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## HILL'S DEPARTMENT STORS

Quality & Service

### BUSY YEAR FOR PRESIDENT

(Continued From Page One)

these dangers when Germany professed peace to the world.

**Dramatic Scenes at White House.**  
The White House itself has housed some of the most dramatic scenes in its history. Full details may never be told of the dramatic conference between the President and administration leaders in the library of the executive mansion when it appeared inevitable that the United States would be drawn into war with Germany.

It was then the President told Senator Stone of the Senate foreign relations committee that if another American life were lost as a result of violation by Germany of her pledges to this country on submarine warfare, the only course left open to him, was to sever diplomatic relations with Germany. And questioned as to whether or not such action would mean war, the President replied he had been told it would. It was a stormy conference in which the minds of the President and his faithful leaders were laid bare.

It was followed by an effort to pass resolutions in Congress warning Americans off armed ships—a measure fought to a successful finish by the President himself. Later he appeared before Congress, notifying that body of the virtual ultimatum sent to the Kaiser, following the Sussex sinking.

There was another dramatic conference in the White House. The Gold room, famed for its spectacular social events during years gone by, was opened to a conference between the President and five hundred railroad trainmen in an effort to ward off a nation-wide railroad strike. This was followed by the appearance of railroad executives, representing millions of dollars of capital, and for days the conference went on to no avail.

**Wields His Big Stick.**  
Immediately afterward the President wielded his "big stick" over Congress and forced the passage of an eight-hour law, averting the strike.

Then came the election. The exciting scenes of uncertainty surrounding the climax of that struggle, were transferred to Shadow Lawn, where the President was spending his vacation. The President himself tells an interesting story of the twenty-four hours from Tuesday evening until Wednesday evening when the returns gave the result first to Hughes and then to Wilson.

During Tuesday evening he stayed with Mrs. Wilson and his daughter, Margaret, in the library of the mansion hearing the returns. They were a dubious lot of returns and after all the New York papers had awarded the victory to Hughes there seemed little hope for him in the outlook.

"I retired about 12:30," the President says, telling of his feelings, "and at that time the situation could not be termed encouraging. I was shaving the next morning when my daughter, Margaret, who had risen early in order to catch a train for New York, came up and informed me I was elected."

**Surprised At His Election.**  
"Oh, pshaw," I said to her, "what do you mean? Let's have some of the details." She then told me that early reports received over press association wires in the executive office indicated the change. However, I went on shaving. Details were not very complete. They, of course came later."

The President that day played an exceptionally good game of golf.

Mrs. Wilson's confidence in the outcome already had been indicated when she planted tulip bulbs in the front yard of the White House in order to enjoy them next fall.

Eternal vigilance is the price of moral and physical safety.

## SHERRY'S

**Sherry's Today.**  
If you want to see June Caprice in overalls, you must come to the Sherry Theatre while "The Ragged Princess," William Fox's new picture, is running. The photoplay begins a run of two days there today.

June has to wear overalls to get a job as farm-hand with an old man of the fields. She has run away from the orphanage where she was raised, and milking is about the only pursuit left open to her. Besides, she likes this farm, because Harry Deigan works there. (Harry Deigan is played by Harry Hilliard.)

But June is compelled to leave the farm, and she finally gets to the home of a big rich man, who is wicked. He adopts the little girl. Then Harry Deigan learns that the bad man is his own half-brother, and he goes to the city to investigate. A search proves that the rich man's property really belongs to the orphan girl, and Harry confronts his brother with the truth. Everything ends happily, with June looking at Harry and Harry looking at June.

**Two Lessons.**  
There is no time like winter to study road problems in Oregon. In the summer we can see results, but in the winter the causes that are responsible for these results are laid bare so that everyone who travels the roads may see them.

One of the lessons hammered in on every person who drives out at the present time is that a good grade is absolutely essential to a good road. Wherever a good grade has been built and drainage properly looked after there is a good road, and where a grade is lacking the road is miserable. This fact is so plain that he who runs—particularly if he runs a motor car—may read.

Another lesson of the winter season is that systematic maintenance is absolutely necessary. Just now hundreds of little chuck holes are to be found in every mile of road, and these will keep on growing with startling persistence if they are neglected. Even on roads that have a good grade ruts form under the pounding of the wheels, and these ruts fill with water. Soon the foundation is softened and a mud hole forms.

If we are to have good roads—and there is no mistaking the demand for them—we must definitely decide to do two things. We must build right in the first place, and then we must see that the roads are given proper maintenance.—Eugene Register.

