

Clackamas County News

L. D. MEADE, Editor and Publisher

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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ADVERTISING

Rates for advertising made known on application. Advertisers will please take note that to insure insertion of advertisement in the issue of the Tuesday noon. Assistance cheerfully given in the preparation of copy.

SPANISH PRISONER SWINDLE

The age old so-called Spanish prisoner swindle has been very actively promoted from cities in Mexico during recent years and the number of contributors resident in the United States is surprisingly large. It is believed that banks can assist in curbing the promoters by relating the details of this swindle to customers making unusual withdrawals of amounts ranging from \$2000 to \$4000.

A classified list of names and addresses of business and professional people, manufacturers and others, residents of the United States is obtained and circularized by mail. Ordinarily the mail is posted in Mexico, although a few instances are known in which the mailings were made in the United States. The letters are practically identical in language. Two letters are usually written. They are worded to induce the addressee to come to Mexico and advance a large sum of money, several thousand dollars to secure the release from the penitentiary in Mexico of an alleged prisoner who is said to have been sentenced for illegal bankruptcy and to assist the alleged daughter of the prisoner.

For the advance of money the prospective victim is told he will be rewarded by a portion of a large sum of money which, it is represented the prisoner has stored in a secret compartment of a trunk in a Customs House, and in a bank, both usually located in Texas. The names given in the letters are fictitious as are the addresses. The replies from the intended victims are collected from the fictitious addresses and taken to the headquarters of the "gang" and suitably answered.

It is surprising that so many people have fallen victim to this obviously fraudulent scheme which has been in operation so long that it seems everybody should have knowledge of it. While there is no desire to influ-

ence anyone in their purpose to visit Mexico it is hoped that all those who might become victims of the scheme may be suitably warned. These swindlers are not to be outwitted as they are smooth, suave, convincing and thoroughly experienced confidence men and if the recipient of a swindle letter complies with the specific instructions for making the trip to Mexico he will undoubtedly be relieved of his funds by trickery or violence after his arrival.

The Post Office department is doing everything possible under the Mail Fraud statute to stop this fraud. For many years the Postmaster General has issued orders denying the use of the mails to the promoters of the scheme as their names are submitted by recipients of the letters and by actual victims. Recent investigations by post office inspectors showed that about three people a week have been victimized in this scheme and the amount lost by each victim is approximately four thousand dollars (\$4000). The investigation resulted in conviction with heavy penitentiary sentences for Mail Fraud and Conspiracy.

It is believed effective preventive results would accrue if at the time of withdrawal of funds in substantial amounts say \$2000 or over, the bank would make inquiries, if not already known, as to the purpose for which the money withdrawn is to be used, and, if then that wise to call the attention of the customer to the fraud and advise him against entering upon the scheme provided of course that is the purpose for which the money is to be used.

The victim while in Mexico receives from the promoters of the scheme a so-called bank draft in a substantial amount. The draft is usually drawn on a bank in the United States. He is told to go to the bank and cash the draft. Often the victim does not know he has been defrauded until he inquires at the bank when he forms an improper impression of the bank. If you have any such inquiries please obtain the full name and address of the inquirer and submit same to Kildroy P. Aldrich, chief postoffice inspector.

COSMETICS AND WAR

The common reference to cosmetics as "war paint" seems to apply more than those who coined the term ever suspected. For practically all of the cosmetics commonly used by women these days contain materials which are vital to defense.

Lipsticks are housed in brass tubes which will be turned into cartridge shells; the color in lipsticks is obtained by the use of chemicals which are needed for the manufacture of gas; permanent wave solutions use chemicals that are necessary for gun powder; and so right on down the line on the cosmetic counter.

Scarcity of these items is not expected for some time but if the war continues for long the products which women have so long associated with glamour and gaiety may be transformed into instruments of death.

In recent years many women have considered cosmetics a necessity. When a luxury tax on cosmetics

was debated in congress a few years ago women from all over the country protested that they are no longer a luxury, they are a necessity to modern women.

But it would be foolish for any woman to stock up on cosmetics which she considers important to her appearance. For use of cosmetics to a large extent is dictated by style, and if cosmetics become scarce style leaders will undoubtedly decree that "war paint" is out and plainness is fashionable.

