

SCALPING AT THE CITY HALL

One-Third of Pay of Employees Goes Through Loan Sharks.

MANY ASSIGNMENTS ARE MADE

One Firm is Said to Make Fifty Thousand Dollars a Year Out of the Business—Many Others Have a Good Thing.

Warrant scalping, amounting to practically one-third of the city pay roll, is carried on by loan brokers of the city. The victims of the practice are city hall employees and laborers employed by the city, who pay all the way from 1 per cent a week to as high as 10 per cent, according to how good the risk is assumed to be by the loan sharks.

The practice is made possible through aid extended knowingly by the city comptroller's office. The methods employed are nothing more than the assignment of wages to the employees. These assignments are taken to the city comptroller's office where they are placed on file. When the warrant comes through, a notation is made to whom the warrant is to be paid and the warrant is turned over to the person to whom it is assigned.

It is said that there are employees of the city who have not seen their pay warrant for three years and for having assigned their wages for this period, they have paid from 10 to 20 per cent of their salary for the entire time.

No less than ten individuals and companies prey on the city employees, some of whom have grown rich through the practice of loaning money to city employees. One concern, which does the major portion of the loaning, is reported to have made as high as \$50,000 a year out of the business.

Department employees and day laborers furnish the greater portion of the business for the sharks, but at times department heads have contributed to the loan sharks. A goodly portion of the time of one man employed in the comptroller's office is devoted to filing and taking care of these assignments.

Fifteen on Friday. A bunch of about fifteen came through Friday, all filed by one company, which included assignments of elevator boys, laborers and other employees of the city hall, and were being filed by the clerk.

Employees of the comptroller's office admit that the warrant scalping exists and has for the city fifteen years. R. Rosen Crickmore, a clerk, whose duty among other things is to look after these assignments, says the warrant scalping, or assignments as he designates it, amount to more than \$10,000 a month. Sometimes the amount runs more than this and a general average is placed at from \$12,000 to \$15,000 a month.

"The city's payroll runs in the neighborhood of about \$50,000 a month, so you can see the volume of business that is done," said Crickmore.

Attaches of the office declare there is no way to prevent the scalping of the city warrants. They say that efforts have been made to stop the practice, but so far they have been unsuccessful.

C. O. Lobeck, who recently retired as comptroller, says the only solution of the problem is for the city to pay semi-monthly instead of monthly, as is the custom. Then he contends that there would be more or less scalping, as many of the employees have not money enough to carry them from one payday to the next.

"We have tried every means to stop the practice," said Mr. Lobeck, "but so far no scheme has been found that is successful. It is there any law to compel the office to handle these assignments?" Mr. Lobeck was asked.

"None that I know of," he replied. "Then why don't the office refuse to handle them. If the loan agents knew that they were not going to get the protection of the office, they would not take the risks, would they?" was asked Mr. Lobeck.

"Yes, that might solve the problem," replied he.

Stolen Duck Not of the Quacking Kind

When it is Brought Into Court it Turns Out to Be a Wooden Decey.

It was a wooden duck, not a quacking one that Guy Stevens, colored, at 1801 Inland street, stole from his wife while she was dining, according to developments which surprised the police Friday morning. Humane Officer Woodridge, who had made the charge against Stevens, when placed under pressure to sustain it secured the duck in question and presented it at the station.

"The woman was starving to death," he said, "and this man stole the duck and sold it for a drink of whiskey."

"Let's see the duck," said Desk Sergeant Haves.

Thereupon Woodridge displayed the fowl. After taking a good look at the object, he asked, "What do you suppose is the connection between a wooden duck and a starving woman?"

"Well, Stevens could have got money for it and bought his wife and child," he replied. Woodridge, Stevens' case was continued until Tuesday.

DR. BARTON TORREY IS DEAD

Former Manager of Omaha General Hospital Dies in Michigan—Many Years at Creston, Ia.

Dr. Barton N. Torrey, formerly manager of the Omaha General hospital, died Thursday at Detroit, Mich. Information of his death was received here by H. K. Barker of Omaha.

Dr. Torrey was in charge of the Omaha General hospital here for a year. He was a practicing physician for thirty-five years. He left Omaha in falling health to make his home with his son, Dr. Harry B. Torrey of Detroit. His wife and daughter, Miss Bernice Torrey, are in Europe, where the young woman has been attending school.

Two brothers, Colonel Linn Torrey, of Rough Rider fame, and Captain Torrey, a retired officer of the regular army, survive.

WITHNELL HOLDS UP PERMITS

Refuses All Requests for Buildings of Over Three Stories Until Mayor Signs Ordinance.

