

They'll Do It Every Time By Jimmy Hatlo



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Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER Copyright, Hall Syndicate, Inc.

PILFERAGE DRAINS \$1 BILLION A YEAR

Every year at least \$1 billion is drained from the U. S. economy by employees who steal things ranging from stamps and electronic parts to huge pieces of equipment.

Increasingly, these pilferers are seemingly law-abiding citizens rather than hardened crooks. Some use such crude but effective devices as shipping merchandise to relatives under fictitious orders and burying loot in garbage or trash cans to be picked up outside by an accomplice. Others use such refined methods as installing an extra cash register payable to themselves. For instance, a crooked supermarket manager might put in a cash register without the knowledge of his chain, man it himself only at peak shopping hours, pocket the take.

As industrial pilferage has multiplied, so has the professional protection business designed to combat it. Just how bad is the situation? What can be done to eliminate this needless drain? Here are the views of W. Sherman Burns, president of the William J. Burns International Detective Agency, Inc., the world's largest industrial security organization.

Porter: How is that \$1 billion pilferage figure reached?

Burns: It is based on insurance loss statistics. It doesn't count mysterious losses which we know occur. Many companies can't be specific about a loss because they don't even know what their inventory is at a given time, and therefore these losses are not reimbursable by insurance companies. Statistics also fail to include perhaps far greater losses through employee waste, malingering, poor supervisory work or outright conflict of interest.

Porter: How do U.S. losses compare with those in other countries?

Burns: Our losses are higher because our economy is so much bigger and the cost of our materials is so much higher. On a moral basis, though, pilferage is no higher here than in other parts of the world. Unquestionably, there is less respect for the rights of private property today than in the past. It is astounding how many people will commit petty theft without thinking they are doing anything wrong.

Porter: Would stiffer laws or greater law enforcement help to eliminate this huge drain on our economy?

Burns: Certainly more law enforcement would, but there's always the question of how much you can spend on law enforcement. All police departments are under-manned.

Some businessmen operate under the philosophy that it would cost them more to stop pilferage than to absorb the loss or raise prices to cover it. Others, unfortunately, won't even turn the matter over to their insurance companies—preferring simply to get rid of a man they suspect of wrongdoing. All businessmen should understand the basic point that to leave crimes unpunished is to invite more crimes.

Porter: In addition to prosecuting known offenders, how can company managements protect themselves against light-fingered employees?

Burns: Much crime could be eliminated by one easy move: checking on the background of prospective employees. Startling as it may seem, many employers don't even check the references of those they hire. If some letters don't come back, they fail to find out why. Companies who protect ask job applicants to sign a standard employee record card which states that applicants must be willing to have their past record and references checked by our agency. Among the questions on this card are: "Have you ever been refused a bond?" "Have you ever been complained of, indicted for or convicted of any violation of the law or ordinance?" If so, give details. A clear statement that a company is being professionally protected helps to eliminate the temptation to crime.

Porter: How important is close checking of inventories?

Burns: It's vital, for if companies do not have reliable systems to check inventory, any employee with a little larceny in his soul is handed a great temptation. It is far more economical to try to prevent pilferage than it is to investigate it.

Dennis the Menace



Mexico, San Diego Rocked by Quake

San Diego - (AP) - A sharp earthquake, the second this week, jolted parts of Mexico, San Diego and Imperial counties Wednesday afternoon, seismologists reported.

Fred Robinson, a seismologist here, said he recorded "a series of quakes" starting 11 seconds before the disturbance was reported in Pasadena at the California Institute of Technology seismographic laboratory.

Dr. Charles Richter of Caltech said the tremor had a magnitude of 5 on the Richter scale and was recorded at 3:15 p.m. He said the tremor was nearly as strong as one registered Tuesday.

Both quakes were centered in the area of Baja, California, Mexico.

Court Records

MEDFORD MUNICIPAL
Vivian Louise Keeter, driving without headlights, \$10.
Lowell Herman Henry, disobeyed stop sign, \$10.
Norma Teresa Crippen, no operator's license in possession, \$5.
Ken Lee Loper, excessive noise, \$10.
Maxine Dimick Ross, following too close, \$2.50.
Jerry Craig Winetrot, excessive noise, \$5.

