INSURANCE AGENTS WILL BE REBUKED

Men Who Fell Into Fire Marshal's Trap to Be Let Off With Warning.

POLICIES TO BE RETURNED

Commissioner Wells Sends Letters to Offenders, Calling Attention to Possibility of Losing Licenses and Asking Co-operation.

Fire insurance agents who fell into the trap of Fire Marshal Stevens set last week to prove that many agents are writing insurance policies indiscriminately and without inspecting the premises insured are to get off this time with a warning to change their business methods. After a conference with Fire Marshal Stevens and District Attorney Evans, State Insurance Commissioner Wells yesterday decided to let the agents off with a rebuke and a warning and a suggestion that they commence at once to co-operate to the fullest extent with the fire marshal.

Commissioner Wells took the 60 insurance policies written by about 35 agents on the "contents" of vacant property and buildings and will return them to the agents with letters of warning. With this the whole proposition will be dropped so far as the evidence gathered by Marshal Stevens in this one instance is concerned.

Agents Are Warned.

The agents are warned in Commissioner Wells' communication that traps are liable to be set for them in the future.

Following is Commissioner Wells' letter, which will be sent to the agents along with the policies written by them:

After an investigation and a conference with Fire Marshal Stevens and his deputies, I have reached the conclusion that the Fire Marshal Department of your city is entitled to not only the support of the Insurance Department of the state but all law-abiding citizens of Portland, and I do earnestly request that all agents in the insurance business render Chief Stevens every assistance possible in this important work of fire prevention.

Portland Officers Commended.

Lend the chief your moral support, co-operate with his department, and if you will do your part I am sure that a vast improvement will be shown in the insurance situation. The amount of fire waste in Portland for 1914 and 1915 has been commented upon many, many times in all insurance journals throughout the United States, and if it had not been for the activities of Chief Stevens and the support given by Prosecuting Attorney Evans we would still be in the clutches of the greatest arson gang that ever existed on the Pacific Coast. These two officers have rendered a great service to the citizens of Portland in eliminating from the community an undesirable class of people who have been a menace to lives and property.

Let us consider the occupation of the firemen, and I am sure you will agree that fighting fires is very hazardous. Who knows, when a fire starts, that the fire department will be able to confine it to the building where it starts, and who knows but what an act of carelessness or incendiarism may result in the destruction of many buildings and loss of lives? Let us not overlook the fact that the firemen who risk their lives in fighting such fires have loved ones at home who have to bear the burden of their misfortune fighting a fire that perhaps was carelessly or fraudulently started.

Full Investigation Asked.

Fire insurance is important. It is the protection of business and the home. Let us impress upon the persons who buy insurance that they have an obligation to fulfill as well as the insurance company. Explain to the policy-holder that he should frequently inspect his premises and guard against one of the worst enemies of the race—namely, fire.

My advice to you is never insure a stranger without a full investigation and satisfactory evidence as to his antecedents. You will not lose many dollars in commissions by carefully investigating anyone or refusing to issue an insurance contract until after a personal inspection of the property. If you do not consider the commission sufficient to cover this inspection, why issue the policy? I thought I was fairly well posted as to the insurance situation of Portland, but facts and figures given to me by the Fire Marshal Department and the office of the Prosecuting Attorney lead me to believe that there are certain conditions existing which further investigation will bring out.

Certain agents have ideas that will be hard to change, but they might just as well now prepare themselves to realize that custom no longer prevails. Fire Marshal Stevens is going to continue his fire-prevention work and will have the aid of the Insurance Department under the present administration. I regret that certain agents are making insinuations that there are other motives in his aggressiveness, and I am sincere in saying that I know Mr. Stevens and his deputies probably as well as any person in the city, and their thoughts are only along the line of reducing the tremendous fire waste and place the name of Portland at the head of that class having a low loss ratio.

Licenses Are Liable.

Unfortunately, Chief Stevens has not had the insurance experience I have had and I will confess he doesn't understand the hardships of a local agent in conducting his business, but whose fault is it? Have you ever called upon him? Have you ever congratulated him or the District Attorney on their work of the last seven months? Have you ever explained the local agent's side of the question to him? It is now up to the insurance men to correct the various controversies existing and, if you do not, some one less competent will attempt to correct the existing evils and you will suffer the consequences.

