

WAYS TO BLOCK CROOKED PROMOTERS

By W. R. MOREHOUSE

Public Relations Commission, American Bankers Association

(This is one of a series of articles exposing the wiles of sharpers who are after your money.)

MANY reliable corporations, firms and individuals are engaged in developing mining properties, drilling for possible new oil wells and promoting new inventions and enterprises. On the other hand many unreliable persons are ostensibly engaged in the same pursuits, but in reality are only promoting frauds. Therefore, every investor should first divide the sheep from the goats before he hazards his savings. Because there are many dishonest manipulators using mining, oil, invention and promotion terms to deceive does not mean that all promoters in these fields are crooked. The truth is, there are many trustworthy men engaged in promoting enterprises that are honest investments. The problem is to know the difference between promoters of the reliable type and the high-pressure variety. The former are engaged in legitimate business. The other group is engaged in fleecing the public.



W. R. MOREHOUSE

The number of those who deliberately scheme to defraud is large and they are shrewd and deceitful. For this reason those who cannot afford to lose their savings should not trust entirely to their own judgment in making investments.

In order to divide the sheep from the goats—to distinguish between reliable and unreliable promoters, to tell the good invest-

others you know nothing about. Some time you may be approached to make a trade by a plausible person claiming to have better investments to offer than those you have. Recently a woman owning a block of gilt-edge public utility stock was approached by two smooth sharpers and urged to exchange it for stock in a fruit company which, she was told, was not only very valuable then but would increase rapidly in value and soon make her independently wealthy. Fortunately she told her neighbor about her offer. It happened that the neighbor had recently been defrauded in a similar way. She advised the second woman to report her offer to the local better business bureau. Having handled many similar situations the bureau instructed the woman to make an appointment for the traders to meet her in her home.

Get the Facts

Invariably, get the facts and take no substitute. There is nothing better and nothing just as good as the facts when it comes to withdrawing your savings from the bank and investing them. The facts about an investment either strengthen its position or show it up to be risky—oftentimes too risky for the person who cannot afford to lose



Good Advice that Prevented Disaster

New schemes to defraud are hatched daily. The unscrupulous promoter never sleeps but is continuously plotting new methods of attack on the savers' hard-won accumulations. The liberties he takes with the law and the schemes he designs for belittling the sound advice of responsible persons makes it even more essential for investors to get the facts.

Remember that anything that is worth investing in is worth knowing about as to its safety, its income, and its marketability. Any investment which is enshrouded by a screen of glowing promises or is so complicated that neither you nor your banker can fathom it and get the hard facts isn't an investment you can afford to put your money into.

Make it an unbreakable rule to get all the facts, whether the investment be large or small, and you will save yourself the heartaches and bitter disappointment of losing your savings. Millions of dollars which have unfortunately been lost through poor investment might have been saved if the investors had taken time to investigate before investing. There is always need for capital in safe, honest business and so great is the legitimate demand for investors' funds that not one cent need be wasted by them on fraudulent schemes.

Don't Trade Good for Bad

Don't exchange your investments for (A future article will tell of more schemes by which people are defrauded of their savings.)

Wall Foretells Weather

In eastern Oregon is an interesting wall that not only gives supplies of good water but acts as a sort of barometer to tell the approach of storms or changes in the weather. From 12 to 24 hours before a storm, it "exhales" a current of air. The draft increases as the storm approaches, sometimes reaching the intensity of a whistling, roaring jet and shooting up a mist of water with it.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

The Kiss in History

Kisses between men were common in England until the Seventeenth century. Medieval knights used to kiss each other before they began jousting, as modern heavyweights shake hands. Pages in France used to kiss articles they were given to deliver, both when they received them from the hands of senders and just before they delivered them to recipients, as a sign of honor.

They were on hand at the appointed hour. With the cunning of expert swindlers they proceeded to inveigle her stock away from her, assuring her that if she exchanged her public utility stock for that of the fruit company there was no doubt she would become very rich. But just as they were spreading out before her a beautifully embossed stock certificate the bureau's detective stepped out from his place of concealment and told the swindlers he had come prepared to take them for a ride in his car. They protested loudly and even struck at him, but experienced as he was in handling persons who resist arrest he soon had them handcuffed together.

Investigation revealed that the certificate of stock of the fruit company was fictitious. No such company had ever been organized. The evidence also disclosed that some certificates had already been issued and exchanged and there were a large number more ready for future use whenever a trade could be arranged.

Literally thousands of inexperienced investors are being swindled out of their good investments in such trades. It behooves all persons who have good investments not to exchange them without first getting all the facts from their banker or other person fully qualified to advise and protect them.

Geological Wonder

Juniper mountain, 30 miles west of Craig, Colo., is a geological wonder. The United States survey says that it is the deepest mountain on the western hemisphere. This means that the bottom of Juniper is buried in the earth deeper than any other on this continent. It is walled with rock, and is one of the outstanding sights in the region reached from Craig.

