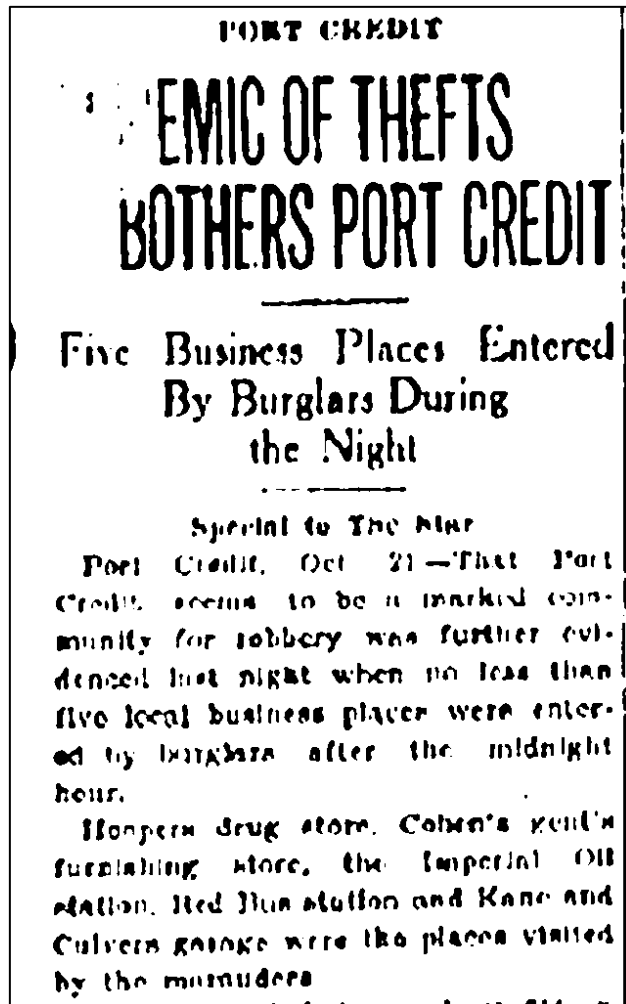


The Darker Side: An "Epidemic of Thefts" Unsolved
By Matthew Wilkinson



The October 22nd, 1927 issue of the Toronto Daily Star carried the front page news of a series of thefts in the Port Credit vicinity. Targeted by the thieves in one night (the Star referred to them as "marauders") were Hooper's Drug Store, Kane and Culver's Garage, the Red Bus Station, Imperial Oil gas station, and Cohen's furnishing store.

These followed on a slew of other local thefts, both in Cooksville and Erindale, in months prior to the October 1927 thefts in Port Credit. There were no reports of threats or violence, but the communities were on edge. A local "night watch" committee was formed in Port Credit to keep eyes on the streets at night, but no additional information appears to have been gleaned by these concerned citizens, although there were no further reports of robberies (at least that were found in newspaper reports from the time).

In total there were at least 14 robberies in Clarkson, Cooksville, Erindale and Port Credit between August and October of 1927. Local police were stymied. There were no suspects, no sightings of the thieves to help identify them, and from available records and

newspaper accounts, it appears as though this spate of robberies was never solved.

If you have any information on this unsolved crime spree from 1927, we would love to learn more!