

PEDDLER'S COMMISSION RUNS HIGH

Investigation Here Shows Canvassers' Profits Are Not Small

GOODS NO EQUAL TO LOCAL STOCKS

"Canvassing Is a Great Graft," Says La Grande Man Who Was in the Game Once.

The amount of house to house canvassing in La Grande has increased to such proportions that merchants as well as a number of disinterested citizens are agreed that some measure should be taken to combat the evil.

Nothing beyond a campaign of education would be necessary, they believe, since the homevisitors and office workers who patronize the peddler do so for lack of acquaintance with his methods and the obvious disadvantages of trading with him.

The goods he sells, it has been found on investigation, do not equal in quality the merchandise carried by the local stores. That aside from the question of service and reliability.

Moreover, the investigation it is said has revealed the peddler operating on a high commission basis greatly in excess of the normal merchandise profit. This is necessary, the investigators declare because he makes a limited number of calls and can do but a small volume of business in comparison of the volume handled by the stores. The peddler must look for his profit on one item, while the store has a wide variety and need not depend on a single line of goods.

Commissions Run High On actual checks on the proposition made to peddlers by the manufacturers for house to house work, the investigators found that the commission ranges from 40 to 75 per cent of his receipts. The larger organizations, nationally known, maintain district managers over their canvassers, and they also receive heavy commis-

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CHURCH PLANS ALL-DAY MEET

It is the custom of the Christian church to have "Home Coming" day the first Sunday of the new year for the purpose of reorganizing the various departments of the church. This day will be observed Sunday at the Christian church here with an all-day meeting. The Rev. G. V. Dunn, of Newberg, Oregon, who will come to La Grande to take the place of the Rev. O. W. Jones, as pastor of the church, will occupy the pulpit for the first time that day.

The meeting will begin in the morning at 9:45 o'clock with Sunday school, followed by the regular church services. Lunch will be served at noon and the afternoon will be devoted to welcoming the new minister, planning the work for the ensuing year, and electing officers for the various departments. Mr. Dunn will also preach at the evening church services.

Mr. Dunn has been pastor of the Christian church at Newberg for the past year. Previous to that time he was connected with the Bible university at Spokane, Washington.

Central Europe Flood Situation Grows Worse

Garment Factory Opens; Located on Fir Street

A new business concern that is now in existence in La Grande is a garment factory, located at 222 Fir street where the Enterprise market formerly had its quarters. It is announced by the proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Shultz.

Although the business is still in its infancy, a good start has been made according to Mr. Shultz, who states that later, as the volume of trade increases, additions will be made with the view of better service and equipment.

Successor



George Elliott, assistant director of public safety, has been appointed to succeed General Smedley Butler as head of the Philadelphia police.

TEACHERS AT O. S. T. SESSION

Union county is well represented at the Oregon State Teachers' association convention now being held in Portland, Ore. Among those in attendance are: E. A. Sayre, county school superintendent; J. T. Longfellow, superintendent of local schools; Mrs. Ray Dunham, of the Cove schools and an ardent booster for an Eastern Oregon normal school in this county; and several others. Mr. Longfellow's photograph was printed in one of the Portland newspapers yesterday.

NEW INCOME TAX PLANNED—PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—A state income tax from which 50 per cent of the derived revenue shall be used for education in Oregon was favored yesterday by the Oregon State Teachers' Association in session here. A committee will confer with the Grange, another statewide organization which favors tax revision, to draft a bill to be placed on the ballots in the November election.

Sigma Nu Brothers Gather at Pendleton

Nine fraternity men from La Grande joined their Sigma Nu brothers of Walla Walla, Wash., and Pendleton for the annual banquet at the Pendleton Elks' club rooms last evening.

Representing the membership in this section were Layton Stearns, Raymond Payton, Alvan Hunter, Lyle Kiddle, Bert Tucker, J. D. Meyers, Buck Knight, Floyd Smith and Fred E. Kiddle.

Royalty Displeased With Astrid Publicity

LONDON (By the Associated Press)—The wide publicity given the proposed visit to Buckingham palace of Princess Astrid of Sweden, apparently has displeased court circles, which have let it be known that the king and queen have no knowledge of such a plan. The Swedish legation also announced it has no connection with the publication of the report, which connected Princess Astrid's name with that of the Prince of Wales.

