

One Burglary, One Attempt Reported

One burglary and one attempted burglary were reported to state police Saturday morning.

Kurt Snider told state police that someone broke into his shoe repair shop at 35 Vilas rd. sometime Friday night or early Saturday morning. It is as yet undetermined how much property was stolen, but Snider told police there was no money in the shop.

State police said someone tried to break into the Tom Thumb Market, 5017 Table Rock rd., at 2:26 Saturday morning, but was frightened away by Thomas Shephard, who was working on the store's books at the time.

Police Chief Gives Tips on How To Prevent Holiday Losses

Many millions of dollars in money and merchandise are lost each Christmas season to pickpockets, check forgers and shoplifters by careless businesses and shoppers who disregard common safety practices during the holiday season, according to Medford Police Chief Charles P. Champlin.

The amount of this loss can be greatly reduced if several simple rules will be followed by shoppers and store owners, Champlin said.

Shoplifters, who have already made their presence felt in Medford this season, can be greatly discouraged, Champlin said, if stores will maintain sales forces large enough to catch them in the act. The employment of "spotters," who watch specifically for people lifting merchandise,

can easily pay for itself by saving merchandise that would otherwise be taken, Champlin said.

Employees should watch for loiterers and report any persons they regard as suspicious to the police department, Champlin said.

Avoiding Display
By avoiding the display of valuable items near exits, stores can discourage the type of thief who snatches and runs, he advised.

Stores would be wise to guard against disturbances among customers, he suggested, which could possibly be a cover for a theft in another part of the store.

By being cautious in cashing checks for strangers, he said, especially when they are for sums of money over and above the cost of merchandise, and by requiring adequate identification and taking note of same, the number of bad checks passed over the holidays can be reduced.

Persons should not get angry or embarrassed, Champlin said, when required to show identification before cashing a check. In asking people for adequate identification, the stores are trying to reduce large losses they absorb each year because of bad checks, he pointed out.

Chief Champlin advised shoppers that many packages are taken from unlocked cars parked in the downtown area. He said the best place for packages is in the trunk, out of sight. If they must be left in the interior of the car, then be sure the car is locked, he added.

Displaying Money
Do not carry or display large sums of money while shopping, he cautioned, and do not lay purses on the counter or leave them unattended while inspecting or trying on merchandise, since this invites purse snatchers.

Regarding the many homes that are burglarized during the holiday season, Champlin cautioned homeowners not to advertise their absence from home by leaving notes on the front door or mail box, or by letting daily deliveries pile up in front of the house. Stop all deliveries and have the

post office hold mail until your return, he advised.

It is also advisable to let neighbors and the police department know when you will be gone for extended periods of time. The Medford police department has a vacation home check service, whereby the house is checked by city police before the people leave, to make sure everything is in order and properly locked, and then checked daily until the vacationers return to make sure everything remains untouched.

Officer Alfred Apparel of the Medford police department will provide further information on methods of reducing the Christmas loss to bad check artists and shoplifters to stores requesting it, Chief Champlin said.

Medford Youth Held On Drunk Charge

Douglas Allan Duin, 18, 427 South Central ave., was arrested by city police late Friday night, on a charge of being drunk in public.

Police were summoned to Jacks Drive Up, 911 North Riverside ave. on the report of a hit-and-run accident at that location. Deanna Marie Hull, 17, Central Point told police that a car backed into her car while it was parked at the drive-in, and then left without stopping. She said she believed the driver to be Duin.

City police picked Duin up at the drive in and took him to the police station where he spent the night.

Police said Duin had called the station earlier in the evening to report his car as stolen, but they said this was unfounded.

Duin refused to tell police where his car was and denied hitting the Hull car. However, police later found the car parked behind a building.

LAVAL'S WIFE DIES
Paris - (UPI) - Mrs. Pierre Laval, whose husband was executed in 1945 as a chief collaborator with Nazi Germany, died Friday.

Gold Hill Council To Consider Bond Election Action

Gold Hill - A resolution being prepared to call a special election on a proposed bond issue to finance a water filtration plant in Gold Hill had not been completed in time for consideration by the council at its meeting last week.

