

WAKE UGLY CHARGES

Say Employment Agents Systematically Rob Patrons and Aid Grafting Employers—City May Order Investigation.

Portland employment agents are to be investigated, a secret inquiry was made into the truth of reports that certain of them habitually indulge in gross swindling. They will also be asked if an agreement exists between them and unnamed foremen in the employ of several of the larger manufacturing concerns, who for a consideration, refuse to hire men other than those sent by the agents in the alleged combine.

Reports which contain these charges have been circulated so persistently and seem to emanate from such high authority that C. A. Ryerson, who is in charge of the city's free employment bureau, has determined to institute an investigation.

Mr. Ryerson explains that for some time past men in search of positions have complained to him that certain of the employment agents were taking money from them to secure jobs, and that they had discovered upon application that no vacancies existed and that no places were obtainable. Cases of several men who are alleged to have paid \$2 each for jobs some distance from Portland and who, when they appeared to claim them, found they had been misled, are cited.

Mr. Ryerson also asserts that the employment agents and certain subordinates who have charge of the hiring of men for several of the largest concerns have a mutual benefit agreement against which the free employment bureau cannot hope to work. For every man they hire these subordinates are paid a small sum by the agencies.

The system not only works a hardship upon the men seeking work, but also against the employer, asserts Mr. Ryerson. "With this agreement in effect, men without funds cannot hope to secure work in any of these manufacturing concerns. Evidence that one foreman in the employ of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company discharged several men Saturday for the sole purpose of hiring them back Monday through employment offices, thus getting his fee of one dollar per head."

Men sent from the city bureau stand no chance of getting a job under him for the reason that he gets nothing for hiring them.

Numbers of people interested in the work of the free employment bureau have been apprised by Mr. Ryerson of conditions, and will immediately set about a thorough inquiry, which may result in a general revocation of employment agents' licenses.

CIRCUIT COURTS TRY GAMBLERS

Salem, Or., Feb. 22.—Opinions in 10 cases of minor importance were handed down by the supreme court today. Six of them were written by one of the justices, Will R. King, all relating to gambling at North Bend in Coos county. These cases were tried before Judge Hamilton and each is affirmed by the supreme court.

In State vs. W. H. Short, the defendant was convicted of conducting a roulette game. Bay was convicted of playing poker.

John Naberger played and dealt a "21" game and was convicted in Judge Hamilton's court in Coos county. His conviction is affirmed.

William Perry's case was the same as Short's and his conviction is affirmed. Frank Gardner was convicted of engaging in a game of "faro" and his case is affirmed.

W. C. Cook and David Clark were convicted on the same count for playing "Klondike," a dice game.

The case of McGowan and E. G. Reed vs. D. E. Buchanan, appealed from the circuit court for Multnomah county, A. L. Fraser, judge, is modified and affirmed in an opinion by Justice Slater, also one of the new justices. The point raised is one in contracts. The plaintiff entered into a written contract with the defendant to construct for him a six-story brick building in Portland, but the terms were not carried out satisfactorily.

G. J. McCoy vs. Charles Huntley, appealed from the circuit court for Wheeler county, A. Bradshaw, judge, is remanded for new trial in an opinion by Chief Justice Moore.

Charles E. Anderson vs. Ella G. Anderson, divorce, appealed from the circuit court for Multnomah county, A. L. Fraser, judge, is affirmed in an opinion by Justice Eakin.

John Harrington vs. Wilbur Jones, sheriff of Jackson county, H. K. Hanna, judge, reversed and remanded for new trial.

THE KEYSTONE TO HEALTH IS HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

Persons of a bilious temperament will be especially benefited by taking the Bitters. It will keep the liver active, regulate the flow of bile, relieve constiveness and stomach ills; in fact make life worth living.

Federal Court This Morning Orders President of Defunct Title Guarantee & Trust Co. to Turn Over Private Record of Transactions to Receiver Howard.

Two big leather bound ledgers will figure prominently in the receivership litigation in connection with the defunct Title Guarantee & Trust company from this time. An order was sought and received from the federal court this morning that the private books containing the records of the Title Guarantee, president of the defunct concern, be turned over to the receiver, H. C. Howard, to assist in settling the business of the title company.

The plea of the defense in endeavoring to prevent the issuance of the order was that the books were desired for an improper purpose and that to make them public would be hurtful to the company and its employees. The judge, after hearing the evidence, refused to grant the defense's motion.

CANINE MASHER TAUGHT LESSON BY FELINE BACHELOR MAIDENS

Before Skeezicks took to telling the moon nightly what he thought about it from the back porch of his Sixth street home, he was an actor. An odder enough when he was played opposite a cat.

Today Skeezicks left off growling at the butcher boy and planning to go instead of roses, to saunter out in quest of adventures. He found it in three unopened tabbies who were frisking about a Fifth street front yard.

As has been said before, Skeezicks had played opposite a cat. So he went under the front gate to escape the frisks with the feline maidens. Perhaps they were justified in feeling surprised, but not in giving him such a collectively warm reception.