Please do not go around now with a chip on your shoulder and show that you are a poor loser because you were caught in the recent trap. You will probably recall that Fire Marshal Stevens openly stated that he could purchase insurance from some agents—any amount he wanted—without being questioned. These statements were commented upon and resentful remarks were made. Then prominent citizens made inquiry of the department why a license should be issued to such a person and I answered by stating that if the situation was as reported I would be justified in recalling the license. Fire Marshal Stevens has certainly placed sufficient information before me to justify the department in asking for the return of the licenses of certain agents, and right here, for the benefit of several agents, let me say that this can be done.

You have recourse by mandamus procedure and this department will answer by stating that you are not the proper person to have a license and produce as evidence the records of the Fire Department of the losses on risks insured by you for the last two years. Then, if the court deems you a proper person to hold such license, one will be issued. The Fire Marshal did not single you out, nor is he attempting to cause you any embarrassment. His deputies were refused insurance by many agents and many other agents stated they would have filist to inspect the property before they could issue a policy.

WHISKY SEIZED IN RAID

TWO BARRELS LABELED "HEINZ'S PICQKLES" CONFISCATED.

Warehouse Chief Is Arrested and Warrant Is Issued for Former Bartender.

Two barrels of bottled whisky, labeled "Heinz's Pickles," were found and seized at Ninth and Hoyt streets last night by Deputy Sheriff MacDonald, Walter Geren, special agent for the District Attorney, and Deputy District Attorney Ryan.

W. G. Manning, head of the Manning Warehouse and Transfer Co., has been arrested in connection with the raid, and a warrant has been issued for Robert Oatfield, a former bartender.

The liquor was stored in the basement of Manning's warehouse. The warehouse had been searched before, but last night the officers returned to make another trial. With scores of other dusty old barrels, the officers found two barrels that gave forth the faint "chink" of glass. "Pickles don't sound like that," they muttered, and knocked in the head of one barrel. The liquor was taken to the County Jail.

District Attorney Evans has one bottle which Oatfield is charged with selling for $2. The police have been hunting for a "blind pig" in the neighborhood of Ninth and Hoyt streets since January 1.

KLAMATH PIONEER DIES

Alexander Martin, Sr., Succumbs to Paralysis at Oakland.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Alexander Martin, Sr., succumbed at his home in Oakland, Cal., last night following a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Martin was born March 17, 1835, in Scott County, Illinois.

At 18 years of age he came to the Coast as a blacksmith and conducted a shop at Jacksonville and later Yreka Cal. Later he engaged in the mercantile business at Jacksonville. In 1856 he married Miss Elvira Goss, of Jacksonville, and in 1881 entered active business in Linkville, now Klamath Falls, in partnership with the late T. G. Reames, of Jacksonville, and E. R. Reames, of this city, conducting a general merchandise store.

He is survived by his widow; Alexander Martin, Jr., of Eugene; George N. Martin, of Berlin, Germany; Mrs. Elvira Woodard, of Oakland, and Mrs. Ida M. Aiken, of Fresno, children.

FOREIGNERS SEEK POTASH

International Financiers Declared Behind Move in California.

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Jan. 25.—Statements that a group of international financiers had made efforts to acquire control of the valuable potash deposits at Searles Lake, in San Bernardino County, were made in depositions filed today in the Superior Court in connection with suit of E. Thompson and R. Waymire to eject the California Trona Company from the land.

The depositions were made by Frederick R. Hazard, president of the Solvay Process Company, of Syracuse, N. Y., which is controlled by Brussels capital, and Garvin Denby, of Detroit. Both said they had knowledge that financial assistance was offered to Henry E. Lee and his party of engineers, who, disregarding the warnings of S. W. Austin, United States receiver in charge of the property, went on the land in October, 1910, and made surveys and locations.

NEW EUGENE TRACKS PLAN

Southern Pacific Applies to Cross Streets in Laying Side Lines.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Extensive plans for additional sidetracks in Eugene are considered by the Southern Pacific in connection with the inauguration of traffic over the Willamette-Pacific branch between this city and Coos Bay. The company has made application to cross several streets in constructing the new tracks.

It was announced today that at the banquet of Eugene and Coos Bay business men at the Chamber of Commerce Thursday night in celebration of the near completion of the Willamette Pacific, a letter from William Sproule, president of the Southern Pacific Railway Company, would be read telling of the plans of the railroad company for Eugene and vicinity. Superintendent George Burkhalter, of the Southern Pacific, will speak. Fifty business men from Coos Bay are expected to attend.

PIONEER OF 1847 PASSES

Daniel Briggs Succumbs at Hadleyville, Where He First Settled.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Daniel Briggs, a resident of Oregon since 1847 and one of the original settlers at Hadleyville, Lane County, was buried at that place today.

