

WEBBER WILL MAKE AMENDS FOR SWINDLE

"A. J. Montgomery is in no way connected with Webber Academy of Music."

The above advertisement, appearing in the Oregonian yesterday morning, opened up the avenues for a big train of thought on the part of numerous victims to one of the rawest swindles that was ever put over the people of Gresham and vicinity.

It was on the ninth of this month that three well-dressed persons, two men and a woman arrived at the Congdon and made arrangements for board and rooms. The hotel register gives their names as J. D. Montgomery, A. E. Carey and Z. L. Brown. The latter was the woman. They announced that they were representatives of the Webber Academy of Music and were going to organize a big class in vocal and instrumental music and had secured Regner's opera house for a place of instruction.

Then they went to work. Music must, indeed, have charms, or else the personality of Montgomery and his associates was irresistible, for they reaped a rich harvest and then folded their tents, like the Arab, and silently stole away.

They left here the middle of last week and the only word from them since leaving was on Friday when Miss Brown phoned from Portland to the proprietor of the Congdon, asking for the whereabouts of Montgomery. Up to the present no one has been able to locate either of the three and there is some controversy as to whether all three were implicated in a plot to swindle the public or whether Montgomery had included Carey and Miss Brown in his list of victims.

Montgomery had a letter purporting to have been given him by the Webber Academy of Music authorizing him to form classes and sell a book of instruction. Armed with the letter he worked the territory pretty thoroughly in a whirlwind campaign and found an army of victims. His plan was to furnish the book for one dollar and tax six dollars more in advance and then make a contract for a series of lessons, the total cost to be \$52. It is said that Montgomery offered to discount the bill ten per cent for cash and it is said that several persons took him up on his offer and paid cash in full less the discount. Others are known to have paid varying sums, and it is thought that he collected from more than fifty persons, his total collections running into several hundred dollars.

A representative of the Webber Academy of Music was here on Saturday and is reported to have agreed to fill Montgomery's agreement as far as instrumental music was concerned, provided the students would come to the conservatory for them. Deputies from the sheriff's office are looking for Montgomery, but he has made a clean get-away. It is not known where either of the other two are to be found.

While making their trips over the neighborhood the three were always together. They had an automobile, borrowed in Gresham for the week and Montgomery cashed several checks given him by some of his victims. They paid their bill at the hotel and there was no cause for complaint against their actions or appearance. Several persons expressed a distrust of them when they first came here, without any apparent reason, but their actions and the alleged letter from the Webber concern soon disarmed any suspicion and they soon proved that the crop of suckers is just as big as ever.

H. A. Webber, of the Webber Academy of Music, was in Gresham today investigating the situation and is arranging for a free concert on the coming Friday night in Regner's opera house, and though he has been bilked several hundred dollars, he agrees to stand the loss and make good so far as possible to the people of this locality who have signed up contracts.

HEART DISEASE TAKES GRESHAM BUSINESS MAN

There was a surprised community on Monday morning when it was learned that George S. Withrow had died only a few hours before day-break, after a brief illness lasting, perhaps, not more than half an hour.

He had retired rather late on Sunday night, feeling quite as well as usual although it is said that he had become faint while sweeping the floor earlier in the evening. About 2 o'clock he awakened his wife who at once telephoned for Dr. H. H. Hughes who came at once. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Ryan were summoned, as were Ernest Stratton and wife.

Mr. Withrow died a few minutes after their arrival, his death being attributed to heart disease. An ambulance was summoned from Portland and the body was taken to the Holman undertaking parlors where the funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 according to the terms of the Episcopal church. The remains will be taken to Eugene on Thursday for interment in the family plot, where another service will be held at the grave.

Mr. Withrow had been in business in Gresham several years and was widely known. He was associated with Ernest Stratton and his wife in conducting the Golden Nectar cafe. Besides his wife, Nora Withrow, his other nearest relative was a brother, W. H. Withrow, living at Spokane. Ernest Stratton is a son of Mrs. Withrow. His age was 55 years, 5 months and 9 days.

MRS. ALTA WOOLLEY ASKS FOR DIVORCE

Mrs. Alta Woolley of Gresham has entered divorce proceedings from her husband, Joseph Woolley. In her complaint, filed yesterday in the circuit court, she alleges that she was compelled to work to support herself and baby.

