

# GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEME EXPOSED; ARREST IS MADE

Sidelights on alleged "high finance" were revealed at police headquarters last week, when George Wilson, said to use the alias of Van Bieckman, and who claims he is a Hollander, was arrested by Detective A. E. Carter and booked for investigation. The arrest occurred late Friday afternoon after a Dutch steamer in port was ransacked from stem to stern in an effort to find closet and stoke hole had been searched, the detectives started for Wilson's hotel, a rooming house on King street, where he was located.

Reports on Wilson came to the detective bureau Friday morning. One man complained that Wilson had gotten away from the Service saloon with a pair of gold eyeglasses valued at \$15. Another man lost a bankbook. Still another complained that he, too, had lost his spectacles, and two chauffeurs called on the police and showed unpaid bills amounting to \$9 and \$10, respectively, for auto hire. So the detectives got busy, and learned, they said later, that Wilson had entered the Service saloon and asked the bartender if he might use the telephone. He walked back into another room and instead of telephoning, the police assert, he ransacked several coats that were hanging on the wall. Then he disappeared.

The tip that he might be stowed away aboard the Dutch steamer en route for the coast, came to the police from a man who told them he had heard Wilson declare that he was a Hollander and that if the United States and Holland went to war he would be interned.

When Wilson was finally located at his lodging house he was in company with Bruno Richter, an alien enemy, who had been working on a plantation at Kipahulu, where Wilson had been employed for over a year. Richter had left the plantation and when he arrived in Honolulu, failed to report at the marshal's office. He was turned over to Marshal Smiddy Saturday morning, however.

Wilson, it is said, had been going under the name of Van Bieckman at Kipahulu. Confronted by his landlady, he opened the bankbook he had stolen, it is charged, and showed it to her with a flourish.

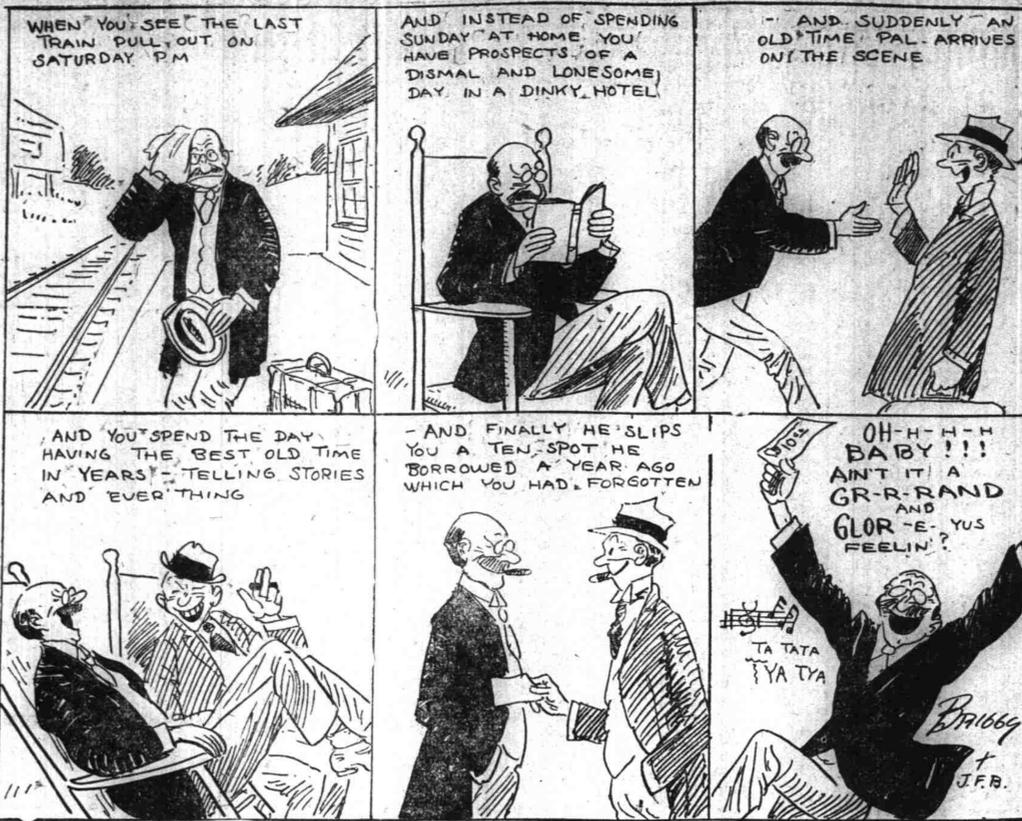
"Why worry?" he said, "Take a look."

He ordered an auto and in company with Richter and two other companions, identity unknown, he went for a joy ride, according to the police. The chauffeur demanded cash, but with a bored air Wilson pulled out a receipt book and attempted, the police say, to pass it off as a check. Again his bankbook convinced an unsuspecting person, and Wilson got his ride.

Wilson is said to have served a term in the territorial prison, declare the police, and to have deserted from the revenue cutter Thetis which was formerly in Hawaiian waters.

