

**MAN 'BUYS' FARM WITH BAD CHECK**

**Worthless Paper Strawn by Stranger Who Made Himself 'Big' Man in Community; Leaves for California Before No Funds Discovered.**

Lane county officers are looking for a man who said his name was L. Wakefield, from Danville, Illinois, who visited Springfield and Eugene last week and left a few worthless checks behind.

At least \$55 in cash, merchandise, and services was obtained by the man in return for worthless paper. It is not definitely known how much more the sum will amount to. The checks the largest of which was made payable in the amount of \$50 to a Eugene dental firm, were drawn on the First National bank of Springfield.

Mr. Wakefield came to Springfield early last week, spent several days with a real estate dealer here, through whom he "bought" a farm, then left in the afternoon of December 24, and has not been heard from since.

Wakefield made a deal for the A. M. McPherson farm containing 173 acres near here, paid a check of \$500 to bind the deal, and left for Los Angeles, as he told a reporter, "to see some property he had there."

Wednesday morning the bank received a telegram from the Danville, Illinois bank on which the check was drawn, stating that there were no funds in an account under the name of Wakefield with which to pay the sum.

The dealer here who handled the transaction, became suspicious of Mr. Wakefield when he was asked to endorse a check for \$10.00. He refused the request, and had the check for \$500 sent for collection, with instructions to wire confirmation of its authenticity.

A local reporter who knew the man by sight as Mr. Wakefield, (having met him in the real estate office while the "deal" was still pending,) was on the same car when the man left Springfield last Thursday morning, supposedly on a business trip to Los Angeles.

At that time Mr. Wakefield told full details of the deal, but had forgotten the name of the man from whom he "purchased" the farm. The consideration was to have been \$17,300. Wakefield further stated that he was buying the farm for a son in Illinois, that he had recently sold a farm in Illinois for \$300 per acre, and that he had business connections and interests in Portland.

Another statement, was to the effect that he contemplated buying a home in Eugene for his wife, though his ideas on this subject were rather hazy. He told that he had driven a car through from Illinois, and that it was then in a Eugene garage he repaired. This statement could not be verified.

When interviewed by the reporter he was wearing a dark gray suit, black overcoat, gray felt hat. He was apparently 55 or 60 years of age, and seemed to fit the description of a retired farmer. He wore an emblem of the Moose lodge, and stated that he was a Mason, though he had no credentials on his persons.

He also exhibited a pass book issued by the Ashley Rumlinc bank of Portland. He was carrying at least \$15 or \$20 on his person when last seen, though it is supposed that he had more.

Mr. "Wakefield" stated his intention of returning about January 1. If he does, which is though doubtful, he will be welcomed by several Springfield and Eugene business firms.

**Two Pay \$25 Each.**

Two persons named John D., and said to be from Wendling, each paid fines of \$25 each in the office of the city recorder Saturday. The fines were assessed by Mayor G. G. Bushman in the absence of R. W. Smith, for drunkenness.

**Visits Pages**—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stein of Eugene dined with Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Page Wednesday evening.

**Buying Supplies Here**—W. Lane was in town Wednesday purchasing supplies from a local mill for Walter Price, Marcola merchant.

**Here from Yoncalla**—Charles Danford visited friends here Wednesday afternoon from Yoncalla.

**Society**

**Strubins Entertain at Dinner.**

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Strubin entertained a number of guests at dinner last Saturday. Those who enjoyed the Strubin hospitality were Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Clark from Seattle, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lindsey and son, Arthur, of Eugene, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fawer and daughters, Gladys and Grace, of Harrisburg, Mrs. Esther Donahue, Eugene, and Mrs. Hallie Bryan of Springfield.

**S. G. Moshier Give Dinner.**

Dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Moshier on Christmas day were Will Moshier, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Moshier and son, Deloise, of Portland, Georgia Griffin and daughters, Lela and Gladys, and son, Elmer, and Benj. Endicott.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Moshier and Miss Robin Levee came and spent the evening. Guests reported an enjoyable time.