No permits for buildings more than three stories in height or for additions to such buildings will be issued by the building inspector until Mayor Dahlman signs or vetoes the ordinance passed by the council this week.

BRANDEIS STORES

All a New York Manufacturer's Show Room and Travelers' Samples of Women's Italian Silk Underwear At About One-Half Price



These Genuine Italian Silk Undergarments Are From the Best Known Maker of Silk Underwear in America and Their Name is Stamped on Every Garment.

Plain and Hand Embroidered Vests and Chemises; plain and embroidered Combination Suits; Knickerbockers and Tights; Short Petticoats and Circular Drawers, lace trimmed; also men's shirts and drawers—white, pink and blue—worth up to \$7.50; at, a garment—

\$1.98, \$2.50, \$2.98, \$3.98

Women's Fine Embroidered Sheer Linen Handkerchiefs, Armenian lace edges and embroidered corners, fancy colored borders; also men's plain and embroidered initial all worth 25c; at, each..... 12 1/2c

All Silk Dresden and Persian Taffeta Ribbons Fancy checked and striped taffetas, plain taffetas, moire taffetas—black and all colors—up to 6 inches wide—worth up to 35c; at, yard..... 5-15c

Silk Hosiery Sale

5 Big Lots of Silk Hose for Women and Men.

Women's Pure Thread Heavy Silk Hosiery—all silk and some with wide lisle hem tops, lisle soles, heels and toes—black, tan, pink, sky and many other shades, worth to \$1.50; at, pair..... 98c

Women's Pure Thread Silk Hosiery—Bright and fine with wide hem tops, extra spliced soles, heels and toes—black, white, tan and fancy light shades, worth \$1.00 a pair, at..... 69c

Women's Black Pure Thread Silk Boot Hosiery—Wide lisle tops, lisle soles, double heels and toes, worth 75c a pair; at, a pair..... 49c

Women's and Men's Pure Thread Silk Hosiery—Wide lisle tops, lisle soles, heels and toes, sheer and fine—black, tan and colors, worth 50c pair, at..... 39c

Men's Full Fashioned Silk Hosiery—Spliced soles, double heels and toes—all fancy shades, worth 50c pair— 29c

Men's Fine Imported Full Fashioned Lisle and Cotton Hosiery—double soles, heels and toes, worth 25c pair; at, a pair..... 15c

Children's, misses' and boys' cotton and lisle school hosiery, some double knees, heels and toes, worth 20c a pair; at, pair..... 12 1/2c

Women's Fine Imported Lisle and Cotton Hosiery—fancy silk embroidered boot patterns, allover lace and lace boots, worth up to 50c a pair; at, pair..... 25c

Women's Kid Gloves

New Spring Arrivals Women's Two-Clasp French Kid and Lambskin Gloves, Paris point and single row embroidery—gray, mode, tan, bisque, white and black. Fitted to the hand—Main Glove counter—at \$1.25 and \$1.50 pair.....

Women's Kid Gloves on Bargain Square. Long Kid Gloves, also Women's One and Two-Clasp Kid Gloves and English Walking Gloves—black, white, tan, gray and red— 75c at, pair.....

FREE CONCERT on VICTROLA SATURDAY, 3 P. M.

The new Victor Records for March will be played in Assembly room Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Hear these glorious new grand opera records by Caruso and other famous singers perfectly reproduced. No admission will be charged. It will be a treat for you.

BRANDEIS STORES

Watch For the Great Bargain Offerings in the Big Bankrupt Stock Sale Beginning Saturday AT HAYDEN'S See Window Displays See Friday Papers.

Made in Omaha We are the only Omaha producers of Steel Cut and Sifted Coffee. We have the only machinery in Omaha for removing the dust and chaff from granulated coffee. The flavor is improved and the strength increased. It's Better Coffee, and the cost is no greater. This is a hint to the Wise Housekeeper. Mocha Mixture 35c; 3 lbs. for \$1.00. Excelsior Blend 30c; 2 1/2 lbs. for \$1.00.

W. L. Masterman & Co. "The Coffee Man." Branch at Public Market, 1510 Newark St.

A. W. Howman, G. E. Benawa and G. M. Welsh. Central Presbyterian church is known as one of the strong congregations of the denomination in Omaha.

