

Rather a Large Order

By JOHN SMITH

HENRY had brains, but he was a blunderbuss. His stenographer, Mary Crocker, believed in keeping her eye on him, and when his brains went to himself in the foundry, she kept to herself the suspicion that the blunderbuss part of him would sooner or later get him into trouble.

There were two factors hostile to his success. One was a natural antipathy to the efficiency methods of cost accounting as practiced in the general office. The other was a rival in another department. In this department Mary's brother Jim also worked.

The rival's name was Peter Revere and he was unmitigatedly jealous of Henry's promotion, not taking into account the fact that Henry had brains, while Peter used his head chiefly as a place in which to stable a mean disposition.

The fifth person concerned in this little drama was familiarly known as the "boss." Spoken of as that was Mr. Stockbridge, Wallace M. in the telephone book. He owned the foundry, was inordinately fond of it and indefatigably interested in its least important activities. At times he was badly bitten by the efficiency bug, but so far the effects of such a bite had not been felt personally by Henry.

Recently, however, there had been a bit of trouble somewhere. A vast supply—enough to last for years—of European thread had been accumulating without rhyme or reason. Henry was frankly puzzled. While most of the routing of material was in his hands there was one department which he had not taken over, and he surmised that some one there was acting according to orders from higher up.

But there was another little rift in his lute which for the moment was causing a greater discord and drowning out other harsh sounds. His stenographer had something else up her sleeve besides a plump well-rounded arm. Henry had caught glimpses of filing cards of a color and size which he knew had no meaning in his department. Caught studying them, Mary had flushed uncomfortably and thrust them out of sight in a pigeonhole in her desk. Now, what the deuce, ruminated Henry, was Mary up to?

Then everything happened at once. It started on a back page of a popular magazine. W. M. Stockbridge, pursuing a story through the advertisements, happened instead on an efficiency blurb and took it all in, as he periodically did.

Next morning he set out on a tour of the foundry, resolved to find something which needed correction. Running into Peter Revere, he soon discovered quite as much as, if not more than, he had hoped for. In the course of conversation the fact leaked out that there were enough three-quarter-inch European thread coupletings to connect the desert of Sahara with the canals of Mars.

"Who ordered them?" demanded the boss. Peter shrugged his shoulders and remained discreetly silent. "Jim" granted Stockbridge, and strode into Henry's sanctum, where Henry was paternally watching the soft curve of Mary's cheek as she bent above his dictation.

"I'd like to know who is responsible for those ten tons of coupletings," he bellowed at Henry. "Show me just how much you've ordered made up in the past year!" He threw a choleric glance at the filing cabinets. Henry swallowed bravely, and looked hopefully at Mary. He didn't recall having gone on record for any particular order, come to think of it. Had just had it done, and that was the end of it.

But Mary turned obediently. Only, strange to say, what she handed over to Henry was that bunch of cards he had once caught her examining. Surprised, he looked them through. Then he cleared his throat. "Mr. Stockbridge, you probably know I've been interested in that little 'I've had made up,' he said briskly. "But here's what's been sent in from another department and accounts for about nine tons."

He handed them over to the boss, who gave them a short scrutiny and then stalked out to blow up Peter Revere. "How in time for the love of Mike did you connect all that data?" asked Henry earnestly when he and Mary were alone.

REFUSING "LIGHT" INSULT IN GERMANY

Denial of Match May Bring Heavy Fine.

Dresden, Germany.—A Dresden appeal court has upheld a man who complained against another for refusing to give him a light on the street. The specific charge was insult and offense.

Like most laws, this law against insult and offense has a common-sense background, although it may be abused by frivolous, or childish, or spiteful application. The law is designed primarily to curb those persons who are grossly offensive and rude to their neighbors and so are likely to create breaches of the peace.

The great trouble with such laws as that upheld in Dresden is that they are often wrongly applied. Finos say to \$100 and even imprisonment are the penalties which threaten the Germans who refuse a light to a stranger in the street anxious to light his cigarette, cigar or pipe.

This is the great surprise for the German world of smokers provided as the verdict in the case before the Dresden court of appeal.