Skeezicks misunderstood the whole thing, and thought it was an overplus of pleasure and not anger they must which caused three long streaks of red

to appear on the surface of his coat. He barked hilariously and raced madly up and down the yard. Then the maiden ladies really did growl at him. They leaped upon him and scratched and bit and spat. Two deep gashes down the side of his face and a cut on the lip led him to realize that he had made a mistake.

As best his drooping tail would allow, he swung himself up on a nearby stone fence and stayed there. At noon he had been there two hours. The tabbies had long since moved on and never could tell when they might return.

For one thing, Skeezicks will no longer trust the opposite sex—that is, if he survives the disgrace of allowing the feline to usurp the canine prerogative of mauling. Skeezicks will proceed to acquire a cynicism.

Worry over his inability to care properly for his invalid mother, together with suffering from an aggravated case of stomach trouble, led E. R. Woodard, superintendent of the Multnomah Amateur Athletic club, to attempt his life yesterday afternoon by shooting himself in the head with a revolver.

Woodard was alone in his apartments at the Mortuary, Eighteenth and Everett streets, at the time and after looking into the door, he saw himself in the bathroom and shot himself. The wound was considered fatal, although Dr. Alvin W. Baird, who is attending him, said today that there was a bare chance for recovery.

Woodard's mother had been ill at St. Vincent's hospital for some time. Bills for her care had mounted to considerable sums during the time Mr. Woodard had been caring for her. Until recently he had been able to meet them, but his financial resources were now exhausted.

Three weeks ago Mr. Woodard made an attempt upon his life, but at the time it was thought to have been an accident. It was believed that by some mistake he had taken chloroform. It was only after the hardest work that he was revived.

Woodard had gone out to see his friends, but he was so weak that he could not go down to the club yesterday afternoon after eating his luncheon, but remained at home. His wife left soon after luncheon, going down town to do some shopping and returned about 5 o'clock. She found the door locked and supposed that Mr. Woodard had gone out. She summoned the janitor, who gained entrance to the room by means of a dumb waiter.

Between the two rooms was a door which he opened. He entered the apartment alone. She saw him lying on the floor in a pool of blood with the revolver with which he had shot himself lying beside him. No one in the house had heard the shot.

Examination disclosed the fact that Mr. Woodard was not dead and Dr. Alvin W. Baird was summoned. The bullet had entered above the right ear top of the head. The wounded man was taken to St. Vincent's hospital.

Woodard has been with the Multnomah club for five years, three of them having been served as superintendent. He is a very well known and well liked man in the club. He is regarded as a man of sterling honesty and when his accounts were examined several weeks ago they were found in perfect condition.

Mrs. Woodard is seriously ill as a result of the shock. Her nerves have been broken to the aged mother.

On and Off Chat About Fat

The society reporter picked up the following gem at Madam Brewster's not long ago. One of her millionaires customers straggled into a new gown asked the famous costume designer, "You habitually eat and drink heartily and even thoughtlessly, no to say riotously at times," she complained, "whereas I live like a hermit. Yet I can't keep slim and apparently, you can't get fat."

"Golly," replied the fashion czar, "I admit I don't fasten upon nor do I thin down, but it is because I have the power, my dear Mrs. Millionaire, to eat what I please and to say to my fat, 'Thus far and no farther. I don't exercise nor diet nor run any danger of wrinkles or stomach trouble either. Here is the secret.' She wrote a few words on a slip of paper and handed it to her questioner. "Get that filled at the drugstore," she concluded, "take a teaspoonful after meals and at bedtime and you will never get any fatter than you want to be. You can take off a pound a day with this receipt, if you want to."

Being fat herself and fully alive to the tremendous value of these statements to fat folks everywhere, the society reporter committed an unpardonable social sin at times, she whispered to the lady's shoulder, and this is what she saw: For Excess Fat, simplest, safest, cheapest, most helpful receipt of any kind, One half ounce Marmola, is ounce Fluid Extract Cascara, Aromatic 3 1/2 ounces Peppermint Water.

TAFT SPRAWLS BUT COMES UP SMILING

(United Press Leased Wire.) Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—The slight of the president-elect of the United States sprawled out full length, after having fallen upon in hurrying to catch a train, greeted the eyes of hundreds of persons here today. A great crowd was following the rushing form of Mr. Taft, as he displayed to the admiration of all that his great bulk did not prevent him from being active and light on his feet.

While going beautifully, he reached the stairs. Then, half way up the flight, his foot caught and the momentum hurled him on the steps. He was on his feet in a moment, smiling, and as the crowd cheered he smilingly remarked:

"Well, I have always heard it was good luck to fall upstairs."

New York, Feb. 22.—President-elect Taft, accompanied by two secret service men and a number of newspaper reporters arrived here today. He went to the home of his brother, Henry Taft.

Sneak Thieves Get Nickels.

Sneak thieves entered the store of the Great American Tea company, 409 Washington, last night and were rewarded by a number of nickels and pennies. The back of the entrance.