The couple was married at Seattle in 1915 and have one child. She charges her husband with being an habitual drunkard. She asks for the custody of the child and \$25 a month alimony.

Mrs. Woolley was well known in Gresham as a girl, her former name being Alta Fox. The Woolleys have been living on the Powell Valley road east of town for nearly two years.

BOY SCOUTS TO BE GUESTS OF PORTLAND AD. CLUB

The Ad club of Portland has invited scout masters and boy scouts to be their guests at the Baker theater Thursday evening, May 24, 8 p. m. to see "Charley's Aunt."

Scout Executive Brockway of Portland, has extended the invitation to the Gresham scouts, and we want to go, but lack sufficient transportation. I have two autos offered, but need five. I would be obliged to any auto owners who can conveniently help us to the extent of taking a load of boys in on that evening, to let me know at once. Phone 686.

GEO. F. HONEY, Scout Master.

CLEAN UP CEMETERY FOR MEMORIAL DAY

The approach of Memorial Day and the proposed program to be given by M. A. Ross Post, G. A. R., and the Women's Relief Corps, has suggested to many persons that the Gresham cemetery is not as tidy as it should be.

But very little cleaning up has been done there since spring opened and it would look vastly better to have it looking its best. Wednesday of next week will be Memorial Day, and the time is none too great for a general renovation of all burial grounds.

Masters of the chess board, like Frank James Marshall and Dr. Emanuel Lasker, have done wonderful things. In Berlin some years ago O. S. Bernstein carried on seventy-five games simultaneously with all the boards in sight. Pillsbury has carried on as many as fifty-eight simultaneous games with the boards in sight.

A tree has been discovered in Madagascarc that produce coffee which is said to be free from caffeine.

Chautauquas to Hear Alpine Yodlers

Tyrolean In Native Costumes Will Present "An Evening In the Alps"



GRAUS' Tyrolean Alpine Yodlers, the incomparable company of Swiss singers and instrumentalists that charmed New York for forty weeks at the New York Hippodrome, have been secured for 1917 Ellison-White Chautauquas. Accompanying

themselves upon the zither, mandolin, guitar and violin, the Tyroleans in the picturesque costumes of the Swiss, singing the songs of the land of William Tell, give one of the greatest descriptive fantasies on the stage or concert platform. It is called "An Evening

in the Alps" and features the world's greatest yodlers in an echo song, the correct singing of which is an astonishing feat in vocalization. The Tyroleans will probably appear only in the evening the last day of the Chautauqua.

COUNTY AGENTS WARNING AGAINST LIME SHARKS

Multnomah county is now being canvassed by a couple of "lime sharks." These so-called benefactors of the farmers are putting a product up to the farmers which they claim will: (1) Act immediately; (2) Not burn the person or soil; (3) Prevent blight; (4) Control the cabbage and radish maggot and, (5) Sweeten the sour soils.

Such a combination is impossible. Lime must either be slacked or unslacked or a mixture of both. It cannot have the immediate acting qualities without having the burning properties.

We have no accepted proof which gives us any authority for saying lime will prevent blight. As far as we know at present, lime will not prevent potato blight.

Either quick lime or slacked lime will sweeten sour soils, but neither will control the cabbage or radish maggot.

Don't let some faker sell you stuff he claims will do all of this. It cannot do it.

They are also stating that 500 pounds of their product is as good as a ton and a half of lime rock. This is also a false statement. Lime is lime and limerock is limerock.

Don't pay exorbitant prices for this material when you can get it for a reasonable price.

S. B. HALL,
County Agricultural Agent.

Feline Whiskers.

Because a cat can go about so safely and rapidly in the dark without injury to himself or without running into things nearly every one believes it is due entirely to the fact that he sees with his eyes in the dark.

That a cat can see to a certain extent in the dark is quite true, but it is doubtful if he could go about so rapidly in total darkness were it not for his long whiskers. Note a cat's whiskers and you will see they are always as long, generally longer, as his head is wide, and a cat's head is as wide as his body.