Notice is hereby given that there are impounded in the city pound the following stock: One bay horse with stripes in face, wire cut on left shoulder. Branded a square on right thigh. Shoes on hind feet. This animal will be sold after 10 days from the first publication hereof unless identified and expenses paid.

J. C. Ardrey,  
Chief of Police,  
12-26 tt

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### CITY COMMISSION MEETS

(Continued From Page One)

Grande, Oregon, Gentlemen: Reports of the various city officials as follows:

#### City Treasurer's Report for the Week.

Receipts:  
Water rents ..... \$ 422.53  
Int. on assessments ..... 305.00  
Yearly instal's on assess. .... 573.07  
Electrical permits ..... 2.00  
Popcorn licenses ..... 25.00

#### Disbursements:

Contingent warrants ..... \$ 254.69  
Water warrants ..... 52.29  
Park warrants ..... 50.00  
General warrants ..... 6.50  
Int. on general warrants ..... .85

#### City Recorder's Report for the Week.

Receipts:  
Fines ..... \$ 130.00  
Sale of 2 stoves to J. E. F. .... 25.00  
From E., O. L. & P. Co. for cleaning Mill Creek ..... 20.50

#### Disbursements:

City Treas. for moneys recd. 1st to 23rd, inclusive. .... \$ 345.76  
Issued warrants as follows: For bills allowed, \$1926.89; Int. on improvement bonds, \$365.88; park expense voucher No. 81, \$50; coal purchase by J. E. Foley, Mgr., \$100.

#### Street Superintendent's Report for the Week.

Expenditures as follows: For teams and drivers, \$9.49; for extra men, \$6.25; for whitening, \$8.75; for lumber and bolts for basement, \$1.65; swept Main street and ran the snow off of walks, cleaned out gutters, plowed out gutters on main streets, and placed timber in basement.

#### Water Superintendent's Report for the Week.

Expenditures as follows: For 12-inch sewer Second street crossing, \$32.36; for leak in Beaver Creek pipe line, \$23.50.

#### Chief of Police Report for the Week.

Six arrests made of which five were for drunkenness, and 1 for gambling. Fines amounted to \$130; forfeitures of bail, \$29.15 (paid to Recorder following week). Served 4 meals, had one sleeper; one special officer on duty.

#### Fire Chief's Report for the Week.

Number of fire calls, none.  
Respectfully submitted,  
J. E. FOLEY,  
General Manager.

#### Y. M. C. A. at the Front.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 28.—(Special)—The field headquarters of the Army Young Men's Christian Association here reports unusual activity at the Association centers in the military camps between this city and San Diego, Cal. There are nineteen Y. M. C. A. buildings in the camps of this district and the attendance of soldiers for the month of October, just tabulated, is 643,970. Reports from secretaries give a total of 446,212 letters written in the Association buildings during the same month. Other figures are as follows:

Attendance, Entertainments.....150,247  
Attendance, Lectures.....18,263  
Pieces of Reading Matter Distributed.....42,944  
Visits to Sick.....2,436  
Attendance, Religious meetings.....52,594  
Attendance, Bible Classes.....2,142

#### Portland Trooper Shot

Portland, Dec. 27.—(Special)—Scott Redfield, of Troop A. Oregon cavalry, formerly a salesman with the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, was shot and probably fatally wounded in an argument with a Mexican at Calexico early yesterday. The message gave few details excepting to say that Redfield had been shot in the abdomen and it was feared his wounds were fatal.

Redfield is a son of C. C. Redfield of Covington, Pa., and had lived in Portland several years. He was a member of several clubs here and was popular socially.

The railroads are the country's largest taxpayers. They paid \$129,191,880 in taxes in 1915.

## Scientific Farming

### SOIL CONDITIONS FOR ALFALFA

Difficult to Succeed With This Crop In Moist Climates.  
(Prepared by United States department of agriculture.)

While alfalfa has shown a remarkable ability to adapt itself to various climates and conditions, it is injured by high temperatures combined with much moisture in the atmosphere. It is not easy to succeed with this crop in moist climates, such as the eastern United States, except where soil conditions are favorable. Marked success has been obtained in certain sections of the south where the average rainfall exceeds fifty inches.

To aid farmers who wish to raise alfalfa east of the ninety-fifth meridian, which runs from about the middle of Minnesota to the line between Texas and Louisiana, H. L. Westover, one of the forage crop investigators of the bureau of plant industry, United States department of agriculture, and H. B.



ALFALFA KILLED BY STANDING WATER.