To many men such a return to the past would offer an interesting opportunity to discover what some of their female companions really look like.

Increased Needs for Certain Food Changes Outlook

The new program for increasing the output for certain concentrated foods as a defense measure materially changes the prospect for American farmers except those engaged exclusively in wheat and cotton production believes N. E. Dodd, western regional director of the AAA who was in Oregon the last week in April conferring with state agricultural adjustment officials at Corvallis.

Even the wheat farmer will find more demand developing for wheat as feed he believes, but this will not compensate for the enormous surpluses which have been piled up, hence the hope of the wheat farmer to maintain reasonable prices will be in supporting the wheat marketing quotas practically sure to be proclaimed as soon as the next crop report is out, May 10.

No prospect exists according to Dodd for any material improvement in the export market for wheat in the near future because Canada already has enough wheat on hand to supply England's needs for three years even if no more were raised. Some progress is being made however, by means of hemisphere agreements which will make it possible for Canadian, Argentine and American wheat to be moved into whatever market exists in an orderly manner rather than in competition. Hence the long time outlook for wheat is not as dark as it was previously Dodd paints out.

The immediate drive is for increased production of pork, dairy products, eggs, chickens, certain canner crops, particularly tomatoes and some other concentrated foods including dried beans. By means of a fund of more than a billion dollars from the lend-lease bill appropriations the department of agriculture will be the chief purchasing agent for the embattled democracies which need these foods.

In addition the department of agriculture has been authorized to guarantee the maintenance of profitable prices on these products for the next two years thereby insuring producers against loss in case the war situation should change radically in the near future.

Smother Crop kills Bad Creeping Grass in Test

Canada blue grass and creeping velvet grass have been killed out of a badly infested field at the Red Soils experimental area in Clackamas county by using a smother crop of hairy vetch and oats followed by dry plowing reports Tom DeArmond in charge of the area.

The field was plowed about five inches deep in August, 1939 and was not disturbed until after the fall rains started. It was then seeded to hairy vetch and oats at the rate of 30 and 70 pounds respectively. Immediately after harvest the ground was again dry plowed. The field was seeded back to vetch and oats last fall with every indication that the creeping grasses were practically extinct.

No. 6379 NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Clackamas, Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of Peter William Ledine, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned as Administrator of the Estate of Peter William Ledine, deceased, has filed his Final Account in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Clackamas County, and that Monday, the 26th day of May 1941, at the hour of 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon of said day and the court room of said court has been appointed by said court as the time and place for the hearing of objections thereto and the settlement thereof.

Dated and first published April 25, 1941. Date of last publication May 23 1941.

STANLEY T. LEDINE, Administrator. Cooper & McAllister, Attorneys, Gresham, Oregon.

Rex Wheat Hybrids May Prove to be Valuable

Four promising crosses of Rex wheat with other varieties are being studied closely at Pendleton branch experiment station as possibly being even better than the present widely known Rex variety. The one objection to Rex seems to be that millers

report it gives a lower flour yield than other standard varieties.

New hybrid selection appear to have the high yield and resistance to smut, lodging and shattering of ordinary Rex but are easier to thresh and are believed to be acceptable to the millers according to preliminary tests. These hybrids are not ready for distribution however.

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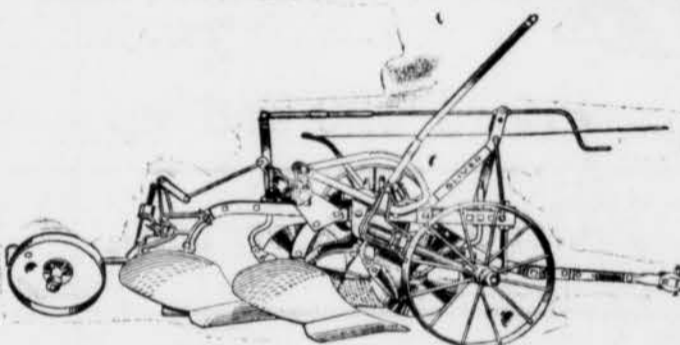
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