

### CRIMINALS DRIVEN TO COMMERCIAL FIELDS

#### Effect of Law Enforcement in Ordinary Crimes Is Told by Professor.

(The Daily Item.)

"As the laws governing ordinary crimes such as common burglary are more strictly enforced, criminals are driven to what we have come to call commercial crime," said P. D. Converse of the department of business organization and operation, stated recently. "Commercial crime has been defined as any crime having to do with the conduct of business. Many think this definition too broad, however, and limit it to crimes which cannot be prosecuted by the ordinary district attorney's office."

"Commercial crimes run the gamut from false statements of financial condition to concealment of assets and fraudulent bankruptcies. So widespread have such

crimes become that it has been estimated that one billion dollars a year have been lost because of them. The menace is so serious that the National Association of Credit Men spends about a million dollars a year to prosecute the offenders," Prof. Converse continued.

**Good Contrast.**

An interesting contrast in the methods of criminal operations was given by Prof. Converse in the second picture he painted of the ordinary and commercial types of criminals. The ordinary burglar operates in his victim's house or property. He runs the risk of getting shot. He has to cart away his loot, dispose of it—usually through a "fence," and this takes anywhere from 40 to 50 percent of the proceeds of the crime. And on top of all this is the great danger of detection which means a long prison term.

"Today, the commercial criminal has goods delivered to him by the seller or manufacturer," the professor declared. "He doesn't have to work hard, he is in no physical danger, and his profits are much greater."

"A typical case of commercial crime might run something like this," Prof. Converse said. "Let us say a man goes into business in a small way. He pays his bills promptly and builds up a good credit reputation. Then, with his credit firmly established, he begins to buy goods on credit in large quantities. He uses the names of firms with which he has a good credit reputation as references.

He will then order several thousand dollars worth of goods from various companies at the same time. Then he secretly carts the merchandise away, has a convenient fire and goes into bankruptcy. The creditors come and the merchandise is gone—evidently destroyed by the fire. If the crook is successful in the little game, he can then withdraw and sell the goods in another market."

**Hard to Get Evidence.**

The difficulty in securing evidence in such crimes was cited by Prof. Converse, as he showed that in one instance a firm had just stocked up with thousands of dollars worth of perfume. Shortly afterwards they had a fire which destroyed everything. Fraud was suspected by the investigators. After careful examination, the glass in the ruins which was supposed to have been the bottles containing the perfumes was found to be of a distinctly different grade and type than that in which the perfume had been shipped and the crime was revealed.

Then there is the racket in which a group buys goods under a name similar to that of a firm with good standing credit, thus deceiving the sellers. Or again, a group may buy out a firm which has excellent credit, purchase great quantities of goods on credit, cart it away, and then disappear," he said.

"Perhaps a typical commercial crime, which has a good deal of human interest is one which involved a clerk in a drygoods store who went into business for himself. He had average ability and succeeded in setting up a flourishing business. He married the town's beauty prize winner and she went into the store to assist him.

"Gradually, the business began to fail. In an effort to save something from the crash, the wife proposed that she go in California and set up a store there. The husband was to buy goods on still good credit and ship them out to her. She would then sell them through her store. Just before the crash came, the husband was to join the wife. Everything worked nicely and the husband got out of town, only to be arrested when he arrived in California.

"But the investigators could not locate the wife nor her store in the town to which the goods were being sent, it was explained. Finally they found that she had located in a nearby town and had had the goods trucked from one

### Weary Cadets Lay Down Arms After Strategic Attack on Russian Flats; New Forces Will Battle Next Year

Nebraska's doughboy cadets are today preparing to turn in their familiar khaki uniforms and a disbanded army will scatter to their native habitats. Yesterday, the victorious army, which has survived the wearying weekly skirmishes and which has come almost unscathed through an offensive on the Russian Flats, marched together for the last time. A passive crowd watched the maneuvers of the seasoned troops and many a crowd's heart beat high at the thought of the dangers that the soldier boys had weathered.

Many were the decorations bestowed on the gallant soldiers who have striven for the honor of their companies and for the university battalion. It is only to be regretted that the valiant troops were not provided with medals, commemorating their courageous service. For it is certain that almost all of those who are now to be honorably discharged were physically present, if not in heart, at one grueling battle weekly.

**War Not Easy.**

The war has not been an easy one for the cadet forces to win. Many a handsome soldier has been left sleeping as an 8 o'clock battle got under way. Many are those who have deserted when advance on the enemy seemed fruitless. For after having advanced two blocks on Chemistry hall, a superior officer has invariably ordered a retreat to the other end of the battle field, there to face about and begin the charge anew.