Hendrick, assistant in agricultural education, states relations service, have prepared the following suggestions dealing with the requirements of the crop in this section:

A deep, fertile, well drained, nonacid soil is required. Loam soils with open subsoils are best for alfalfa, but it may be grown on soils of almost any texture, from sandy or gravelly loams to heavy clays. The proportion of failures, however, is apt to be considerable on deep, porous sands or sands underlaid by gravel. It is highly essential in any case that the soil be well supplied with decaying vegetable matter and plant food. It is practically useless to sow alfalfa on thin soils where the bedrock approaches the surface, on land which is underlaid at comparatively shallow depths by hardpan or in locations where the subsoil is so compact that the roots cannot penetrate it. It is of prime importance also that an alfalfa field shall be located where the slope is sufficient to carry off the surplus water and that the water table shall remain at a sufficient depth from the surface. In porous soils that conduct water readily standing water at four or five feet is sometimes injurious.

The formation of ice on the surface of fields is fatal to alfalfa. This condition is most apt to occur on fields that are level or that contain pockets. Rich river or creek bottom lands are often well suited to the crop, provided they are well drained. Prolonged overflows are nearly always harmful, but are least injurious if they occur during winter or early spring, when growth is practically dormant. Clay hillsides of considerable slope are frequently water soaked and poorly drained because of the close texture of the soil. Seepage areas from outcropping rocks or other causes often occur on hillsides also, making underdrainage of such areas necessary. In examining a tract of land for alfalfa frequent borings should be made with a soil auger to determine the character of the soil and subsoil as well as the drainage conditions. This instrument will usually be of greater value in determining the adaptability of a particular tract to alfalfa than a chemical analysis of the soil. A common one and one-quarter inch auger with a shank lengthened and a suitable crossbar for a handle is practical for this use.

Limestone soils in general are particularly well suited to alfalfa, but even such lands are frequently acid and require liming.

When alfalfa is once started under favorable soil conditions, weeds, including perennial grasses, will likely prove its most dangerous enemy. This is one reason why sod land is not recommended for this crop. On account of the danger from weeds, it is usually best to precede the alfalfa for one or two years with a clean cultivated crop, such as truck, sugar beets, beans, potatoes or corn. Where late summer or fall seeding is practiced, canning peas, early potatoes, early sweet corn and early varieties of soy beans, when cultivated, furnish an opportunity for removing a crop in time to seed alfalfa the same season. Where crimson clover is used as a cover crop, following a cultivated crop, the soil is usually in good condition after harvesting the crimson clover the following spring for hay, or when needed the crimson clover may be turned under for soil enrichment, after which the ground may be prepared for alfalfa.

IT'S NOT HARD TO KEEP THE FAMILY IN GOOD HUMOR IF YOU HAVE GOOD WHOLESOME THINGS TO EAT. YOU CAN SELECT A DELIGHTFUL LOT OF GOOD THINGS HERE. THEY ARE THE NICEST AND BEST SPECIALTIES OF THE SEASON. THE QUALITY MAKES THEM A PLEASURE—OUR PRICE MAKES THEM AN ECONOMY.

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## ARCADE

Fanny Ward Coming.

"I just love spooks," exclaimed dainty Fannie Ward, the Paramount star who will be seen at the Arcade on Friday and Saturday in the thrilling photodrama "Witchcraft," produced under the direction of Frank Reicher for the Jesse L. Lasky company. "Witchcraft" was selected as the prize winning photoplay in the Columbia University-Lasky contest.

"Once I actually believed I saw some, and insisted for several days that I had seen a witch on a broomstick pass my window. I can readily understand how the imagination of a child could set a gossiping community to gossiping, and worse, by telling of their imaginations. In fact, they tell me the whole witchcraft scare in New England in the early days, was caused by children who would imagine some impossible story and tell it to their parents, and seeing the excitement they created, exaggerated their tales.

"Dr. Reed shows very clearly in this play of his, how the superstition could be started by children, and seeing little Peggy George telling a story during rehearsals, I could easily see how it affected the children's minds."

"We have all kinds of spooks in this production. They climb up chimneys, fly through the air and do all kinds of weird things, so I really had my childish desire fulfilled of seeing a witch.

"Now I have got to go and be photographed flying up the chimney on a broomstick, so I am a real witch myself, you see."

With this she jumped off the table, where she had been sitting and scampered away.