Coldest Weather This Month 21 Degrees Above

Although many citizens were of the opinion that this morning was the coldest of the winter season to date, a check of the government thermometer over the municipal building, showed that the minimum mark during the night was only 21 degrees above, one degree higher than the coldest weather registered late in November. Last night, however, which has yet to beat the December mark made last month. At nine o'clock this morning the thermometer stood at 25 degrees above. Shortly afterwards it began falling steadily, influenced by the sun's rays coming down through a cloudless sky.

Many who have lived in Union county many years declare that so far this winter is a record breaker as far as warm weather and lack of snow are concerned.

CITY WILL CELEBRATE '26 ARRIVAL

Watch Parties, Dances, and Cantata to Usher in the New Year

HAPPY, PROSPEROUS SEASON EXPECTED

Progress Made During Present Year May Be Surpassed in Coming Months in La Grande.

Watch parties throughout the city, a final dance at the country club house which will pass from the possession of the organization January 1, and an elaborate succeeded cantata at the L. D. K. tabernacle in the early evening of New Year's day will mark the passing of the old and the arrival of the new year in La Grande.

The general opinion is that La Grande and its citizens have much to look forward to in the new year. With the formal opening of the Mt. Emily Lumber company not far distant, further growth in population, and more construction and municipal improvements in view, the community is assured of a prosperous year.

It will be a joyful one that will greet the year of 1926—one that had a great year in 1925 and which looks forward to an even greater in 1926.

Many Social Events

The watch parties, of course, will be legion. Hardly a citizen will retire before the year's course is run, and the great majority will participate in some social event of the evening.

Boys and Girls Organize Two Clubs at Cove

The boys and girls of Cove interested in livestock club work, with their parents and a number of the community met last night to organize the clubs there. A dairy club was formed with fifteen members. Miss Dorothy Mills was elected president. Also a pig club was organized with seven members and with Miss Carmen Daniels leader. About 50 people attended the meeting, including H. G. Avery, county agent, of La Grande.

During the evening an interesting talk was given by R. J. Allen, now a farmer near Cove, but formerly county agent of Park county, Wyoming.

R. F. Peterson on Trial In Justice Court Now

The state's case against R. F. Peterson charging him with driving while intoxicated, is being tried by a jury in Justice Hugh E. Brady's court this afternoon. R. J. Kitcher is counsel for the defendant. The state is represented by Carl G. Helm, district attorney. Karl Strom, George Stager and Chester Garity, surveyors employed at Pilot Rock by the state highway commission, were in the light yesterday when a radio aerial he struck as his automobile swerved across the highway near Perry after driving into the bank on the other side.

Strom's machine was knocked through the guard rail and just missed dropping over a 75-foot embankment, according to Sergeant C. L. Liberman, Pendleton officer, who made the arrest.

1926 A Big Business Year

Everything indicates improved conditions for the New Year and the most favorable business volume throughout the country since the World War. Eastern Oregon will be no exception and you will naturally spend your money with the business man who keeps you constantly informed about his goods, his service, and his policies. The business man who most will give increased attention to publicity during the coming year. Never before have they had available as complete a service nor such high reader-interest at such a low reader-cost.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service."

May Curtail Foreigners' Privileges

Diplomats in Washington Are Worried About Their Liquor—Uncle Sam May Interfere.

(By Charles P. Stewart) WASHINGTON (NEA Special)—The nature of their official status doesn't permit members of the diplomatic corps here even to look interested in anything Congress does, but the truth is they're considerably perturbed by the representatives to cut off their drinks.

In all the United States high-power beverages are legally available only in the Washington embassies and legations. Theoretically they're foreign territory. Within their portals liquor may flow freely, regardless of the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead law combined. It has to get there, however, for this is forbidden, no more drinks.

Suppose such a rule goes into effect. The diplomats will be entitled to keep the stocks of wet goods they have on hand at the time, to consume them and to serve them to their friends. But they won't last long, even though huge stores be laid in advance.

An embassy's alcoholic requirements are tremendous. As the only cases in the land, they're expected to be lavish in their refreshment of all and sundry of their visitors. A drink is the first thing the caller at a diplomatic residence looks for when he arrives, the last thing he takes before his departure, and he's disappointed if served anything but the best. If supplies, once exhausted, can't be renewed on a permit basis, the diplomatic community will have to go dry or patronize bootleggers, like ordinary folk.