**Mrs. Fannie C. Hoke.**

Mrs. Fannie C. Hoke passed away at the Marcola residence early in the morning of December 27, 1925. Mrs. Hoke was 74 years of age. She is survived by her husband, George S. Hoke and one son, J. E. Hoke, both of Marcola, and two daughters, Mrs. Hattie Duncan of California, and Mrs. G. H. Morrow of Banks, Oregon.

Rev. Norman Workman conducted the services at 2:30 Tuesday from the Christian church in Marcola. Interment was in the L. O. O. F. cemetery at Marcola.

**G. A. R. Ladies Visit Eugene**

Mrs. Chages F. Eggimann, president of the Springfield circle of the Ladies' of the G. A. R., and Mrs. Bert Doane, treasurer, attended the program in the Eugene armory Saturday afternoon at the invitation of Rich Mountain circle of Eugene.

**Annual Meeting to be Held.**

The annual business meeting of the Christian church will be held Friday evening, January 1. At that time officers of the church and Sunday school will be elected. A lunch will precede the meeting at 6:30.

**Louks Have Guests**—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Louk entertained the following for Christmas dinner: Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Louk, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Howe, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Howe and daughters, Thelma, Wyloughby, Marjorie, Winifred, and son, Norman, and Mr. John Nepper, 41 of Creswell.

**The Covered Dish Club** met Tuesday evening at the Leland Eubanks home, where the evening was spent playing cards. Members who were present were: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. Farol Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Scatefe and Mr. and Mrs. Eubanks. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Scatefe and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Adrian dined at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Dawson Tuesday.

**Christmas Guests**—Mr. and Mrs. John Chrisman were the Christmas guests of Mrs. W. S. Gates, Mr. and Mrs. Chrisman were here from Reedsport.

**In California**—Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Bain are spending the holidays with relatives in California.

**"Bun" Rennie called** in Springfield from Thurston Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chan Ling from Toledo spent a few days with Mr. Ling's mother, Mrs. James Laxton.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Louk of Creswell, entertained as guests Christmas day, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Louk, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Howe, and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Howe.

Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Raquard came from Roseburg to visit his mother, Mrs. Raquard, Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ruth visited relatives and friends here during the past week. The Ruths are from Wendling.

Mrs. Sadie Perkins from Marshfield visited relatives here during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Adrian were Christmas guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ruth at Thurston. Mr. and Mrs. Adrian reside in Portland.

**Back from Portland**—Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Stewart returned Wednesday from Portland where they have been visiting their daughter and new grandson. The grandson is a little more than a month old.

**Scouts Going Thru Tenderfoot Stage**

**Springfield Troop Fast Rounding Out in Preliminary Work; Score of Applications for Membership.**

Scoutmaster W. P. Tyson announced that a very successful meeting of the Boy Scouts was held Monday evening. The boys are preparing for the Tenderfoot test, and some will take the test this week, it is thought.

Mr. Tyson is very much encouraged by the interest the boys are showing in the work. Eighteen or 20 applications are now in for membership in the scout organization. These applications will be handled as rapidly as possible, but it will first be necessary to completely organize the present scouts, and get them through the Tenderfoot tests, before work with any more can be undertaken. However, the new applicants are working diligently, according to the scoutmaster, and getting ready for the Tenderfoot test, so that when the time comes that they can be received, they will not need to do any preliminary work to pass the first tests. It is thought that in that way they will progress much more rapidly when they finally do become recognized officially as scouts.

In discussing scouting and all that it means to the boys, the leader, and to the community, Mr. Tyson stated it as his opinion, or at least as his hope that the Boy Scouts of America will be the future leaders of the work now done by the American Legion.

