

# Diamond Mart Flourishes Amid Down-and-Outers on Bowery

By JEAN GEORGE  
NEW YORK, (NEA) — Down on the Bowery, just across the street from Joe's 10-cent flop house, the most fabulous business in the world goes on—the business of buying and selling diamonds.

In the windows of the diamond markets, gaudy stones as big as walnuts glitter temptingly. Beside them, on black velvet, lie rubies, blood red and glistening; amethysts, opals, sapphires, topazes, and the jewels of kings. Beneath the windows ragged men sleep on the sidewalk. Dirty street urchins run up and down the steps of the rumbling Third avenue El, playing "Al Capone and cops." Old women pick in trash barrels for tin foil and string.

Here, amid abject poverty, is the greatest diamond market in the world. Merchants from France, China, India, Mexico and all 48 states journey across sea and land to buy and sell the diamonds that eventually funnel through this inconspicuous corner.

Each merchant rents a stall in the large room at the amazingly low rental of \$1 a day. To him come refugees with their family



Jewelry craftsmen work in the shadow of the old "el" on the Bowery—where the most fabulous diamonds in the world are bought and sold.

jewelry, pawn brokers with diamonds and topazes that were never claimed, buyers from swank Fifth avenue jewelers, from California and Iowa, old men with beards, young men starting in the business.

All of them are bursting with jewels and rolls of bills. A rough, scarred hand holds a \$25,000 bracelet. It throws off a million sharp lights from carefully cut facets of many diamonds. Engraved on the back are the words — "To Paula with love, Charles." At one time its existence was a token of love. Now it is rapidly tossed from hand to hand. The bracelet is now someone's bread and butter.

Surrounded by an armload of precious jewels, Felix Ecker eats a ham sandwich and drinks a cup of coffee. A sign over his booth reads:

"The eleventh commandment—Thou shalt not chisel."

The rich and the poor come in, some to buy, some to sell. Before a bargain is struck, the merchants run out into the daylight with a jeweler's loop and the diamond. There on the street, bumping elbows with truck drivers and rough looking Bowery drunks, they look for imperfections in the jewel.

In the 70 years that the diamond market has been on the Bowery there has never been a robbery. The sparklers are like apples in an orchard. They are taken for granted. This is business. A transaction means a few dollars here, \$100 there. Each merchant makes a living at it—not a fabulous living, but a secure income because diamonds are currency.

The men are in the business for many reasons. Some because their fathers were, some because they love beautiful things, some because they happened to come up in the business and never changed.

The continent of Asia has great uninhabited areas, yet it contains about one-half of the earth's people.

**COMMUNITY FLOUR SALE**

**WIN A VICTORY BOND**  
In Sperry's \$5,500.00 Name-the-Folder Contest

SEE OUR DISPLAY OF

**DRIFTED SNOW**  
"Home-Perfected" Enriched FLOUR  
50 lbs. \$2.35 25 lbs. \$1.18

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**FRUIT CAKES**  
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Century Brand No. 1 Tins  
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No. 2 Can Hunt's **BEET RASPBERRIES** 43¢

**Hobbs Grocery**  
2416 N. 2nd Phone 180



At Canal street and the Bowery, the "el" casts its shadows over the most fabulous diamond center of the world.

## Junior Women's Club of Union Opens Meeting

UNION, Oct. 11 (Special) — Among the prominent clubs in Union, which are again starting on a busy season is the Junior Women's club which started the year 1945-46 with a meeting at the home of Mrs. Carl Posey. Mrs. Guy Goble, president, presided. High light of the evening was installation of officers, by Mrs. Odin Miller. Officers for this year are Mrs. Guy Goble, president, serving her second term; Mrs. Wayne Reavis, vice-president; Mrs. Ormond Weaver, secretary; Mrs. Frances Sloat, treasurer; and Mrs. Carl Posey and Mrs. Merlyn Langford, directors. The president was presented a bouquet of gladioli and the other officers received corsages. An invitation from Mrs. W. E. King of Pendleton to the fifth district convention to be held at Baker, Oct. 19 was read, and plans made for the attendance of some of the members. Mrs. William Tartar and Mrs. Merlyn Langford were co-hostesses with Mrs. Carl Posey and served dainty refreshments after the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Wayne Reavis with Mrs. Ormond Weaver and Mrs. Guy Goble as co-hostesses.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Busick, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Busick and little daughter Karry Ann who have been visiting at the home of Mrs. Belle Busick returned to their respective homes Monday, the Claude Busicks to Stockton and Gerald Busick family to Oakland, Calif.

Mrs. Fanny Bidwell who has been confined to the hospital in Baker for several days, is now at

the home of her nephew Dean Bidwell at North Powder. With Mr. and Mrs. Dean Bidwell, Mrs. Fannie Bidwell was a Union visitor Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Davis of Venice, Calif., passed through Union Tuesday enroute home from their annual vacation. They were overnight guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lamb Tuesday night. Mr. and Mrs. Davis were former residents of this city. Mrs. Davis, formerly Miss Faye Lovelace, has many friends here as has her husband, he is a brother of Earl Davis.