Bennett's Meat Dept. We are handling the very best corn fed beef and only the highest grade meats and fish and provisions: Chicken, pound 10 1/2c; Pork Loins, pound 10 1/2c; Pork Roast, pound 9 1/2c; 11 1/2 pounds of Leaf Lard for \$1.00; Native Steer Steak, pound 10c; 3,000 pounds No. 1 Bacon 13 1/2c; Diamond C and Majestic Hams, pound 15 1/2c; Fall Lamb Legs, pound 9 1/2c; Lamb Chops, pound 10c; 3,000 pounds Skinned Hams, pound 14 1/2c; Veal Roast, pound, 12 1/2c and 10c; Veal Stew, pound 5 1/2c; From 7 to 9 P. M. Only—Pork Chops, pound 10c; Steer Pot Roast, pound 8 1/2c.

FRY'S \$2.00 Boys' Shoes Half Off. Tomorrow will be the last day of our sale of Misses', Children's and Young Women's Lace Shoes at Almost Half Off. All of our High Grade Built on Honor Misses', Children's and Young Women's Lace Shoes are in this sale. Drexel values that cannot be found anywhere but at Drexel's. Such shoes as Dugan & Hudson and John Kramer, in patent cut, glazed kid, velour and box calf, at these ridiculously low prices: \$3.50 and \$3.00 Shoes \$1.95; \$2.50 Shoes \$1.65; \$2.00 Shoes \$1.45; \$1.50 Shoes \$1.15. No shoes charged or delivered that are bought in this sale. Fry Shoe Co. THE SHOERS 16th and Douglas Sts.

KRUG BOCK BEER In Bottle Now Ready Have a Case Sent Home John Nittler 3224 So. 24th St. Ind. F-1577 Doug. 1889. Red 3932

We Can Show You What Security Means In our Safety Deposit Vaults. It is folly to risk losing your Jewels, Insurance, Policies, Deeds, Abstracts, etc., by fire or burglars. Rent a Private Safe in our big vault and keep them in it. Only \$3 by the Year. Omaha Safety Deposit & Trust Company Street Entrance No. 1614 Farnam.

Jackdaw A real smooth, old mellow whiskey. Most suitable for home use. Per full quart, bottled in bond— \$1.25. Sunkist. California Port and Sherry Wine, 8 years old, a very fine grade. Per full quart bottle— 50c. Bavarian Malt Extract, excellent for building up the system. Per bottle— 10c. Mail and Telephone Orders Promptly Filled. Cackley Bros. Wine Merchants, 131 North 16th Street, Opp. P. O. Both Phones. TWENTIETH CENTURY FARMER Best Farm Paper in the West. Good Advertising Medium.

Hayden's Meat Dept. More people are purchasing their meat supplies of us than ever. A reason, too. Best meats at all times and at the most economical prices. You always get full weight here. Our Saturday specials: Leaf Lard, 11 pounds for \$1.00; Pork Loins, pound 10 1/2c; Pork Roast, pound 9 1/2c; Hindquarters Mutton or Lamb, pound 6 1/2c; Forequarters Mutton or Lamb, pound 5c; Round Steak, pound 10c; Sirloin Steak, pound 12 1/2c; Shoulder Steak, 3 pounds for 25c; Pot Roast, pound, 8c, 7c and 6c; Boiling Beef, 4 1/2 pounds for 25c; Picnic Hams 10 1/2c; Bacon Backs, pound 12 1/2c; Rex Bacon, pound 20c; Pork Sausage, pound 5c.

Courtney's Omaha's Pure Food Center SPECIALS FOR SATURDAY. Large cans Moor Park Sliced Apples, each 25c; 2-lb. tins White Flax in heavy syrup 20c; House Brand Peaches, Plums and Pears, per can 20c; 1-lb. tins White Appasagus Tins 15c; 3-lb. tins Medium Green Appasagus for 25c; Large tins Marsala's Finnan Haddock, each 20c; Kipped Herring, per lb. 15c; Stuffed Olives (assorted), bottle 25c; Quart Jar Marsala Olives 25c; 5-lb. sack "Excelsior" Flour \$1.00; Nabor Soups (assorted), 1-lb. tins 2c; 2-lb. cans Imported Pico Hair 15c. BUTTER, EGGS AND CHEESE DEPARTMENT. "LOTUS" Creamery Butter, 1-lb. cartons 25c; Our Best Country Butter, in sanitary jars, per lb. 25c; Strictly Fresh Eggs (from the Brandeis farm), per dozen 25c; Imported Swiss Cheese, per lb. 25c; Domestic Swiss Cheese, per lb. 25c; Brick Cheese, per lb. 25c; Waukena Blue Cheese, per lb. 25c; pkg. 10c, 15c and 25c; Fancy Jar Cheese, 10c, 15c and 25c; Cottage Cheese, per pkg. 10c. FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DEPARTMENT. Sweet Navel Oranges, per dozen 20c; 30c and 40c; Spinach, per peck 40c; Large Imported Blueberries, per pint 15c; Fancy Strawberries, per pint 15c; Fresh Mushrooms, Imported Edible. Radishes, Cucumbers, Cauliflower, Head Lettuce, Wax and String Beans, Turnips, New Beets, Fresh Tomatoes, Pineapples. "SPECIAL" Cracker Demonstration. All 10c pkgs. Crackers and Cakes—three for 25c; All 5c pkgs. Crackers and Cakes—four for 25c. "SPECIAL" FOR SATURDAY IN OUR BAKERY DEPT. Hickory Nut Lent Cake, each 25c; Delicious, white and light. Almost like Angel Food.

