

Machine Age Said Causing Disappearance of Organ Grinders From U.S. Scene

St. Louis, Mo.—(U.P.)—Organ grinders have all but disappeared from American streets, and Harold Turpin of St. Louis, one of the last of our hurdy-gurdy men, believes he knows the reason why.

"It's the machine age," he said. "No one makes the old fashioned wood pipe organs any more. They make the new ones with metal pipes. They just don't sound right."

They probably sound better from a musical point of view but they don't have the wheezy charm which Turpin and his dwindling number of colleagues can coax out of a wood pipe organ.

Eight Real Grinders Left

Turpin figures there are only eight real organ grinders left in America and it appears there will be no one to take their place. These hurdy-gurdy men are making their last stand in "picturesque" sections of big cities, such as Bourbon street in New Orleans and Chinatown in San Francisco.

Even in those surroundings hurdy-gurdy men have trouble making ends meet these days. There is no exception.

"In Houston," Turpin said, "the city pays an old time organ grinder to walk the streets just to give the city some atmosphere."

Turpin himself has become an off street organ grinder. Things became so tough on the boulevards he switched to a traveling show. He has been in the movies, too.

"I'm as Irish as they come but they always made me an Italian in the movies," he said. "And who ever saw an Italian organ grinder with a monkey?"

Anyone who knows his hurdy-gurdy men would never make that mistake, Turpin explained. Italian organ grinders usually work with birds, Hungarian, Dutch and Belgian organ grinders prefer a trained bear. It's the Irish organ grinders who generally have a monkey to pass the tin cup.

Turpin credits much of his success to the old wood pipe organ he uses. He treasures it the way a violinist would treasure a Stradivarius. It was built in Germany in 1876 and given to him by his father, who was an animal trainer.

Shortage Found in Springfield Funds

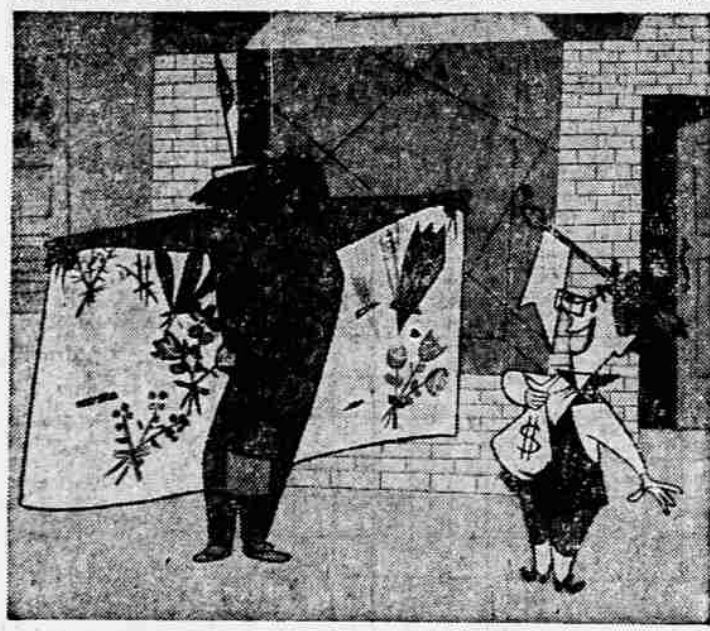
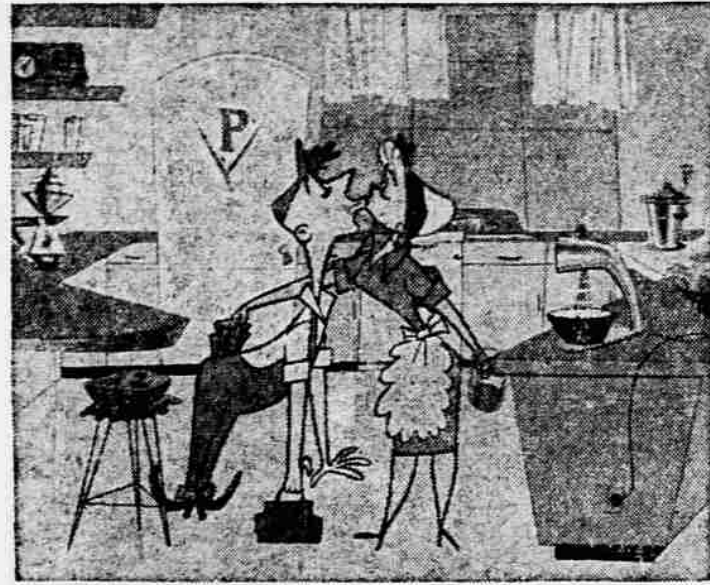
Springfield, Ore.—(U.P.)—A state auditor today, in a preliminary report to the city council here, said he had uncovered a shortage "in excess of \$15,500" in police department funds.

F. J. Gould of the state bureau of audit said the figure was subject to revision in his final report. He planned to spend another week here, and his final report would not be ready until two or three weeks after his return to Salem.

The city council called for the audit of city funds several weeks ago after a member of the police department was indicted on a charge of conversion of public funds.

Former police sergeant Merrill Parke has pleaded innocent to the charge, and trial has been set for April 19. His indictment mentioned a sum less than \$100.

Gould, in his verbal report, mentioned no names.



