maybe
you've got all day...we haven't. You can either give it
to us here and now or we can drop you into a cell and
let you wait it out.
13 KREMER: You put me in a tank and I'll be out in a half an hour.
14 BEAT:
15 FRANK: How many times you been arrested?
16 KREMER: Who says there was a first.
17 FRANK: How many times?
18 KREMER: You got the books. Look it up.
19 JOE: We asked you a question
20 KREMER: So I'm not a genius. I got trouble with addition.
21 BEAT:
22 JOE: Take everything out of your pockets.
KRÉMER: What?
JOE: C'mon...on the table.
KRÉMER: For why.
JOE: You're runnin out of funny time Kremer.
KRÉMER: Then you better ring the bell cause I need more of it.
FRANK: You gotta job?
KRÉMER: Yeah...I'm president of a bank.
FRANK: You're goin' way out on this Kremer.
KRÉMER: I like the scenery.
JOE: You work?
KRÉMER: Yeah.

JOE: Where?
KRÉMER: Around. No special place.
JOE: What d'ya do?
KRÉMER: I'm a salesman.
JOE: What d'ya sell?
KRÉMER: What ever people can afford.
BEAT
JOE: Alright...put your things on the table.
KRÉMER: You gonna sign a receipt?
JOE: They aren't gonna be taken from you...we wanna see what you're carrying.
KRÉMER: Okay. You boys deserve a break. But I tell you now...the numbers in my phone book are mine. Don't go near 'em.
JOE: Get it up.

KREMER: (AS HE TAKES THE STUFF OUT OF HIS POCKETS.) Here's my wallet... handkerchief... comb... nail clippers... some change... Couple of ticket stubs from a movie... lousy picture... Cigarettes... lighter. That's it.

JOE: You got any money in the wallet?

KREMER: Yeah.

JOE: How much?

KREMER: I dunno. I don't pay much attention to how much I'm carrying.

FRANK: You can't even come close to how much you've got?

KREMER: No.

JOE: Take it out and count it.

KREMER: Okay...

SOUND: HE PICKS UP HIS WALLET AND TAKES THE BILLS OUT.

KREMER: (MUMBLES) one... two... three..... Alright.

SOUND: HE TOSSES THE MONEY ON THE TABLE

KREMER: Comes out to 37 hundred dollars.

FRANK: You must do real well at that salesman's job.

KREMER: The company pays big commissions.

JOE: Put the money in your pocket.

KREMER: Why don't you put it in yours.

JOE: What?
KREMER: Look cop. I been around. I been with most of the
carneys in the country one time or another. I know the
score. They ain't a place in the world that the fix can't
be put in. Now why don't you just take the money. You
drop it in your pocket and I'll forget I was ever in here.
Won't be nobody hurt. The old guy's maybe out a couple
of hundred bucks. So what...he won't miss it. Why not put
the fix in. We'll both come out alright.

JOE: The fix just curdled Kremer.

KREMER: What?

JOE: You said we had the record. Well, you called it. We
got all the words about you. Way down the line you talk
about how you've worked with carneys. How long?

KREMER: Huh?

JOE: What's the longest time you ever stayed with one outfit?

KREMER: I like to move.
JOE: Yeah. That's the way the people who run the show want it.
Decent carney doesn't want you around. You or anybody like you. You been on the road takin' money away from people who can't afford it for a long time. Now we nail you and you come in here actin' like a big man. You do the indignant bit. Then when that doesn't work you try to buy your way out. You've had it Kremer. We know it. Your two buddies know it. When you gonna take a good look?

BEAT

KREMER: You really figure you've got it made huh?

JOE: You bet we do. We're gonna turn the key on you like it's never been done before.

KREMER: The other two guys really cop out?

JOE: The whole thing. All comes down to how you engineered it.

BEAT

KREMER: You buy what they say?

JOE: We buy it.

BEAT

KREMER: Uh huh (yes) Then there isn't much for me to say is there?

JOE: Not a lot.

KREMER: Okay. Let's go.

JOE: How 'bout a statement.

KREMER: Why?

JOE: Make it easier on yourself.

KREMER: Easier if I cop out?
J: You know what I mean.

K: Yeah. Alright...bring the girl in...I'll give you a statement.

J: Frank.

F: Yeah.

S: FRANK GET'S UP AND LEAVES THE ROOM.

K: Y' mind if I have a smoke?

J: No...go ahead.

S: KREMER LIGHTS A CIGARETTE UNDER FOLLOWING.

K: Well, one isn't it.

J: Huh?

K: Had it all down so pat. Good Shover...better jug mob.

J: I'll sit in the front row with any wire in the business.

K: All that and it don't add up to a winner.

J: Like you said.

K: Huh?

J: You've got trouble with addition.

M: SIGNATURE
FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The names were changed to protect the innocent.

GIBNEY: On September 14th, trial was held in department 96 Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles. In a moment the results of that trial.

FENN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.

WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT.
Now, here is the star, Jack Webb.

Thank you, George Fenneman. The most talked about Christmas gift-of-the-year is the Chesterfield Christmas carton...now featured in nearly a million three hundred-thousand retail tobacco stores from coast-to-coast. The Chesterfield Christmas carton with it's famous covered bridge scene will be honored again this Sunday night, when Perry Como and the Fontanas sing "THE RINGING Bells" on the TV Conger Comedy Hour. This Christmas - do what I'm going to do... Give America's most popular two-way cigarette ... regular and king-size Chesterfield. Premium quality Chesterfield. Best to give ... Best to get for Christmas.

Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on your local NBC Television station. Please check your newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from Los Angeles. (FATIMA HITCH HIKE)