See the Windows For Saturday's bargains we have a good many articles with the prices all cut out of them. Spend a few minutes in our store. Look for the name. S. W. LINDSAY, Jeweler 1516 Douglas Street

Land Bureau Learn Where It's Best to Farm. Thinking about buying land? Want to know what soil and climate are best suited for certain farming? Our Land Bureau gives free information about soil, climate, and conditions in all parts of the country. We have gathered data, and can tell you what you desire to learn. Write the Land Information Bureau, The Twentieth Century Farmer, Omaha, Neb., today and your questions will get prompt attention.

SATURDAY DRUG, TOILET GOODS AND CIGAR SALE AT THE REXALL DRUG STORES. For something over 21 years we have earnestly striven to keep Drug Stores that should be noted—for EXCELLENCY OF SERVICE; 2nd—for PURITY and GENUINENESS of all articles sold; 3rd—for COMPLETENESS OF STOCK; 4th—for a watchful policy to the end that our price on each item sold shall be as low a figure as can be obtained anywhere if of like quality. Sherman & McConnell Drug Co. 16th and Dodge. Standard Proprietary Medicines at Cut Prices. \$1.50 Fellow's Syrup \$1.34; \$1.00 Sannetto 89c; \$1.00 Pinkham's Compound 89c; 50c Syrup Figs (genuine) 25c; Rexall Orderlies 10c, 25c, 50c; \$1.00 Squibb's Sarsaparilla 75c; Ayer's Cherry Pectoral 25c, 45c, 89c; Jaynes' Expecto-rant 25c, 45c, 89c; Borden's Malted Milk 40c and 75c; \$1.00 Dr. Pierce's Medicines 89c; Fletcher's Castoria 10c, 25c, 50c; Kendall's Spavin Cure 45c, 89c; "Tiz" for tender feet 25c; Plancher's Castoria 45c, 89c; Pyramid Pile Cure 45c, 89c; Scott's Emulsion 45c, 89c. Household Drug Store Goods. Sander's Rubo Plaster Oint. will keep your floors new and bright..... 40c and 75c; Bluing that won't streak..... 10c; Best Concentrated Potash Lye..... 15c; Johnson's Floor Wax, 1 lb..... 40c; Best Bar-Not Floor Varnish, qt..... 85c; 1-lb. O. O. Cure 10c and 25c; J. & H. Clearing Soap..... 10c. Write or call for catalogue. Always SHERMAN & McCONNELL DRUG CO., 16th and Dodge. Owl Drug Co. 16th and Harney. Cut Prices on Toilet Articles. 50c Hind's Honey and Almond Cream, our price..... 29c; 25c Packer's Tar Soap for..... 15c; 50c Bonoin and Almond Cream..... 34c; Cuticura Soap for..... 30c; 50c Pozzoni's Powder with Gold Box for..... 28c; \$1.50 Oriental Cream 89c; Rexall Cold Cream 89c; True Violet Toilet Soap, box of 3 cakes, for..... 25c; 50c Lavender Shampoo Cream for 25c; Danderine 25c, 45c, 89c; Rexall "93" Hair Tonic 50c; 50c Malvina Cream for..... 29c; Jersey Cold Cream 25c, 45c, 65c; Mennen's Talcum 15c; Colgate's Dactylin, Violet or Cambray Bouquet Talcum 15c. Special Sale Saturday. 1,000 boxes 15c Talcum at, box 50c a dozen. Walnutta Hair Stain 25c, 54c; Almond Blossom Cold Cream 25c; Almond Camphor Ice 10c; 50c Florida Water for..... 25c; 1 lb. Mule Team Borax 99c. See our assortment 50c Hair Brushes—values the will please you. Ask us for the new things in our line. You'll find we have them.