DISTRICT COURT
Don LeRoy Kucera, overload, \$51.
Roy Allen Swim, excessive noise, \$10.
Gasper Lewis Parker, truck speeding, \$10.
Michael Kent Cherry, violation of basic rule, \$20.
Arthur M. Kracho, improper left turn, \$5.
James S. Yoder, insufficient road clearance, \$5.
Herbert E. Barth, ignored stop sign, \$5.
Robert H. Cook, ignored stop sign, \$5.
Daniel H. MacDonald, ignored stop sign, \$5.
Steve Deiter Root, violation of basic rule, \$10.
John David Tunney, no wheel covers, \$5.
Alex McDonald, overload, \$24.
Wallace Arthur, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Noel Elmo Dunlap, furnishing liquor to a minor, \$35.
Thomas Clare Zetter, no vehicle license, \$5.
James Clarke Matchette Jr., angling in prohibited area, \$25.
Dixie Bell, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Robert Leroy Rogers, expired vehicle license, \$5.
James D. Whiteley, insufficient binder, \$10.
Lyle E. Lunceford, overload, \$25.
Cloys Dale Walker, truck speeding, \$10.
James M. Anders, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Warren J. Maddox, overload, \$24.
Robert J. Willison, excessive overload, \$15.
Ronald O. Thompson, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Byron A. Turner, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Patricia Laureen Copley, no operator's license, \$5.
Walter LeRoy McPherson, disregarding traffic signal, \$10.
Franklin Harvey Petersen, improper turn, \$10.
Patricia Ann Day, violation of basic rule, \$5.
William Ivan Hartshorn, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Franklin J. West, failure to stop, \$5.
Wilford Clarence Lee, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Richard J. Earheart, overload, \$84.
Francis B. Nemacheek, violation of basic rule, \$5.
Florence D. Hankins, failure to dim, \$30.
Raymond Albert Norton, suspension of license, \$15.
Darrell A. Bell, improper turn, \$15.
James Linden Frink, no red flag on load, \$10.
Walt Berry, no muffler, \$10.
Alberta L. Rudisill, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Kenneth Paul Paulson, no safety chain, \$15.
Darel Lee Daniels, stop sign, \$15.
Lloyd Lester Pollard, violation of basic rule, \$25.
George A. Hiestler, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Horace Conrad Beck, over-length, \$5.

CIRCUIT COURT

Alex Hall vs. Helen C. Hall, divorce decree.

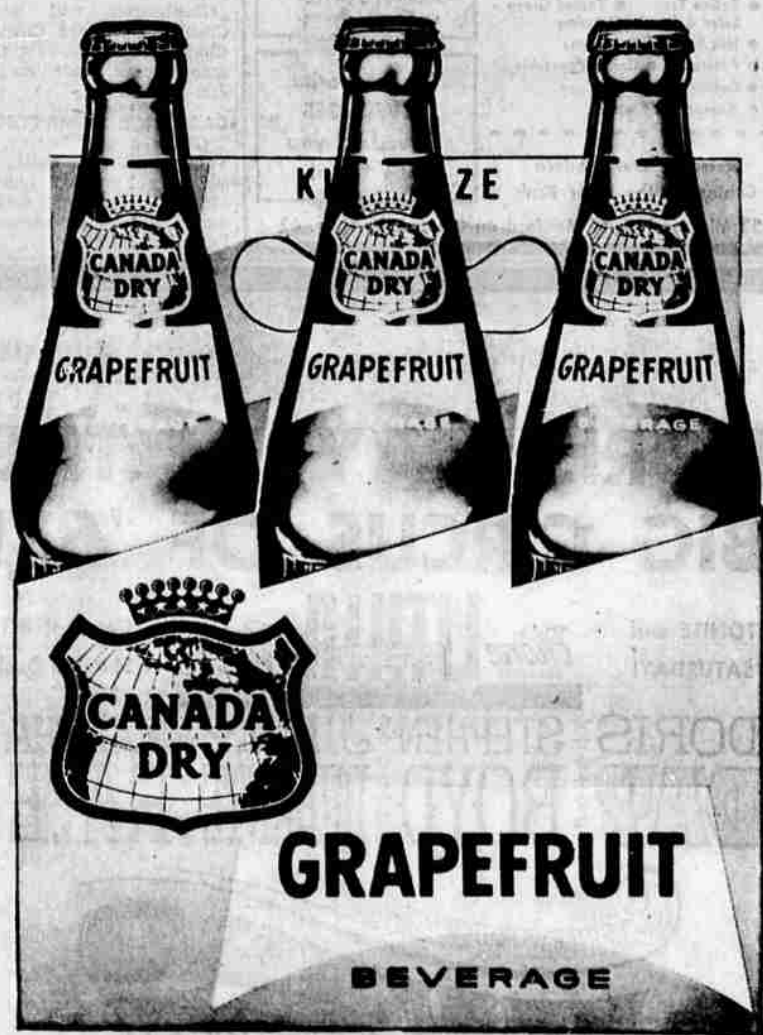
MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Peter Jon Kreisman, 435 Liberty st., Ashland, and Linda Ray Neal, 310 Bridge st., Ashland.
Melvin Carl Peters, box 70, Klamath Falls Star route, Ashland, and Marianna Cobb, 547 Clover lane, Ashland.
David Roy Kodyze, Kenai, Alaska, and Diana Joy Dann, 744 Queens dr., Medford.

Subscribers

To report improper or non-delivery of the Mail Tribune in Medford, phone 773-4141; Ashland call at 418 Bridge st. or phone 482-2002; Yreka, phone Victory 2-2828 before 8:30 p.m. daily and 10:30 a.m. Sunday.
If regular delivery arrives shortly after you call please notify office, thus eliminating special messenger service.

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