Herr Krause, hurrying home one night last year through the streets of Dresden, had somewhat brusquely refused the request of a fellow pedestrian that he should stop and allow him to light his cigarette on the glowing end of Herr Krause's cigar.

The owner of the unlighted cigarette then proceeded to sue Herr Krause before the civic court for insult and offense, which under German law is punishable with heavy fines and even imprisonment. Herr Krause was found guilty of having insulted the would-be-smoker and was sentenced to pay a small fine.

He appealed against this verdict, however, and the Dresden court of appeal absolved him from the fine, but declared at the same time that "the refusal to oblige a person with a light can constitute an insult."

Farm Population Lowest in 20 Years Washington.—The Department of Agriculture announced that the farm population was now the smallest in 20 years, with 27,511,000 on the farms on January 1, compared with a peak of 32,000,000 in 1909.

The bureau's estimate also shows a decrease in farm population during the last year despite improved agricultural conditions and a slight slackening in industrial employment, the January 1, 1929, figure comparing with a farm population of 27,600,000 persons on January 1, 1928.

The decrease in farm population in the last year would have been much greater were it not offset by an excess of births over deaths, the figures revealing that in the movement of a population from and to farms, 1,590,000 persons left farms during the year and 1,892,000 persons moved from cities to farms.

The movement away from farms slowed up somewhat during the year compared with immediately preceding years, but the movement from cities to farms also was smaller. Thus it is shown that 1,900,000 persons left farms during the last year, compared with 1,975,000 in 1927, and with 2,155,000 in 1926. The movement from cities to farms was 1,824,000 persons last year, 1,874,000 in 1927 and 1,135,000 in 1926.

The large farm birth rate of twenty-three births per 1,000 persons and small death rate of eight deaths per 1,000 persons has been a big factor offsetting the farm-to-city movement, so that the net loss of farm population last year was 188,000 persons, compared with 193,000 in 1927 and with 649,000 in 1926.

Oregon State News of General Interest

Main Events of The Week Assembled For Our Readers

A camp has been opened and work started at Larch mountain on the extension of the forest road which is to be built around Larch. The road was completed almost to the mountain last year. It is expected three miles of new road will be completed this season.

The Tri-County Grange picnic has been set for June 29. It will be held at Redmond's fair grounds. Prizes will be given by Redmond business men for the winners of various contests in sports. Vern Livesey, who is on the entertainment committee, has promised a good speaker.

George Brownlee of Jacksonville, employed on the Bear creek bridge, being built on the right of way of the Medford-Sams valley highway, sustained a badly crushed chest when a heavy pump fell upon him, pinning him beneath the waters of Bear creek, from where he was rescued by fellow workers.

The Salem city council has adopted the report of the police committee—rejecting all bids for the proposed new street traffic lights. Money appropriated for the purchase of the traffic signals will be expended in employing additional police officers during a number of conventions to be held there during the summer.

Continued heavy rains in the Enterprise section during the first of the month have insured a good crop of fall grain and have done much for other crops and the stock ranges. Stockmen report that grass was never better than at present, and cattle and sheep are in prime condition.

An open session on antelope in Lake and Harney counties, if properly regulated, do no particular harm, in the opinion of Stanley G. Jewett, Oregon chief of the United States biological survey. Mr. Jewett recently returned from a trip through the antelope country. He estimated there are at least 25,000 antelope in the two counties.

The 49th annual G. A. R. encampment came to a close at Newberg recently with the installation of the newly elected officers. When it came to the final election of department commander, all opposition to the candidacy of L. C. Washburn of McMinnville, former junior vice-commander, disappeared. Dr. Hall of Postland was elected medical adviser.

The surf caught several automobiles recently at Waldport, but all except one were rescued by the McMinnville wrecking crew with little damage. A truck loaded with cement for the Roosevelt highway went off the Alsea highway a few miles east of Waldport and landed 50 feet down the grade, with not much damage. The cement was for the sea wall now being built.

General and special road warrants in the sum of \$21,417 were issued by Tillamook county during the month of May. Of this amount \$21,417 was expended in securing right of way for the Roosevelt highway.