FILM AVAILABLE—The views above are taken from a new film, "It's Everybody's Business," which has been acquired by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and is available for showing by interested groups. The 16 mm film is in color, with sound. Produced by the E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, it tells the "business story" of America, and chamber sources say it illustrates how the freedoms guaranteed by the constitution have enabled American business and labor to outproduce the world. The 22-minute picture can be borrowed from the chamber here, 5 South Riverside ave.

Refugees From All Walks of Life Flee Communist 'Paradise' of North Viet Nam

Aboard the Marine Adder en route to Saigon, Indochina—(U.P.)—Dancing girls and new born babies, monks and opium addicts, gamblers and spies sprawl in the crowded hold of this U.S. Navy ship bound together by one common tie, a passionate desire for freedom.

The 3500 persons aboard the Marine Adder come from all walks of life and from all economic strata. But they are all fleeing the "peasant paradise" of the Ho Chi Minh regime in Communist North Viet Nam.

Already the Marine Adder has carried more than 28,000 refugees. More than 500,000 in all have been carried from Haiphong to South Viet Nam by United States and French ships. The total who have moved south

by all means is more than 700,000.

"Treat them nice. These are real fine people, they have suffered a lot," says Captain Anthony St. Angelo of Providence, R.I., to his sailors, many of whom are from Seattle, Wash.

Most of the refugees are just simple peasant folk who would never have left their rice paddies and buffaloes if the Communists had not come with high taxes and funny ideas.

The sailors lend a hand as they clamber aboard with babes and baggage.

Soon the refugees are stowed away below. They are sprawled everywhere. The four tiers of bunks overflow with legs and arms.

In no time they are strumming away on their guitars. Slim, dark mothers are breast feeding little ones, while goat bearded grandpas suck away at opium pipes.

Mutual Tolerance

The United States Bureau of Narcotics would be horrified, but here mutual tolerance is the law. We do not call them dope fiends and they do not call us cigarette fiends.

There are Lt. P. L. Westling, Lt. P. J. King of Seattle, nine navy corpsmen and four Vietnamese nurses.

At night, as the ship plows through the smooth sea, Ensign James Blair of Pittsburgh makes the rounds.

With the gentleness of a mother he tucks in a babe's leg awkwardly hanging over the edge of a bunk.

He puts out the opium lamps of the late users and tells the gamblers to tuck themselves

Cub Scout Leaders Slate 'Pow-Wow' Sunday Afternoon

The annual Cub Scout leaders "Pow Wow" of the Crater Lake Area council will be held Sunday, March 27, from 1 to 5 p. m. at the Medford Junior High school gym.

Cub pack leaders in the Medford area are building a "midway" of games, stunts and cub activities where other leaders attending will have an opportunity to get new ideas for cub activities.

Lawson Scott, cubmaster of Pack 15, Phoenix Presbyterian church, is chairman of the midway and is assisted by Ken Bramhall, cubmaster of Pack 2, Lincoln PTA; Ray Elmgren, Oak Grove PTA, and Jim Johnston, cubmaster of Pack 6, Washington PTA. Other Cub packs have helped to put on the "midway of Cubbing" fun and activities.

Four Sessions

"There will be four sessions simultaneously after the midway," according to John J. Patton, council training chairman.

The handicraft session will be under the leadership of Domenic Favero, cubmaster of Pack 54, Yreka, and Larry Lundin, assistant executive of the council. Mike Morris, Cub training chairman of the Big Pines district, Medford, will again conduct the session on games. The pack administration session is under the leadership of Alfred "Duke" Middleton, commissioner from Jerome Prairie and Grants Pass. The ceremonies and entertainment session will be led by John Patton, assisted by Cliff Hanson, Scout executive.

All cubmasters, den mothers, and committeemen of each pack were urged to attend the Pow Wow, and select the session they wish to attend. "Everybody will have the opportunity to attend the county fair midway but each pack should be certain at least one leader attends one each of the four special sessions," Patton stated. The games and handicraft sessions are planned basically for den mothers and committeemen. The administration and the ceremonies and entertainment sessions are planned for the cubmasters and pack committeemen.

Anyone interested in cubbing is invited to attend and enjoy the fun, fellowship and get in on the many cubbing helps and ideas, Patton said.

Police Search for Missing Youngster

Detroit—(U.P.)—Police said today they feared a "very quiet, reserved" seven year old girl, missing since Thursday morning, has been slain by a sex criminal.

More than 200 police and volunteers began a house-to-house search for Barbara Gaca shortly after she failed to return from school for lunch.

Her mother, Mrs. Rita Gaca, 29, called her school when the 3½ foot, brown-haired girl failed to return home. Teachers told Mrs. Gaca her daughter had not arrived at school and they had presumed she stayed home because of illness.

Police began an immediate search of the entire neighborhood, looking in garbage cans, abandoned ice boxes and other places where a small girl might hide. Then they began to round up all known sex deviates and questioned them.

Nothing concrete turned up to lead them to the missing girl.

ENOUGH TRAVEL

Harmony, Minn.—(U.P.)—Granville Bates, postoffice employee here for 37 years, traveled 458,000 miles without a single accident as a rural mail carrier. Bates used four horses and seven cars during that time. Now he is retiring.

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SPELLING BEE

Lincoln, Neb.—(U.P.)—Nebraska legislators are having trouble with a bill to permit fluoridation of water in some Nebraskan cities. Seems the printer is holding up the show. Four times the bill has reached the clerk's office, with a word spelled incorrectly. The word: 'fluoridation.'



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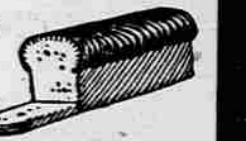
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