Mrs. Charles Strode returned Tuesday from a month's visit at Aberdeen, Wash., where she had been called by the serious illness of her sister, Mrs. Ralph Look. Mrs. Look and her daughter returned home with Mrs. Strode and they will remain here for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnett White and son Larry of Toledo are in Union visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. White.

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Since engine parts don't grow on trees, Protect yours now with anti-freeze

**THE BEST WAY** to avoid the trouble and expense of a freeze-up is to have your car's cooling system checked over and protected with dependable Du Pont anti-freeze. Why not do it today, before you have a chance to forget?

**\$1.40 a gal.** War Emergency "Zerone" gives thorough protection against rust and corrosion as well as freezing. Until regular "Zerone" returns (this season's production went to war), there's no better buy at the price. Remember, it's made by Du Pont.

**\$1.65 a gal.** A limited supply of "Zerex," Du Pont's non-evaporating anti-freeze, is now available. "Zerex" won't boil out. One filling lasts all winter. Gives complete protection against rust and corrosion—won't form sludge or clog radiators.

**DUPONT** BETTER THINGS FOR BETTER LIVING... THROUGH CHEMISTRY

**"ZERONE" AND "ZEREX" ANTI-FREEZE**

## 26 Oregon Jails Are 'Disapproved'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (UP) — Federal bureau of prisons said today 26 county jails in Oregon have been found "unfit" for the housing of federal prisoners.

Oregon county jails "disapproved" are in Baker, Benton, Catsop, Clackamas, Columbia, St. Helen's, Crook, Curry, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Josephine, Lake, Lane, Malheur, Marion, Morrow, Polk, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wheeler and Yamhill counties. Oregon county jails "approved" are in Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Linn, Multnomah and Wasco counties.

Deputy Sheriff H. A. Klinghammer said today the Union county jail may not meet all federal specifications for federal prisoners "but it's the cleanest jail in the state of Oregon."

## 'Roughly Speaking' Is American Story

A rousing portrait of the American scene turned to the heartbeat of a courageous woman, Warner Bros. "Roughly Speaking" opened last night at the Liberty theater with a superlative cast, starring Rosalind Russell and Jack Carson and featuring Robert Hutton, Jean Sullivan, Alan Hale, John Qualen, Donald Woods, Craig Stevens and Andrea King.

"Roughly Speaking" is dedicated to a woman's courage, but the woman builds no bridges, spans no oceans. Not that she is lacking in that particular brand of fortitude. She is just too busy marrying and raising a family.

There lies the clue to the warmth, the humanness, the tenderness of "Roughly Speaking." For the film is not an epic, not an extravaganza. It is the simple, laughing story of just one of 30 million American families.

## McKenna Looks Into Laws for Plane Control

SALEM, Oct. 11 (UP) — The preconception everybody and his brother is likely to be galavanting around in flying machines in the near future has prompted state tax commissioner Coe McKenna to investigate existing government practices and regulations in connection with aeronautics.

In the latest issue of State Government, magazine of state affairs, McKenna points out complications.

"Importance of air transportation has been realized so suddenly," said McKenna, "that few legislatures have been prepared to give it intelligent consideration."

He lists several problems to be faced during the coming "air age" including: Conflict between state and national controls, federal finance, taxation, military rights and the relation of government to aircraft manufacture and private enterprise. After studying the Oregon law McKenna believes the present statutes, "primarily for strategic reasons," should be amended rather than replaced by new code. He suggests an enabling act to permit the state to accept and disburse federal funds, measures providing for the licensing and more competent regulation of airports, registration of pilots under separate classification for police and patrol duties, taxation by flat fees or some more equitable basis than the personal property tax and licensing and qualification of schools of instruction for pilots and mechanics.

Holes are cut into a bamboo trunk to form ladders in the Celebes.

**HORNS OF HAIR**  
The pronghorn antelope has horns made of hair. The outer covering is made of closely growing, glutinated hair, hardened into a protective covering over the inner bony core. Curiously, this hairy shell, like the animal's coat, is shed annually.

# Community Flour Sale

**SPECIAL DRIFTED SNOW FLOUR SALE**

**BUY NOW!**

50 lbs. \$2.35	25 lbs. \$1.18	10 lbs. 52¢
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**Gold Medal Flour**

50 Lbs. \$2.45	25 Lbs. \$1.23	10 Lbs. 54¢
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Betty Crocker, of General Mills, Says:  
**"Get My New Method Recipes"**  
for Better Cakes in Half the Mixing Time.

# CHRIS' FOODS

# Get this New Motor Oil that resists Oxidation

A development of wartime research that's good news for cars of all ages

PREVENTING oxidation of motor oil became a major military objective of U.S. scientists early in the war because sludge is not only useless as a lubricant, but dangerous. It gums up friction surfaces... keeps even good oil from getting in where it's needed... leads to mechanical breakdown. Research discovered a way to retard oxidation and military vehicles got a new lease on life. Now this discovery is available to you in new Golden Shell motor oil with oxidation inhibitor. The inhibitor, added during manufacture, keeps your Golden Shell free-flowing and efficient. Whether your car is a highway veteran, or practically new, it deserves the best oil

you can find. And this new Golden Shell is the best Golden Shell ever sold. It's ready now—wherever you see a Shell pump. Shell Oil Company, Incorporated.

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