Eugene was selected as the convention city of the state series of Exiles for 1930, and Dr. J. E. Schofield of Eugene was elected president of the state order at the close of the 1929 convention in Klamath Falls.

E. C. Tubbs, traveling man from Stillacoom, Wash., lost his life in an automobile wreck on the Roosevelt highway at Brush creek, midway between Port Orford and Gold Beach. Tubbs' car plunged over an embankment, landing bottom up in the creek.

V. L. Calayan was re-elected and Edwin Fortmiller was elected to the Albany school board recently at the most spirited election ever held in district No. 5. A record vote of 1351 was cast. Calayan received 606 votes, Fortmiller 523 and Dr. A. P. Howells 153.

Police officers will be offered a two weeks' training course at Willamette university next January, according to announcements made at Salem by members of the faculty. The purpose of the school is to offer specialized training which will enable the officer more efficiently and intelligently to perform his official duties.

The Junkman

Consider, sir, the junkman! He is a high commissioned officer in the war against waste. He even merits a medal with palms, for he is daily assisting in the important work of conserving values and, by preventing waste, makes substantial contribution to the world's store of wealth.

With more than 200 bankers in attendance, the 24th annual convention of the Oregon Bankers' association was held in La Grande recently.

Dan Becker, head rigger in Western Lumber company's logging camp at Westfir, was killed when the top of a tree fell, striking him on the head.

The Clatsop county court has obtained listings of land available for farming, dairying and poultry raising purposes, as a step in land settlement.

The annual convention of the Sunday school and Christian Endeavor societies of the United Brethren church of western Oregon was held in Salem recently.

Notwithstanding fears of damage to the strawberry crop in Washington county through weather conditions, a very large yield of particularly fine fruit is being gathered and marketed.

The mysterious yellow sediment noticed on pools of water and along Bend streets is pronounced to be pine pollen. The pines are now shedding their pollen throughout the Deschutes region.

One hundred and eighty-two students had enrolled for the summer term of the Eastern Oregon Normal school at La Grande, and President Inlow expects the total to reach 200 before the term starts.

Despite the prevalence of cloudy, damp weather in the Dayton locality, growers report that strawberries are ripening well and they are large and of excellent flavor. Other crops are also thriving.

The 23d annual summer session has opened at Corvallis with an initial enrollment of 591 adults in addition to the 645 boys and girls club members already there for the two weeks' 4-H summer session.

There were 1,922,376 pounds of milk produced in Tillamook county during the month of May and \$2,875 pounds of butterfat, according to the report of the Tillamook Dairy Herd Improvement association.

One of the biggest events of the year for the people of the Pacific northwest, the combined brigade review and combat demonstration at Camp Clatsop, which is one of the few of its kind in the entire United States, was held Saturday, with Major-General John L. Hine, commanding officer of the 9th corps area from the Presidio, San Francisco, acting as reviewing officer.

The land settlement committee of the Enterprise chamber of commerce met at Waldport with committees from the chambers of other towns in Union and Walla Walla counties and formulated a plan for advertising the two counties and making an effort to bring new settlers to this section for diversified farming. Dairying will be specially stressed, as it has proven to be very profitable and the industry is steadily growing.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS

SYNOPSIS OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

Assets: Amount of capital stock paid up... \$400,000.00 Income... \$4,895,620.30 Interest, dividends and rents received during the year... \$34,028.50

Liabilities: Gross claims for losses unpaid... \$61,804.70 Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding risks... \$1,706.08

DR. C. L. POLEY Physician and Surgeon Grass Valley, Oregon

Dr. W. N. Morse Physician and Surgeon THE DALLES, OREGON Office at Mid-Columbia Hospital Phone No. Hospital 841

Dr. F. C. Brosius Phone 772 WASCO, OREGON Physician and Surgeon Office and Residence in the Burres building, directly opposite the O'Meara Implement Co.

Dr. J. R. Morgan DENTIST United States Dental Examiner for this district OFFICE AT MORO, OREGON

W. C. BRYANT Attorney - at - Law OFFICE PHONE MAIN 93 Moro, Oregon

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