Briggs, who was 80 years of age, was a victim of the grippe. He first located on land near Yaquina Bay, but moved in 1855 to the farm where he died, which he acquired as a homestead. He is survived by Mrs. Briggs and six children.

Compulsory Boarding Charged.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—A. McKay, section foreman of the Southern Pacific Company, will be placed on trial tomorrow at Elmira, charged with compelling employes under his control to take their meals at a boarding-house conducted by him. The State Labor Department filed the complaint. District Attorney J. M. Devers will conduct the prosecution.

In 1883 83 pounds of aluminum were produced in the United States; this year the production is expected to reach 100,000,000 pounds, or about half the world's output.

A SIGHT WITH PIMPLES ON FACE

Burned and Itched. Scratching Made Them Sore as Boils. Could Not Sleep at Night.

HEALED BY CUTICURA SOAP AND OINTMENT

"My trouble began with small pimples and they gradually grew larger and inflamed. They broke out in blotches on my face and forehead and I looked a sight. I irritated them by scratching until they were as sore as boils, and they hurt so I cried. They burned and itched until I could not sleep at night.

"I used a great many salves and pills, but they did me no good. This had been going on for about five months when I tried Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I washed my face in hot water and Cuticura Soap, dried it and applied the Ointment, and then washed again with the Soap. In a short time the pimples were completely gone and my skin was pretty and clear." (Signed) Miss Verda Bramwell, 422 W. 16th St., Los Angeles, Cal., July 1, 1915.

Sample Each Free by Mail

With 32-p. Skin Book on request. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston." Sold throughout the world.

THRONGED!

An augmented sales force was required yesterday and Monday to serve the women who are taking advantage of this wonderful

SACRIFICE

$10

All Women's Fancy Suits

Fur Trimmed, Braid Trimmed, Plain Tailored

Regularly $19.50 to $39.50

All Women's Coats

Raglan Raincoats and Gabardines

Regularly $15 to $20

You cannot afford to miss this sale of garments at less than the makers' prices.

Third Floor, Elevator

BEN SELLING

Morrison at Fourth

CONVICT DRILLS WAY OUT

POSSES SURROUND HOUSE AND FIND SUSPECT IS ONLY HOBO.

Prisoner Who Scaled Roof of Penitentiary to Freedom Regarded As One of Most Desperate.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—George Clark escaped from the Oregon penitentiary early today by drilling away the bars of his cell, and prying apart the bars to a window in the main building. He then scaled the roof and descended to the prison wall by use of a rope made from his blankets. From the wall he dropped outside to freedom. No trace of Clark's whereabouts had been obtained tonight although posses of guards are scouring the country adjacent.

A guard discovered that Clark was missing about 1 o'clock this morning and gave the alarm. In his cell was found a drill which he had used to cut the bars. The bars apparently had been severed several days ago as the prisoner had used bread crumbs to conceal the marks of the drill. The drill is supposed to have been obtained from the shops.

Clark was committed from Lane county June 5, 1913, for burglary, and was serving his second term at the penitentiary. Prison officials said he had been considered one of the desperate characters in the institution.

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Linn county authorities thought they had the escaped convict who is supposed to be coming in this direction when Harry Coomer telephoned the Sheriff's office that upon returning to his home near, the Southern Pacific track at a mile south of the place where Hooper shot Harry Minto, he found a man inside who was cooking a meal.

The county officers cautiously surrounded the house and found the invader to be a hungry knight of the road.

COUNTY COURT IS SUED

MAYOR OF DALLAS ASKS INJUNCTION ON TAX LEVY.

Objection Is Raised to Alleged Indirect Assessment on City Property for Highways.

DALLAS, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—E. C. Kirkpatrick, Mayor of Dallas, today filed suit in the Circuit Court of Polk County against the Polk County Court asking an injunction against the collection of 5 mills of the general county tax as the same affects property located within the corporate limits of Dallas.

It is alleged that the city of Dallas is a separate road district by virtue of an amendment to the charter adopted by the people in 1910, and that the County Court has no right to tax Dallas property for roads and bridges.

It is also alleged that the city of Dallas adopted a resolution in November, 1915, providing for a special 3½-mill levy for a special road fund to be used in the construction, maintenance and repair of streets, alleys, highways and bridges within the city, and that the county of Polk levied a tax of 3 mills on all property located within the county, with the exception of property located within Dallas, as a general road fund of the county.

The complaint also recites that the County Court, in order to accomplish indirectly what it could not do directly, included within the general levy for state tax and county purposes a tax of 5 mills, the money to be used on inter-county bridges and road construction, and that this 5 mills was extended upon the tax rolls against the property located in Dallas.