L.H.S. TO PLAY NORTH POWDER

Some lithero untied basket ball men will be sent into the practice game with North Powder at that place Saturday, Coach Bennett announced today.

"We have only about a week until we play our first scheduled game—Wallawa here Jan. 8—and I want to find out the quality of our men," explained the mentor.

The La Grande squad will motor to North Powder Saturday, the H-Ds to furnish cars.

Hoofs in Prospect For the Human Race

CHICAGO (By the Associated Press)—Humaans will have hoofs instead of feet if the present system of shoe manufacturing and fitting is not improved, Dr. H. W. Flynn, of Memphis, Tenn., told the Chicago college of osteopathy today.

Klamath Falls Radio Fan Electrocutted

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Julius Hunter, 32, was killed instantly late yesterday when a radio aerial he was installing came in contact with an electric wire carrying 4,000 volts.

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CHENG SHOT AND KILLED IN REVENGE

Assassin Is Captain Lu, Son of the General Cheng, Murdered

NEW GOVERNMENT FORMED AT PEKING

Establishment of a New Cabinet and Selection of Premier May Add to China's Stability.

PEKING (By the Associated Press)—General Hsu Cheng, popularly known as "Little Hsu," was shot and killed at the Lang Fang railway station last night.

The assassin, self proclaimed in a country wide manifesto, was Lu Chenk Wu, captain in the national people's army, and son of General Lu Chien Chang, whom Little Hsu shot in Lu's garden at Tientsin in 1918.

Captain Lu, who apparently has not been arrested, declared his act was in revenge for his father's murder.

Lu is a cousin of Marshal Feng Yu Shiang, "Christian general." Hsu had just returned from a tour of the United States and Japan where he studied political, economic and military affairs for the Peking government.

He was once private secretary to Tuan Chi Jui, present chief executive.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Establishment of responsible cabinet as a portion of the machinery of the provisional government at Peking, has been proclaimed by the chief executive, Tuan Chi Jui, Minister MacMurray reported Tuesday to the state department, he change was made in a series of three mandates, in which Tuan admitted his failure to carry out his plans for political reforms and the state department. The change country, the report said.

Under these mandates Hsu Shih Ying, who served as chief secretary of the organization conference in Peking this year, is appointed premier, Minister MacMurray stated this appointment was understood to have the approval of Marshal Feng Yu Shiang, military dictator of the Peking-Tientsin area, and of the political party, Kuo Mintang.

LEGLESS MAN AND BLIND MAN SAVED FROM HOTEL FIRE

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Guests at a tourist hotel on First street were rescued from their beds early today by a fire which sent a dense smoke through the building.

Firemen rescued several guests, including a blind and legless man. The blaze started from a heating plant in the basement. Several stores in the building were damaged. The total loss is estimated at \$25,000.

Girls Admit They Do Not Use Cigarettes

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—A Motion picture director received the surprise of his life when 20 out of 30 "extra" girls employed to have Metro Goldwyn Mayer production, in a scene called for a group of smoking flappers, admitted they did not know how to smoke cigarettes.

DRESSES FOUND LACKING

FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP)—Freezing temperatures have led three Fort Worth girls to write Police Chief Henry Lee anonymously for permission to wear boys' trousers. This, they intimated, would allow them to wear winter length undergar, a problem not so easily solved with their legs visible to the knee or thereabouts.

Chief Lee stipulated that the politicians reveal their identities before he gives the request "due consideration."

GRAZING CHARGES WAIVED

WASHINGTON, (AP)—An order waiving grazing fees in national forests in the southwestern area, which has suffered severely from drought in the last few years has been issued by W. B. Greeley, chief of the forest service, after a conference with Secretary Jardine.

The area affected lies in Arizona, central and western New Mexico and southern Utah, amounting to about twelve million acres. Officials estimated that about \$220,000 in prospective grazing fees was involved.

"Brotherly Love"



Three figures in the strange "brotherly love" case of Phoenix, Ariz. Bill Lawrence, right, is to hang for a murder which his sister, Fay Gene, 16, declares he committed. Babe says Bill is shielding him but Bill will not admit it.

ADMITS 'JOBS' BEFORE DEATH

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Ray Trask, confessed robber, who was shot by a policeman last Monday when he resisted arrest, died early today of the wounds.

Before his death, he signed a statement confessing to robbery of more than a score local stores. He declared he was assisted by Ned Bahambony, who was captured by officers Monday night.

