

From Emporia Expert

Two Armed Robbers Take Carnival Glass Collection

A collection of carnival glass recognized as one of the best in the world apparently was the target of two armed robbers who raided an Emporia home Wednesday evening, according to police.

The total loss is expected to reach several thousand dollars, detectives said.

The robbery occurred at the home of Mrs. A. W. Hartung, 814 Constitution St. Mrs. Hartung is acknowledged to be the country's leading expert on carnival and other antique glass and has written 17 books about the subject.

Detective Lieut. Larry Blomenkamp said that Mrs. Hartung received a telephone call Wednesday afternoon from a person who identified himself as a glass collector. The man said he wanted to see her collection. Lieut.

Blomenkamp said that a man and a woman went to the Hartung home at about 7:30 p. m. Wednesday and that Mrs. Hartung took the couple to the basement of her home where the collection was kept.

The couple then drew weapons and tied Mrs. Hartung with electrical tape, Lieut. Blomenkamp said.

The intruders then went to an upstairs apartment occupied by Mrs. Marie Gaughan and forced her to go to the basement where she also was tied with electrical tape.

Lieut. Blomenkamp said that the intruders stayed at the house for more than two hours while looting the collection. They left between 9:45 and 9:50 p. m. Mrs. Gaughan was able to escape her

(See Robbers, Pg. 6)

Robbers

(Continued from pg. 1)

bonds and call police a few minutes after the robbers left.

Police were unable to get a description of the vehicle used by the armed bandits. Descriptions of the two intruders were broadcast to area law enforcement agencies. The man was described as being in his late 30s or 40s and between five feet, 10 inches and five feet, 11 inches tall. Police said that the man was slender, brown-haired and had a ruddy complexion. He was wearing dark trousers and a dark green knit shirt with white trim.

The woman was described as being between 45 and 50, about five feet, three inches tall and weighing 160 pounds. She had brown eyes and was wearing a blond wig. She was wearing blue jeans, yellow gloves and a blue figured shirt. Police said that one front tooth was broken and that the woman appeared to be drunk.

Lieut. Blomenkamp said that, although it was apparent that a substantial number of glass pieces were taken, Mrs. Hartung was not immediately able to conduct an inventory. A total of \$400 in cash was believed to have been taken in addition to the glass.

Police were continuing their investigation of the incident late this morning.

St. Joseph, Mo., Gazette, Friday, April 26, 1974

Carnival glass collection stolen

EMPORIA, Kan. (AP) — A collection of antique and carnival glass described as one of the best of the nation was the target of two armed robbers who struck an Emporia home Wednesday night.

Police said the loss at the home of Mrs. A.W. Hartung will run into thousands of dollars, but the total value of the missing items will not be known until Mrs. Hartung makes an inventory.

Mrs. Hartung has written 17 books on antique glass and carnival glass collections and is a recognized expert.

Lt. Larry Bloomenkamp of the Emporia police detectives said Mrs. Hartung received a telephone call Wednesday afternoon from a man who identified himself as a glass collector and made an ap-

pointment to see her collection.

Mrs. Hartung told police a man and a woman arrived and were taken to the basement where most of her collection is kept. She said the couple then drew guns and bound her with electrical tape.

The couple then went to an adjacent apartment and forced its occupant, Mrs. Marie Gaughan, to the basement where she also was bound with tape.

Mrs. Hartung said the intruders then spent some two hours looting the collection. Most of the missing items were of the tinted, Victorian-styled glass known as carnival glass, Mrs. Hartung told police. The delicate pieces derive their name from the

prizes given at carnivals in the 1920's and '30s.

Mrs. Hartung and Emporia police suggested other collectors be on the lookout for the stolen goods and to notify their local authorities if they are offered carnival glass items at "too reasonable" prices and if the seller, if unknown, has an unusually large collection for sale.