Walter L. Toose is counsel for Mayor Kirkpatrick.

2 BREAK OUT OF SCHOOL

Pursuers Are Tracking Lads From Training Institution.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Escaping from the Oregon State Training School tonight, Jack O'Keefe and William Days, each aged 16, eluded pursuers who had tracked them through the snow to the Cottage farm, and were at large at a late hour. O'Keefe was sent to the school from Portland. Days was first committed from Portland and later from Hillsboro.

Last Summer Days gained notoriety by escaping from the school, stealing an automobile in Salem and driving to Wilsonville. He was caught there and returned to the school.

LEAVE GRANTED MR. FINLEY

State Biologist to Make Trip of Two Months Through East.

Members of the State Fish and Game Commission yesterday granted William L. Finley, state biologist, a two months' leave of absence in which to make his Eastern trip, when he will deliver lectures through many of the Eastern states.

The Commission also authorized the employment for an indefinite period of Stanley Jewett as field collector of specimens of Oregon birds and mammals.

It was decided yesterday that the 19 elk calves, now in the Wallowa country, be sent to Fort Klamath as soon as the weather will permit.

John Larson was dropped by the Commission as water bailiff at Astoria, and R. L. Rathbun was temporarily put in his place. To Matt Pomeroy, of Astoria, the Commission gave a position as water bailiff.

J. F. Marsh, 85, Dies at Orchards.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—John F. Marsh, 85 years old, a Civil War veteran, a member of Company B, Sixteenth regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, Infantry, died today at his home at Orchards. He was born in New York State. He is survived by a son, F. M. Marsh, of Sifton, and a sister, Mrs. E. Wheeler, of Canada. Services will be held Thursday from the Methodist Church of Orchards, Rev. R. B. Parcel, officiating. Interment will be in Fourth Plain cemetery.

Warning Against Peddlers Given.

Peddlers representing themselves to be farmers are selling inferior grades of meat in the outlying districts of the city, according to reports which have been made to the State Dairy and Food Commissioner. Reports are that the meat is sold at a much lower figure than the usual quotations. A. S. Wells, chemist for the Commission, yesterday urged that purchasers of meat only buy from those peddlers whom they can trust.

Addison Bennett to Speak.

The Kansas Society will meet at the Y. M. C. A. on Friday. All former Kansans are requested to be present. The programme will consist of instrumental and vocal selections, and there will be several readings. The principal speaker of the evening will be Addison Bennett, of The Oregonian, who spent several years in Kansas in the early '70s. He will relate his experiences during the early Kansas boom.

Mountain Climb Injures Youth.

Following the exhaustion of a severe trip to Larch Mountain, made New Year's day, Harry H. Jones, 20-year-old son of H. H. Jones, 683 Hawthorne avenue, is seriously ill in the Portland Surgical Hospital, facing the possibilities of permanent injury. His condition was better yesterday and his physician expresses hope for his recovery.

Beautify Your Home During This

FINAL SALE

of the

F. A. TAYLOR CO.'S BANKRUPT STOCK

BABCOCK & RILEY, Inc.

Decorators of Interiors, will conduct the sale, and all prices will be extremely low. Stock consists of high-class Art and Period Furniture, including a number of antique reproductions; Italian Marbles, Tinted Ivory Art Ware, Samples and short lengths of Imported Brocades, Tapestries, Printed Linens, Wall Papers, etc. Sale commences this morning at

10 O'CLOCK

and early visitors will be more than satisfied with the selection displayed.

TINTED IVORY WARE

Art Vases, Boudoir Lamps and Clocks, Jewel Cases, etc., in tinted, ivory and polychrome finish applied over heavy silver plate.

$ 9.00 Art Vase, 11 inches high..$2.90
$ 7.00 Flower Bowl for.....$2.35
$ 9.50 Jewel Box for.....$3.10
$10.00 Boudoir Clock for.....$3.25
$12.00 Boudoir Clock for.....$3.95
$ 2.25 Jewel Case for..... 75¢
$ 4.00 Boudoir Lamp for.....$1.25

All Cut-Length Samples IMPORTED FABRICS Brocades, Printed Linens, Tapestries, etc., at HALF PRICE AND LESS