First Secretary of State

Thomas Jefferson was chosen by President Washington to be secretary of state or secretary of foreign affairs in the first cabinet. But Jefferson was still in France when the new government began to function. John Jay was secretary of foreign affairs under the articles of confederation and acted as secretary of state, at Washington's request, until Jefferson's arrival in March, 1790.

Deep Slash Made In State Outlay

Governor's Policy Appears to Have Backing of the People.

Retrenchment to the amount of \$1,170,000 in the state's building program is in sight, writes John W. Kelly in the Morning Oregonian. Failure of the people to approve of the proposed state income tax, and new 6 per cent limit base, has not helped cure the state's deficit, so there must be cutting and trimming here and there, and the building program is on the skids.

It looks now as though the new state normal school will not be constructed at La Grande until 1929, instead of bids being called for next month. The same fate may be meted to the new state tuberculosis hospital at The Dalles. The proposed new home for nurses at the state hospital at Salem has been sunk. The state office building has been razed by the decision of the supreme court.

"Make do" is to be the policy, rather than "make new."

In declaring the state office building law unconstitutional the supreme court disposed of that \$600,000 project. The nurses' home at Salem was turned down by the board of control during the past week, and that saved \$130,000. For the La Grande normal there was an appropriation of \$175,000 for construction and \$40,000 for maintenance, or \$215,000. The appropriation for the tuberculosis hospital to be built at The Dalles is \$169,850 for building and \$55,400 for general expense a total of \$225,250. All these items represent the very comfortable grand total of \$1,170,000.

The suit is being cut according to the cloth. It is going to be a bottle-tailed, rather than a long-tailed suit.

The Oregon supreme court gets the credit for saving the state office building item of \$600,000 in deciding that this violates the constitutional inhibition that the state cannot incur a debt in excess of \$50,000. The board of control wins the credit for deciding not to build the nurses' home.

The board of regents of the state normals will—eventually, it is believed—conclude not to start construction on the new enterprise at La Grande, and if this is the decision then the state board of control is expected to make similar action with respect to the tuberculosis hospital at The Dalles.

Governor Patterson realizes that he must exercise once more the same nerve that was necessary for his vetoing of appropriations for the University of Oregon library, the armories, the new buildings for Ashland and Monmouth normals, county fairs and other costly items. With Secretary of State Koser and State Treasurer Kay he shelved the nurses' home and prevented the spending of \$130,000. The La Grande normal is now in the balance.

Helpful Suggestion

Peter, three and a half, was caught red-handed throwing the morning's letters into the grate fire and gleefully watching the flames. It was his third offense. Seriously, his father took him in hand. "I don't want to punish you, Peter, but what shall I do to make you remember?" The young delinquent looked thoughtful; then, brightening, advised: "I'll tell you what to do, daddy—you just put it down in writing."

31 Years Ago

July 24, 1896

Isaac Ruddock, who has been imprisoned in the Multnomah county jail for nearly two months awaiting trial on the serious charge of having robbed the Pendleton postoffice, and, in committing this crime, of having shot Postmaster Johnson through the hand, is now at liberty, but without having been cleared of the aspersion cast upon his character. United States Attorney Murphy, not having sufficient evidence to secure Ruddock's conviction, moved the dismissal of the case. The motion was granted and Ruddock set at liberty.

Some fields of wheat near Thorn Hollow are said to be very rank and have commenced falling to the ground.

T. P. Page had business at the county seat Tuesday.

Charles Fischer has one of the neatest appointed grocery stores in town. Charlie knows how to display goods to advantage.

Forty boarders took supper last Thursday evening at the hotel at Saling's Camp, which yearly grows in popularity as a summer resort. Already the population of the camp numbers over seventy, and it is constantly increasing.

Marion O'Harra has gratified his desire for peculiar pets by obtaining possession by purchase from a mountaineer, of a young black bear, to replace the coyote which recently met with a violent death. It is playful and frisky, and by no means shy. "Doc" will raise it properly, and hopes that maturity will find it intelligent and peaceable, with no yearning desire to scratch and tear its benefactor.

The government is hard to satisfy when buying horses for cavalry use. Out of 180 submitted for inspection at Pendleton, the other day, only 13 were purchased.

G. S. Martin has opened a law office in the Morris building. Will practice in justice court and do all kinds of legal work. Also solicits cases to be tried in the circuit court.

In the matter of the assignment of Andrew Schnaeble, an insolvent debtor, the court ordered that the report of the assignee, Lake France, be confirmed in all things and that his bondsmen be released.

T. F. Rourke, of the firm of the Hamilton Rourke company, will leave Pendleton about August 1, for the purpose of opening the offices in Portland of the Hamilton Rourke warehouse system. Mrs. Rourke and daughter will join him in a week or so later and in all probability the family will make Portland their home.

John E. Staver, the bicyclist, has been matched against the well-known pacer Chehalis (2:07 1/4) for \$500 a side, flying start. The race will take place tomorrow on the Irvington track, Portland. Staver holds the Northwest record for a mile in 2:06. The race will be run two in three heats and Staver will be paced by H. F. Terrell and H. B. Freeman.

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