"One of our earliest leaders," he said, "in patriotic work, was the G. A. R. But the organization has almost expired. In a few years at most, it will be gone. The American Legion is already taking over the G. A. R. work, and it seems to me but a few short years, the legion will be in the position of the G. A. R. And if present plans for world peace especially the Locarno pact, work out, and we have no more veterans of wars of any kind, which I sincerely hope we won't, then it seems to me that it will of necessity be the Boy Scout organization that will take over the work of patriotic instruction and duty throughout the country."

"And so, as a leader of boys, I feel the importance of the work that we are attempting in Springfield." Mr. Tyson is striving to make the scout organization a home of patriotic endeavor, as well as a mould of good character and citizenship.

**ICE ON MIDDLE SISTER PREVENTS CLIMB TO TOP**

Five Eugene men failed last week-end to reach the summit of the Middle Sister. The men—Alfred Skei, L. C. Page, Wayne Reed, Glenn Bessonette and Ed Thurston—climbed within 300 feet of the top, but were prevented from going higher by "mushroom" ice which made the going too dangerous to be risked further. These ice formations, they say, resembled huge mushrooms growing up from the surface of the icy snow, and they were constantly breaking off and rolling down the mountain.

The party left Eugene Saturday morning and camped that night in two feet of snow at the head of White Branch. They left camp at 2 o'clock the next morning and arrived within 30 feet of the summit at 1:30 in the afternoon. Much of the snow encountered, they said, was hard packed, and frozen, and for two and a half miles they had to cut steps in the ice to proceed. Skis were used from the point where their car was left to the last hard climb where it became too icy. The return trip to the car was made quickly with the skis.

Reed and Thurston were the first to climb the mountain last spring, and they claim the record of having been the last to make the ascent this year.

**Baptist Church.**

Bible school meets at 10 o'clock. Morning service at 11. Topic: "Anchors for the New Year." B. Y. P. U. and men's meeting at 6:30. Gospel service at 7:30, topic: "An Inventory." Prayer service, Thursday at 7:30. New Year's day the church will have a basket dinner and quarterly business meeting.

**Return from Idaho**—Alden Klotz and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Snook have returned from Weiser, Idaho, where they spent Christmas with relatives. Mr. Klotz, who is a student at the University of Oregon lives at the home of his aunt, Mrs. L. K. Page.

**A Hard Worker**



**Opal Code, from Fort Worth, Texas, has plowed her Bell County farm for four years, making a living for six members of her family. Now that her young brothers and sisters are provided for she is working her way thru Baylor College, serving as waitress.**

**Work Train Put On.**

The Southern Pacific company had an extra work train distributing steel between Springfield and Jasper Tuesday. There was also a gravel train and a "ditcher" working in the same district. The result will be an improved roadbed between the two points.

**Restaurant Now Moved.**

The Spang and Thomas restaurant has been moved from the corner of Third and Main across the street to the Spang hotel. It will now be operated as a dining room for the hotel as well as a restaurant.

**Flowers Bloom in Yard.**

Although it may be below freezing now and then, flowers still bloom in Springfield. C. Meecham has brought into the News office a bouquet of beautiful red Anemones that show no effects of Jack Frost.

**Couples Are Wed.**

Charles A. Price and Thelma Ruth Wakefield were married Thursday, December 24, 1925, at the Baptist parsonage. Rev. Blom performed the ceremony.

**In Springfield Few Days.**

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Gillespie of Camp 34 above Wendling, have been visiting in Springfield several days. They are now held here by the illness of their baby, who is suffering with pneumonia, according to word from the office of a local physician.

**\$2 Fine Paid.**

Steve Privasky of West Fir paid a fine of \$2 for leaving the engine of his car running last Thursday evening, with no one in the car. The fine was paid into the office of the city recorder.

**Visits in Portland**—Russel Olson, son of Mr. Carl Olson, Southern Pacific agent here, left Sunday to spend a few days with friends in Portland.