Examples of heroism are many. Honor the brave soldiers who many times at the end of an hour, have led charges on Social Science and Andrews hall. Consider the fierce rushes which have penetrated and overwhelmed these great buildings. Bear in mind the soldiers who have withstood the icy blasts of winter winds on unglued hands and the

courage that has caused many a cadet to stare unflinchingly into the inspector's eye, while his nose itched unbearably and he longed to adjust his cap.

**It's All Over Now.**

Never again will this same army be assembled. For peace has come to Nebraska and no longer will the cadence and the ringing cries of the officers echo across the campus. The war for this spring is over and while another and perhaps even bigger conflict is expected to begin next fall, many who have filled the ranks this year will be beyond the draft age. The younger troops will be back, it is true, and a talented few will be advanced to replace the retiring officers, but in the main, the next army must be drawn from green recruits.

Never again will a Nebraska army, which so successfully defends the beleaguered fortress from year to year, appear the same as this one. For the world advances and things change and next year's cadet expeditionary force will be clad in new uniforms. Never again must a Nebraska cadet suffer the ignominy of dropping from line to recover a trailing legging, for these are now a thing of the past.

Gone too will be the veteran commander, Colonel Jewett, hero of many crises and whose officers have been the scene of many a court martial. To him the entire army—no, the entire school is grateful for the discipline and the morale which he has maintained. It is he who has kept many a soldier from deserting the cause and has made this an effective and victorious campaign.

Honor the poor soldier, and when he at last lays down his arms, send him rejoicing, content with the honor of two credit hours and his entire war wages of \$10. For the grand army of 1929-1930 is no more.

### BLOCK DONATES TO YALE UNIVERSITY

#### New York Man Contributes \$100,000 for Studies in Journalism.

(The Branding Iron.)

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—President James Rowland Angell has announced that Paul Block, of New York City, owner of several important American newspapers, has recently given Yale university \$100,000 for a program of studies in the field of journalism.

"The purpose of the studies will be to promote an understanding of the press as a powerful factor in human affairs and as a major business enterprise," President Angell said. "An important part of the plan is the establishment of a series of lectures by men prominent in the newspaper world who, in addition to their public addresses will be available for conference with students and for collaboration in courses bearing on the subject of the press. In the undergraduate schools, the prob-

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lems of the press will be emphasized by enlarging the scope of certain courses in economics and political science to take account of this important field of study. In the graduate school advanced study and research will be promoted among students specializing in the social sciences.

"The plan does not contemplate the development of courses of a vocational nature, but it is expected to bring the student, both graduate and undergraduate, to a clearer understanding of the role of the press in the complex social and political life of the modern world."

university—Cambridge university undergraduates prefer scholarship to athletic honors.

In a debate at the Cambridge Union the motion "That this house prefers a double blue to a double first" was thoroughly voted down. Translated into American the motion would read "That this house prefers two major letters to a Phi Beta Kappa key."

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3:07 **Bolla's Dixie Steppers** 9:07

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town to her store in the other. The husband confessed the plot—and then found that his wife had found another man!"

### 'ATHLETIC FOOT' CURE IS SOUGHT

#### Funds for Research Given by California School; Expose 'Remedies.'

(University of Southern California Daily Trojan.)

To further research on the prevention and cure of a recently recognized foot disease that is widespread throughout the United States, popularly known as "athletic foot," the executive committee of the associated students of the University of California has voted \$1,500. The appropriation will be spent on research not only upon the problem as it exists here but at golf clubs, athletic clubs and gymnasiums generally.

The disease is known by such names as "athletic foot," "Hong-kong foot," "toe itch," or "ring-worm of the foot." It is technically called epidermomycosis. It is caused by a type of fungus and is usually contracted through walking about barefoot in public or semi-public showers, baths or gymnasiums.

**One Preventative.**

Cleanliness of the floor does not apparently, always prevent transmission of the disease. The only adequate preventative known is the wearing of sandals or slippers of wood or rubber.

Following the discovery of the cases among students in physical education and student athletics the university has been working on the

problem for some years. The disease has become widespread throughout the United States and is even found on ships. One naval vessel has reported 100 percent infection among its crew.

Trial has also been made of twenty-six reputed remedies for the disease; each remedy being applied to 10 cases or 260 cases in all. It has been found that a few remedies are successful, that many so called remedies are absolute failures, and that there is no known specific cure.

Among the things that it is hoped the new \$1,500 fund will help to accomplish, are: The development of an antiseptic which will kill the fungus after it invades the tissue of the body; some adequate means of sterilizing clothes and shoes, and a standardized program of prevention. Professor Bogar is preparing for the work at present by seeking the culture medium in which the fungus can be grown to best advantage for experimental work.

UNIVERSITY OF CHATTANOOGA, Chattanooga, Tenn.—Prof. P. L. Palmer says, "Although women generally surpass men in college grades, their superiority is due to harder study."

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