DECORATIVE LAMPS Wired Complete for Connecting

$53 Lamp and Shade, Egyptian oak, 21 inches high, for.....$13.75
$30 Japanese hand-decorated Japanese Porcelain Lamp for.....$16.50
$19.50 Bedroom Lamp and Shade $9.75
$45 Elizabeth Lamp, without shade, $15
$75 Dresden, hand-painted Boudoir Lamp and Shade, 29 inches high, for...$32.50
$52 Flemish Oak Lamp, with Shade, 28 inches high, for.....$12
$25 Art Lamp, hand-etched copper $9.50
$32 Basket Lamp and Shade, 31 inches high, for $16

Beautiful Furniture

Marked for Quick Disposal

$45 Chinese Chippendale Library Table, solid mahogany $18.00

$38 Solid Mahogany, Fiddle-Back Arm Rocker for $17.50

$50 Antique Walnut Arm Chair, Upholstered, for $19.50

$40 All Upholstered Easy Arm Chair for only $19.75

$100 George Washington Sofa, correct copy, fine mahogany frame, for $40.00

$13 Mahogany Piano Bench, with cabinet, for $6.75

$45 Heavy Pedestal Fumed Oak Dining Table, 54-inch top, $22.00

$50 Solid Mahogany, Large Colonial Arm Rocker, upholstered, for $27.50

$85 Fine Hand-Tooled Leather Fire Screen, oak frame, for $27.50

$45 English Easy Arm Chair for $25.00

$55 Sheraton Library Desk Table, mahogany, for $25.00

$175 Hand-Carved, Renaissance Library Table, antique oak, 6 feet long, for....$87.50

$65 Scroll Colonial Library Table, mahogany, for $35.00

$34 Solid Mahogany, Inlaid Book and Magazine Stand for $22.50

$125 Large, Solid Mahogany Pedestal Dressing Table, Period design, with oval mirror, for $42.50

$100 Large Fumed Oak Chifforobe, 40 inches wide, 6 feet 10 inches high, for $45.00

$25 Large Hall or Cafe Mirror, 44 inches wide, oak frame, for..$5.00

$215 Adam Bedroom Suite in antique mahogany, bed, dresser, chiffonier and dressing table, for $165.00

Attractive Discount on All WALL PAPERS AND LABOR During This Opportune Sale

BABCOCK & RILEY, Inc.

DECORATORS OF INTERIORS

Purchasers of the F. A. Taylor Co.'s Stock

Everett Phipps Babcock *M. Elinor Riley*

421 Alder Street, Corner Eleventh

It is a delightful, nourishing beverage—full of life and sparkle—with a heavy foam on top. Serve it at the family table—drink all you like—it will not harm. With meals, it sharpens the appetite and aids digestion.

Order a case from us NOW—today! Surprise the family by serving it tonight. Golden and Amber Nectar also sold by the bottle, and on tap, at leading stores, soda fountains, restaurants and hotels of the Northwest.

Phone for a case—Main 72 or A 1172. We deliver anywhere in Portland. Empty bottles accepted in exchange or as part payment.

Henry Weinhard Plant
Portland, Oregon.

ELDERLY WOMEN SAFEGUARDED

Tell Others How They Were Carried Safely Through Change of Life.

Durand, Wis.—"I am the mother of fourteen children and I owe my life to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. When I was 45 and had the Change of Life, a friend recommended it and it gave me such relief from my bad feelings that I took several bottles. I am now well and healthy and recommend your Compound to other ladies."—Mrs. MARY RIDGWAY, Durand, Wis.

A Massachusetts Woman Writes:

Blackstone, Mass.—"My troubles were from my age, and I felt awfully sick for three years. I had hot flashes often and frequently suffered from pains. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and now am well."—Mrs. PIERRE COURNOYER, Box 239, Blackstone, Mass.

Such warning symptoms as sense of suffocation, hot flashes, headaches, backaches, dread of impending evil, timidity, sounds in the ears, palpitation of the heart, sparks before the eyes, irregularities, constipation, variable appetite, weakness and dizziness, should be heeded by middle-aged women. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has carried many women safely through this crisis.

The Loveliest Curly Hair—So Easy to Have!

Why make your hair dry, brittle and dead looking with the heated waving tongs, when the simple silmerine method will produce a curliness far more natural in appearance, and at the same time preserve the lustre and beauty of your tresses? Liquid silmerine is so agreeable to use, being neither sticky nor greasy, and the over-night transformation is so pleasing, the first trial will make it your firm friend.

The approved way to apply it is to pour a little into a saucer at bedtime, dip a clean tooth brush into this and draw the brush through the hair from crown to tip, one strand at a time. You will like it not only because the curly and wavy effect will be so charming, but because you will also find it an excellent dressing for the hair.—Adv.