**Springfield Methodist Episcopal. (Ebbett Memorial).**

Morning worship at 11 o'clock, theme, "The Third Message in the Exposition of John 14." Special music.

Evening worship at 7:30, song fest with several short editorials on another word about Rabbi Wise Christmas sermon; also the Pope's late message to the world. Evening sermon, "In What Manner We May Begin Again."

Church school at 9:45. Intermediate league at 5 P. M. Epworth league at 6:30. First quarterly conference, with Dr. S. J. Chaney, district superintendent, presiding Monday evening at 7:30.

**Jasper Men In**—W. F. Worel of Jasper, accompanied F. S. Jackson on a business visit to Springfield Wednesday.

**Not Visitors Here**—Mr. and Mrs. George Kendler and family were in Springfield from Noti Tuesday.

**NYSTRUM PAYS \$150 FINE FOR ASSAULT ON OFFICER**

As an aftermath of too much Christmas "cheer" Andrew Nystrom, 235 west E street was sentenced in the city recorder's court Monday afternoon to pay a fine of \$100 on a charge of assault and battery against an officer.

The charge, which was preferred by the City of Springfield, grew out of an altercation between the defendant and Night Officer Fred Hinson. Nystrom, through his attorney, Frank A. De Pue, pleaded guilty to the charge.

In the course of the trial it was revealed that Nystrom was drunk, and on this ground Recorder R. W. Smith assessed a fine of \$50, which was withdrawn upon an objection on technical grounds by the attorney for the defense. Immediately after the case was concluded and Attorney De Pue had left the court, another warrant charging Nystrom with being drunk and disorderly was sworn out against Nystrom refused to plead until he could confer again with his attorney. Later in the afternoon, Nystrom came in, plead guilty to the later charge, and paid \$150, the sum of both fines imposed.

**LEGION INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS FOR YEAR**

The installation of officers for the coming year featured the meeting of Springfield Post of the American Legion held Monday night. Before the installation could proceed, however, it was necessary to elect a new vice-commander to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of the former vice-commander, Marion Rewey, who has moved from Springfield.

Verne Woolley was elected to fill the vacancy. The new officers now are: W. P. Tyson, commander; Verne Woolley, vice-commander; W. N. Gosler, adjutant; Oswald Olson, chaplain; J. M. Larson, finance officer; and Jess Meats, sergeant at arms. Major M. B. Huntly was the installing officer.

W. P. Tyson, commander of Springfield Post of the American Legion, announced a meeting of the executive committee and all officers of the post will meet Wednesday evening, January 6, in John Willis' shop. This is an important meeting, as plans and the program for the entire year will be discussed at that time.

**50 Packages Left.**

Less than 50 packages, most of them Christmas gifts, remain undelivered in the Springfield post office, according to a statement by Postmaster Hamlin Tuesday. It is thought that many of these will eventually be delivered.

The Christmas rush was comparatively short-lived, according to Mr. Hamlin. Packages continued to come for a day or two after the holiday, and then ceased. No deliveries of mail were made Christmas day, except to holders of lock boxes.

**Judge Bushman on Bench.**

Eugene Hood and W. A. Coon of Wendling each paid fines of \$25 each before Mayor G. G. Bushman Saturday, for being drunk and disorderly. Mayor Bushman acted in the absence of City Recorder R. W. Smith who was in Portland. The Wendling men were lodged in jail pending their hearing.

**Lots Sold to Berg.**

A local realty firm reports the sale of two lots, Nos. 11 and 12, block 105, of Washburne addition, by Carl Fisher to Earnest Berg. The lots are Eleventh and F streets. The deal was completed this week.

**Plans Improvement**—R. R. Meyers, formerly of Spokane, and a still earlier resident of the Springfield district, arrived here Wednesday morning from Portland. Mr. Meyers, who owns two lots in the Midway neighborhood, is planning to improve them and make Springfield his permanent home, he said. Mr. Meyers was formerly a rancher in the district north of Spokane, settling there some years ago after having lost a farm in western Lane county.