The O. W. & K. Improved Sewing Machine Best on the Market \$26.00 for the Price, Only

Agents for the Royal Worcester Corsets

Ruchings Laces, Etc.

Glance through the Accessories Aisle (extreme north aisle on Washington street side) and see the hundreds of new and attractive conceits in spring goods. Everything to make milady look dainty and to add to the finish of a beautiful costume, in entirely new effects and wide assortments. Hand-Embroidered Collars with Jabots to match. New Persian and Elastic Beltings in rich iridescent effects, decided novelties. New Two-Tone Lace Bands in the new shades of rose, reseda, wistaria, mais and corn colors; indescribably rich, decidedly smart, New Tucked Nets. New Combination Tucking and Lace Band Nets. New Ruchings—dainty Trimmings of all sorts—small bits that cost little and help much to add to one's well-dressed appearance. You are cordially invited to inspect the late arrivals.

Child's Hose 19c

CHILDREN'S HOSE, fine ribbed cotton, regularly 25c the pair, at 19c

INFANTS' KNIT COTTON BANDS, regularly worth 25c each. Special this sale 17c

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Ruchings Laces, Etc.

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Baby Week

We carry a complete line of Kleiner's Rubber Goods, including Sheets and Diapers. Rubber Goods and everything the baby wears reduced in price.

Everything in Infants' Wear Is Reduced and in Addition These Great Specials

HAND-MADE BABY SLIPS and Short Dresses, in nainsook, lawns or linens, nicely finished, worth \$1.50 to \$17.00, at ONE THIRD LESS

INFANTS' LONG MUSLIN SKIRTS, plain or fancy, regular values \$2.00 to \$11.50, on sale at ONE THIRD LESS

BABY LONG OR SHORT FLANNEL SKIRTS, plain hems, waistbands attached—Values to 50c, special at 27c

Values to 80c, special at 49c

Values to \$1.25, special at 87c

Values to \$1.75, special at 98c

Values to \$2.00, special \$1.19

Values to \$2.50, special \$1.47

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Combination Underwear

The most popular garments in lingerie for spring wear are the Combination Gaments in Corset Cover and Drawers, Corset Cover and Skirt, or all three in one; also Long Princess Slips, consisting of Corset Cover and Full-Length Skirts. Materials are best India linen, nainsook, dimity or longcloth. They are trimmed with dainty lace or embroidery. We also have new Separable Combination Drawers and Corset Cover, very practical. Combinations run from \$1.50 to \$21.50

Umbrellas \$1.19

A special sale of Women's Tape-Edge Fast-Black Umbrellas, fitted with neat handles, mounted on good strong frames and steel rods, regular \$1.85 values. Special \$1.19

35c Hose 19c Pair

WOMEN'S FAST BLACK COTTON HOSE, very fine finish, reg. 35c val. Wednesday 19c

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See The New Silks and Dress Goods

'Twill be a treat to any woman of good taste to wander through the Fabric Section, Fifth Street Annex, and gaze upon the multitudes of Wool Stuffs and Modish Silk Weaves awaiting buyers of this season's Dress Goods. Shimmering Silken Fabrics in glittering array, containing the most called for weaves and the most pleasing color tones. Wool Goods of unequalled finish and texture, in plain colors or any of the preferred fancy effects, with solid colors decidedly in the lead. A glance in this well-selected stock will be a revelation to the woman seeking the newest and smartest in up-to-date merchandise. This magnificent exposition of this spring's best weaves and patterns has been prepared for the pleasure and profit of Portland shoppers. We cordially invite YOU TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE of the opportunity afforded.

KOREAN MEETINGS TO OPEN SUNDAY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) North Yakima, Feb. 22.—North Yakima is to be the site of the tramp nuisance by a novel and effective method which was announced by Health Officer Nywenning and Chief of Police today. Hereafter every hobo rounded up by the police department will be treated to a bath in warm water with a plentiful supply of soap. While one officer is scrubbing down the prisoner

another will be properly fumigating the clothes.

The officers believe that the treatment of one or two cases will be about enough to bring about the required relief. They say that news of the treatment that will be given at North Yakima will spread all over the northwest by the hobo wireless and that all of the weary workless will give this place a wide berth.

Christianity in Korea was the most striking point made in the address. The speaker said that some 20 years ago three missionaries were sent to Korea—two physicians, just graduates and one "green" missionary student. He said that an effort of that kind would be, with any other nation, the size of Korea, just about as effective as to send three laborers to dig the Panama canal. On a brief passed around were the statements made that there are now 500 places of worship (Presbyterian) in Korea, with 74,544 adherents, and contributions this past year of \$61,730. There is, but one other denomination working extensively in Korea, the Methodist.

Mr. Underwood, by which the people of this church have been instructed to late. Dr. Underwood was the first Presbyterian missionary to Korea and his story of the people of that country with their customs and their peculiarities, as well as the way in which Christianity is progressing, as related last night, was an entrancing one.