These delicate hairs that project from the muzzle of the cat family are wonderful mechanisms. Each one grows from a follicle or gland nerved to the utmost sensibility. Its slightest contact with any obstacle is instantly felt by the animal, though the hair itself may be tough and insensible.

Consider the lion stealing through the jungle at night in search of prey when the least stir of a twig gives alarm. The lion's whiskers indicate through the nicest nerves any object that may be in his path. A touch stops him short before pushing through some close thicket where the rustling leaves and boughs would betray his presence. Wherever his head may be thrust without a warning from the vibrissa there his body may pass noiselessly. It is the aid given him by his whiskers, in conjunction with the soft cushions of his feet, that enables him to proceed as silently as the snake.—New York American.

Great fog penetrating power is claimed for a new French incandescent light with greenish-yellow glass in front and backed by a reflector that reflects enough heat to prevent moisture collecting on the glass.

SKIN GAME GETS TWO YOUTHFUL PARTNERS

Again it has been proved that it pays to advertise. When the Outlook announced that Guy Fieldhouse wanted a partner in a skin game there were a dozen immediate responses. Out of the whole bunch of applicants Guy selected two, Lang Goodwin and Charlie Brown who have taken up the practical end of doing all the work while Guy furnishes the capital.

This particular skin game has to do with trapping moles and preparing their skins for market. The boys have been very successful and are thinking of enlarging their scope by getting more traps and widening their territory so as to include every farm that will let them operate.

Several persons who have caught a few moles in their gardens have encouraged the boys by giving them the animals to skin, thus adding to their revenue. They are doing a good work and making money. Just now the skins are in the pink of condition and the moles should be caught in as great numbers as possible.

Liberia Today.

Liberia, the negro republic of West Africa, is very apt to become in the next few years a land of keen interest to all Americans. Although few of us are aware of the fact, this little nation is a protegee of the United States, and our only interest in Africa. After the European war, it is almost certain that we will have to intervene in Liberia, which will bring us into new relations with the European powers whose colonies surround it on all sides; and so further expand the rapidly growing part which the United States plays in the affairs of the world.

Liberia became a republic in 1847, having been settled 25 years before by freed American slaves, during the administration of James Monroe. The capital is called Monrovia in his honor. By a treaty signed in 1862 the United States agreed to aid Liberia to maintain a constitutional government and an independent existence. Only this treaty has prevented the disorderly little republic from coming under French or British influence.

For the Liberian republic as such has not been a success. Only a few per cent of its 2,999,999 people are civilized, these including about 12,000 descendants of American slaves. There are few good roads. In 1905 the republic became bankrupt, and in 1910 a commission from the United States reorganized its government and a loan was subscribed to put it on its feet. In spite of this the republic continued disorderly and a refuge for outlaws from the neighboring French and British colonies. Liberia has remained a lawless wilderness while these colonies have been advancing in civilization. Africa is at the beginning of a great industrial development, and after the war, the United States must either establish order in Liberia, or allow some other power to do so.

In the botanical gardens of Rio de Janeiro there are monster trees from the Amazon country which overtop even the lofty royal palms and reach a height of from 150 to 200 feet.

W. C. T. U. SOLICITS SUPPLIES FOR SOLDIERS

Anybody having old soft cotton which can be cut into handkerchiefs for use in hospitals, old table linen which can be made into napkins or tray cloths for hospitals, cotton to be cut into strips for cleaning guns, please send to the home of Mrs. D. M. Roberts by Thursday.

Pieces of double-faced warm material which can be cut into bed socks also can be used. The W. C. T. U. will meet with Mrs. D. M. Roberts Thursday afternoon at 2:30 for a short business meeting and work for soldiers and sailors. Bring needles, thimbles and scissors. Everybody interested in the work are urged to come.

YOUTH ARRESTED FOR OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC

Frederick Honey was arrested on Saturday evening for obstructing the street with an automobile while the tail light was not burning. He had been warned twice by Constable Squire and refused to comply with the order to light up and move out of the way of traffic, and finally became abusive. Then he was told to appear before Judge Rollins at 9 o'clock Monday morning.

The judge heard the evidence given by Constable Squire and a witness or two and imposed a fine of ten dollars.

The Editor's Joke-Book.