**S. P. Men Here**—Mr. Clate Sprenger and family are registered at the Hotel American from Albany. Mr. Sprenger is employed on a Southern Pacific work train engaged between here and Jasper. Thomas Blower, also a Southern Pacific employee from Albany is at the American.

**Visit in Portland**—Mrs. Alex Hrynchuk and daughter, Anna, left Tuesday for Portland. Miss Hrynchuk will return Sunday evening, and the mother later in the week.

**DANCE HALL PERMIT DENIED BY COUNCIL**

**Mrs. Beck Refused Permission to Operate in Stevens Hall; License Granted to Read and Petticoat; Bank Will Sell Building to City.**

The city council denied a permit to Mrs. H. L. Beck to operate a dance hall in the Stevens building at a special meeting held last night. Mrs. Beck has operated the dance for the last two years but councilmen declared that they were not satisfied with its conduct. This is the first application to be made under the new dance hall ordinance.

The application of John Gates and A. C. Petticoat to operate a dance hall in the same place was allowed although Welby Stevens, owner of the building said he had made no arrangement to rent them the place. The council was called together especially to act on the applications as the new ordinance goes into effect January 1.

The vote to deny Mrs. Beck a permit was three to one, Moshier, May and McKlin voting against granting it and Cox voting "yes."

**Bank Building Report Made.** R. W. Smith, city recorder, who was authorized to take up the proposition to purchase the old First National bank building for a city hall, reported that the directors of the bank were willing to open up negotiations for the sale of the building to the city for about \$7000. Councilmen said whether it was purchased depended upon a vote of the people. It will be discussed at the next meeting of the council whether this proposition will be put on the ballot at the May primary election.

**Reduced Fares On.**

Announcement was made here last week by John M. Scott, passenger traffic manager of the Southern Pacific company, that low round-trip summer excursion fares to points throughout the United States will be in effect the coming season.

According to Mr. Scott, the lowered rates are to stimulate travel, enabling many to visit far away homes or friends, who would be unable to do so if the special rates were not authorized.

Use of limited trains, stop-overs and all first class privileges attach to these tickets.

**Many Marry at Christmas.**

During the past week marriage licenses have been issued to the following couples by the county clerk: Frank St. Sure and Florence Vohl, both of San Diego, California; Louie Jensen and Esther Jensen, both of Eugene; Hobart Campbell and Vio's Foster, both of Eugene; Virgil W. Coats and Doris Howard, both of Eugene; Virgil Storer and Florence Walker, both of Eugene; Raymond C. Stump and Marion Jensen, both of Eugene; Lester Esther Huntington and Katherine Clark, both of Cottage Grove; Leonard Addington, Westfir, and Wilma Savage, Marcola; Charles A. Price, Wendling, and Thelma Ruth Morefield, Springfield; Ernest McCulloch, Eugene, and Mildred Stephens, Veneta; Allen Huntington and Le'l'a Fullerton, Dexter; and to Rolfe R. Syphers, Blachly, and Opal May Cox, Goldson.

**New Tire Shop to Open.**

L. C. Bossman, a former resident of Springfield, is busy this week overhauling and setting up materials preparatory to opening a tire vulcanizing shop some time next week. Mr. Bossman came here from a Washington town about two months ago, and has been looking for a location for his business since that time.

The new industry will be located in the building recently occupied as warehouse by the Danner Motor company. Mr. Bossman leased the building from the owners, Mrs. J. Winzenreid.

**George Sanderson Passes.**

George Sanderson, 63 years old, passed away at his Camp Creek home December 26. So far as is known, only one relative, Fred Whitewait, a nephew, survives the deceased, who has been a Camp Creek resident for twenty years. He never married.

Funeral services were conducted from the Walker chapel in Springfield by Rev. Fred G. Jennings of the Episcopal church. Interment was in Laurel Hill cemetery.