GRANGE BUILDS NEW LOG HALL

With the Tolsonet grange hall practically completed arrangements have been made to have it formally dedicated January 23. The state grange will send an official to conduct the work and delegates will also be present from Baker and Wallawa counties, besides the majority of granges in this county.

The new hall is unique in this state inasmuch as it is built of logs following the Swedish style of architecture.

"Telocast" is one of the smallest agricultural districts in the county," W. R. Gekeler, of this city, states "and the completion of the new hall shows what can be accomplished by the people working together in the grange."

On January 8 the grange will hold a dance and supper, the proceeds of which will go toward paying for new furniture for the building.

Miners and Operators Fail to Agree on Plan

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—The joint conference of miners and operators adjourned at midnight without agreeing on a plan of settlement of the anthracite strike.

Adjournment was taken until 1 p. m. today, when discussions will be resumed on various plans of settlement submitted to the conference.

Thermometer Hovering Below Freezing Point

ALBANY, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—The thermometer here last night registered 25 above zero, one degree colder than the preceding night.

29 ABOVE AT EUGENE.

EUGENE, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—A minimum temperature of 29 above was registered here last night.

LESS WHEAT PLANTED IN THIS STATE

Eight Per Cent Decrease in Seeding of Winter Grain in Oregon

IDAHO PLANTS SAME ACREAGE AS IN 1924

Washington Area Falls from 1,240,000 Acres in 1924 to 955,000 Acres This Winter.

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Seeding of winter wheat in Oregon this fall appears to be only about 82 per cent of the acreage seeded a year ago, says F. L. Kent, statistician, United States department of agriculture. This estimate is based upon reports received from nearly 400 farmers located in all of the principal wheat producing counties of the state.

Revised estimates, based upon the results of the 1925 farm census, place the acreage seeded to winter wheat in the fall of 1924, at 1,000,000 acres, hence the acreage seeded this fall is placed at 820,000 acres. The condition of the growing crop on December 1, 1925, was estimated at 87 per cent of normal, compared with 87 per cent last year, and a ten year average on December 1, of 91 per cent.

The United States acreage is estimated at 89 per cent of last year, or 39,540,000 acres compared with 39,958,000 acres seeded in the fall of 1924. Condition of the United States crop is estimated at 82.7 per cent, compared with 81 per cent last year, and a ten year average of 84.9 per cent. The Washington state acreage is placed at 253,000, with a condition of 81 per cent, compared with 1,340,000 acres seeded in the fall and a condition on December 1, 1924 of 77 per cent. The Idaho state acreage is placed at the same figures as last year, 475,000 acres, with a condition of 92 per cent compared with a condition figure of 82 per cent a year ago.

Weather is Hindrance. The crop reporting board, United States department of agriculture, has released the following com-

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HOLD-UP ENDS IN TWO DEATHS

MINNEAPOLIS (By the Associated Press)—Two men are dead and two are seriously wounded, the result of a gun fight here last night after an attempted holdup.

Michael Lawrence, 67, veteran police sergeant, was shot and killed by Stanley Sibeau, convict, who in turn was mortally wounded by another policeman.

Bernard Wynne, patrolman, received four bullet wounds in his legs and Manchester, grocer, was wounded in the abdomen.

Both Wynne and Manchester were shot by Sibeau. The fight started when Sibeau attempted to hold up Manchester's store.

Outlaw Willing To Hang To Save Young Brother

PHOENIX, Ariz. (NEA Special)—Death for himself or death for his "kid brother."

Bill Lawrence, Oklahoma desperado, has chosen to place the hangman's noose around his own neck rather than to compel his younger brother to take his place on the gallows' tree.

But Bill's sister, 16-year-old Fay Gene, is trying to save his life—by proving that Babe Lawrence, the "kid brother," and not Bill, killed Policeman Haze Burch.

The girl has spent months traveling between two prisons—the Arizona prison at Florence, where Bill awaits death, and the Texas state prison, where Babe is serving a 33-year sentence for robbery.

Finally she brought back from the Texas prison a confession made by her younger brother, Babe, told her, she said, that it was he and not Bill, who killed Burch. "Bill shielded me," the girl said her brother told her. "When we were running away, he pushed me in front so that any bullets might strike him and not me. "And when they arrested us he shielded me again. Bill said he fired the shot that killed Burch."