Most any one can be an editor. All the editor has to do is to sit at a desk six days out of a week, four weeks of the month, and 12 months of the year, and "edit" such stuff as this:—

"Mrs. Jones, of Cactus Creek, let a can opener slip last week and cut herself in the pantry."

"A mischievous lad of Picketown, threw a stone and hit Mr. Pike in the alley last Thursday."

"John Doe climbed on the roof of his house last week looking for a leak and fell, striking himself on the porch."

"While Harold Green was escorting Miss Violet Wise from the church social last Saturday night, a savage dog attacked and bit Mr. Green on the public square."

"Isiah Trimmer, of Running Creek, was playing with a cat Friday, when it scratched him on the veranda."

"Mr. Fong, while harnessing a broncho last Saturday, was kicked just south of his corn patch."

Yes, it's a wonder they draw salaries for it!—Lamar, Mo., Republican Sentinel.

The hills of Palestine are rich in iron and the mines are still worked there, though in a very simple, rude manner.

WAR CENSUS DAY IS SET FOR JUNE 5

(Cut this out and put it where you can find it.)

War Census Day.—Tuesday, June 5, as named by President Wilson in his official proclamation.

You Must Register.—Every male resident between the ages of 21 and 30 years, inclusive. This includes aliens as well as Americans. Japanese, Chinese, Italians, Germans, English, Americans, and men of any other nationality who are of the designated ages, must register. Aliens will not be drafted for war duty, of course, but a complete record of them is desired.

Who is Exempt.—No male resident between the ages of 21 and 30 years, inclusive, is exempt from registering. Those to be exempted from military service will be determined later, but first all must register.

Where to Register.—Registration must be made in the home precinct of the man registering. Register at your regular voting place.

Hours for Registration.—Booths at regular voting places in each precinct will be open on War Census Day from 7 o'clock a. m. to 9 o'clock p. m. Don't wait until the last moment. Register early.

Registration of Absentees.—If you find you will be unavoidably absent from your home precinct on War Census Day, you should apply at the earliest possible date to the county clerk of the county in which you may be at the time, whether in Oregon or elsewhere, who will fill out your registration card. He will then give you the card, which you must mail to the registrar of your home precinct, in care of the sheriff of your home county, in time to reach the registrar by War Census Day. If you live in Portland, or a city of over 30,000 population in another state, mail the card to the registrar in care of the mayor.

But remember, the burden of having your card reach the registrar of your home precinct by War Census Day is on you.

Registration of the Sick.—Men of military age who are too ill to go to the voting booth to register must send a competent person before War Census Day to the county clerk to explain the circumstances, and secure instructions from the Federal regulations which these officials will receive from the Government.

Penalties.—The penalty for failing to appear to register, or for giving false, misleading or incorrect answers, is imprisonment. There is no alternative of a fine.

The Family Flag.

Our flag seems almost like a new member of the family these days. Never before have we experienced so intimate a relationship with it. It hangs there above the front steps, swinging over us as we go in and out, welcoming us, admonishing us, cheering us. Raising and lowering the flag has become a matter of family concern and enjoyment. It is an essential part of the household. There may be, of course, considerable individual pride in us. We may think that no other flag looks quite as well as that flag above our door, but nobody is going to object to that as long as everybody thinks that his is the best and as long as we are all aware that our flag is everybody's and that everybody's flag is ours. We may have felt, heretofore that the flag was a symbol of splendid things. We are beginning to know that it is, likewise, an object of personal affection to us. We wonder, indeed, how we have kept house without it and, entirely aside from any graver thoughts, we are extraordinarily pleased and happy to have our flag in the family.

Oft recent invention is a household water heater that can be made to utilize garbage for fuel.

Spain has no official floral emblem, although the carnation is supposed to be the most popular flower.

SECOND SENIOR ANNUAL

The Aluhinotu

Contains 136 pages of pictures and descriptions,—a review of the year's progress and happenings of Union High School No. 2. Published by the class of 1917. See what your high school is capable of doing. All patrons and persons interested in the school should subscribe for a copy.

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A Complimentary Recital

Will be given at Regner's Opera House,

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 25 Beginning at 7:45

By Junior Students of
THE WEBBER ACADEMY OF MUSIC
Including their Juvenile Orchestra