The resolution will be presented either at a special meeting at the next regular meeting when it is completed, city officials said.

At a public meeting recently, Archie Rice of the consulting engineering firm of Cornell, Howell, Hayes and Merryfield, Corvallis, said the estimated cost of such a plant would be \$120,000 without installation of water meters at Gold Hill homes.

Paid Off in 20 Years
The bonds, including interest estimated 5 per cent, would be paid off in 20 years at the rate of \$10,000 per year. Operating costs for the plant would be an estimated \$3,808 in addition to the annual bond payment, he said.

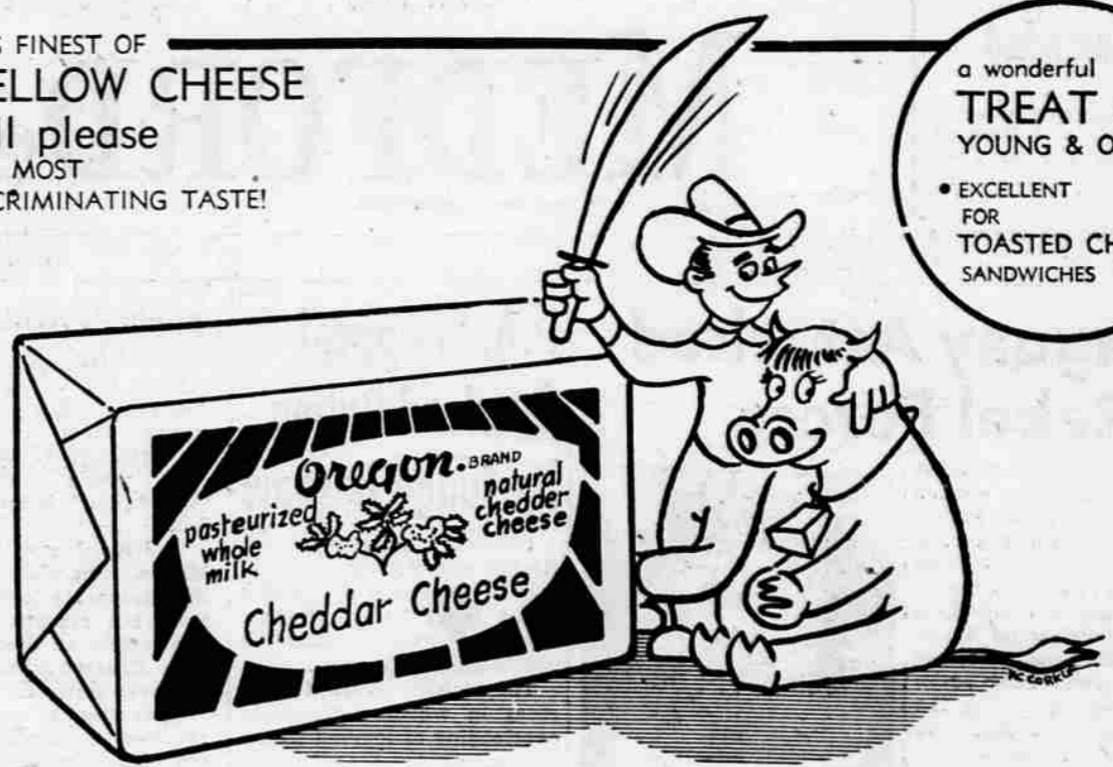
Rice also said that the city would set an estimated water rate of at least \$4.75 per month to finance the costs. He suggested that money now raised by current water bills be transferred to the tax rolls or other means such as a sewer fund.

At last week's meeting, council men indicated they may add \$6,000 to the tax rolls next year to help off-set city expenses now financed by the water rates if the bond issue is approved by voters.

Make Recommendations
Bill Roble, state deputy fire marshal from Grants Pass, told Mayor Milton Steinmetz that it is not the usual procedure for him to accompany the local fire marshal on inspection trips to residences and business establishments. He suggested the city make its own recommendations.

The council plans to consider a proposed ordinance governing explosives in the city, and approved a request from Grants Pass that its fire department join Jackson county's mutual aid program of which Gold Hill is a member.

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