### Work of the Y. M. C. A.

New York, Dec. 23.—(Special)—The Army Young Men's Christian Association is now operating forty-one large frame buildings in twenty-two camps of troops on the Mexican border. There are, in addition, six large tents and a traveling equipment consisting of an automobile truck, which is used to transport supplies to the isolated outposts in the Big Bend district of Texas.

Work is also carried on in hospitals, with troops on practice marches, at target ranges and visits are made regularly to the camps of patrol detachments, at intervals of five or six weeks, an expedition by motor truck carries Y. M. C. A. supplies to the men of General Persing's command in Mexico. The work is in charge of 150 secretaries, who are assisted by committees of officers and men, and is supervised by two field secretaries, one at San Antonio and the other at El Paso. The general headquarters are in New York.

About 130,000 National Guardsmen and regular troops are served and the cost of maintaining the work is \$1500 a day. Up to December 1st, 90 tons of writing paper and 80 tons of magazines had been distributed. Each center has a circulating library. Every man has a piano. Fifty phonographs are in use and 30 motion picture machines in operation. A average of 60,000 letters a day are written and mailed in the Association buildings.

There are lectures, concerts and entertainments in the evening. A regular educational program is being carried out, the courses including mathematics, English, Spanish and other branches. Gospel meetings and Bible classes are held regularly and are well attended. The buildings are headquarters for the social life of the camps and are visited by thousands of men daily.

### Wins Turkeys for the Poor.

Lou Rayburn, night officer of the police force, is a crack shot and a number of families in meager circumstances have reason today to be thankful for that fact. At the turkey shoot yesterday in this city Rayburn secured nine turkeys and three geese as a reward for his prowess, and these he turned over to Chief Gurdane to give to families who cannot afford to buy birds for the Christmas dinner.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

Our Want Ads bring results.

## Chinamen Take To Life Insurance

American Representing Life Insurance Company in North China Writes Business of Million Dollars a Year.

By Clarence Axman  
Editor of the Eastern Underwriter  
New York, Dec. 21.—(By Mail)—Chinamen are good prospects for life insurance agents if the latter are good fellows, if persona non grata, they can have the finest protection proposition in the world to offer and they will be met only with an indifferent shrug of the shoulders.

Barnes Moss, formerly of Atlanta, and representing a life insurance company in North China, has a reputation in Shanghai of being a good mixer among Chinese bankers and merchants, which may account for the fact that he can and does write a million dollars of life insurance business in a year.

I spent half a day with him while he solicited risks. The first thing he did was to go to a bank and pay a death claim on the wealthiest Chinaman in Shanghai who had died a short time before.

"The Chinaman loves prompt payment," said Moss, "and we make it a point to pay the claim in the quickest possible time because of the impression it makes."

We entered the bank, went directly to a room in the back and seeing the beneficiary Barnes shouted so that all could hear him; "Boys, I've got the check." A crowd of the insured's former associates gathered around, all smiling as they witnessed the signing of the receipts, and we were out in five minutes.

"I'll tackle that whole bunch for life insurance inside of a week," said Moss. They have all had an object lesson in life insurance.

Going into an ivory store Moss wrote an income policy by showing the proprietor that on his great birthdays—from sixty up, a large sum of money will be due him each year.

"Over in America there is only one way to sell life insurance," said Moss, "and that is by talking of the protection to the family—the widow and the children. But that kind of talk here would make me starve to death. The Chinaman is interested in himself, not in the family. He is interested in what he is going to get out of the proposition, and does not worry what is going to become of his family when he passes away."

We had an illustration of this after returning to the office before lunch when a young Chinaman, his face alight with smile came in, and said with an air of great joy: "My father died today." He was the beneficiary under the policy.

The best life insurance solicitors in Shanghai are of the white race. It is difficult to find native talent to solicit life insurance, as the Chinamen regard insurance soliciting as degrading. It makes them "lose face," something undignified. Chinamen of the better class are long-lived, but the insurance men must keep the closest kind of watch on their livers because the Chinaman starts eating when he arises in the morning and keeps it up until he retires at night. Also he doesn't take any exercise, rides in chairs always, and thinks only servants should play athletic games.

An interesting sidelight on the situation is the fact that a small amount of opium smoking is permitted by examiners of the life companies. Opium smoking days are numbered, however, and its death knell will come sometime in 1917 by government agreements.

It's easy enough to make a Chinaman sign an application for insurance if you know how, but no one living can make him satisfied with the terms of settlement when the policy matures.

"Be a company ever so generous the Chinaman can show when he should get more," said Moss. "He is the quickest man in the world at figures, and the shrewdest."