## Ain't It a Grand and Glorious Feelin'?

By BRIGGS



## ENCOURAGING NEWS FOR BUILDERS HERE WHO NEED IRON AND STEEL

With regard to the effect on the building industry in Honolulu as a result of the classifications of iron and steel made by the Priority committee in Washington, C. B. Ripley of the firm of Ripley & Davis, local architects, considers the situation at present most encouraging. Mr. Ripley does not believe that it will make any perceptible difference in the supply of iron and steel that may be had in Honolulu. Any shortage that may be felt here of these materials, he thinks, will be due more to lack of cargo space than to lack of iron and steel on the mainland.

In support of his contention that the demands for steel by the U. S. army, the government for its own uses, and for the uses of our allies will not exhaust the supply, Mr. Ripley quotes W. T. Smith, vice-president of the George A. Fuller Company of New York, the largest building firm in the United States. Mr. Smith holds that the government and its allies, while having priority rights to all the structural steel manufactured in the country, cannot begin to make use of the total output.

In a letter written to the last issue of "Architecture" Mr. Smith says: "I spent two days in Washington during the last week and, in consequence, have studied the situation thoroughly and I find that the Priority board in Washington will have the classification of all steel for the army, the navy and our allies, and also the classification of any work which may have to be done in connection with buildings, railroads, etc., on which the government will be dependent for prompt action in the carrying out of its different projects in connection with the war.

"It is a difficult—in fact, it is an impossible—query to make at the present time as to just what those demands will be or just what proportion of the output of the different mills and shops the government will take. This one item makes a prophecy as to the revival of the building industry a very difficult one to answer. From personal observation, and from observation of those who are closely in touch with conditions throughout the country, it is my belief that the output of the mills and shops will not be taken up by the demands of the government, which demands, of course, will be very large; but when one realizes the immense capacity of the combined mills and shops throughout the country one can see that the demands of the government and allies would have to be tremendous to anything like use the full capacity.

"Outside of this item of uncertainty, I believe the situation will gradually clear itself through a temporary diminishing of orders for new work and a consequent cleaning up of the orders already in hand. At the expiration of the fulfillment of the orders already in hand it is very easy to see that the inquiry for steel on part of the mills will start and, in consequence, the natural resumption of the building industry will occur. The reduction in price of the commodity will, undoubtedly, help the situation very materially eventually and I think we should all take a cheerful view of the situation and, first of all, show our loyalty to our government by in no way trying to interfere, by suggestion or otherwise, with the production of every article of necessity in carrying out the war, as its successful termination means so much not only to the nation but to every individual comprising same."

Prince Friedrich Leopold of Prussia's action against the Kaiser, as king of Prussia, the Count Eulenburg, Prussian Minister of the Household, as a protest against restraint upon the Prince, came before the secret Court at Potsdam on Tuesday. It is stated that the decision of the Court will not be published.

The Argentine Legation in London has received a telegram from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that the President of the Republic has absolutely denied the declarations upon international matters falsely attributed to him by a group of young men and published in La Nacion, of Buenos Aires.

## NO PRICE FIXED ON CUBAN CROP

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—It can be definitely stated that no agreement has been reached to date between the international sugar committee and the Cuban producers relative to a price basis for new crop Cubans. While informal meetings have been held between members of the international sugar committee and various Cuban producers during the past two weeks in which views have been interchanged no official conferences have taken place.

The attitude of the Cuban planters has been made clear by the decree issued this week by President Menocal setting the price for 96 degree Cuba centrifugals at 4.75 cents f. o. b. Cuba, a price equal to fully 6.10 cents delivered in New York, duty paid. It is also understood that the larger American companies producing sugar in Cuba have tentatively informed the Food administration that they would accept a price of 4.50 cents f. o. b. Cuba, equivalent to 5.95 cents delivered New York, duty paid.

It is betraying no confidence to say that no serious obstacle stands in the way of an agreement between all of the Cuban producers and the international sugar committee, inasmuch as the plan that the committee has in view will safeguard the interests of all concerned and provide for a reasonable profit being assured all producers. Details of the prospective plan the committee has in view are not obtainable at the present time, but it is expected that following the conference to be held soon a statement will be issued by the committee covering the general plan they will advance.

## FINANCES OF AUSTRIA IN DESPERATE STATE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—Swiss monetary experts, in despatches received here, call attention to the desperate financial situation in Austria. Recently, Dr. Weckerle, president of the Hungarian cabinet, declared at a public sitting of parliament that the circulation of notes of the imperial bank has reached fifteen and a half billion crowns in September and is now probably seventeen billions. The metal reserve for this enormous circulation is only 350 and 400 millions.

The Swiss experts declared that Austria consequently is in a precarious financial position. The Austrian crown now is quoted at only 38 in foreign countries and has depreciated still more in the interior of the empire. In this situation, the Swiss experts say, Austria would not be long in suing for a separate peace, were she not dominated by Germany.

## HONK HONK TO MEET FEDERALS

Bowlers will begin the second round of the Y. M. C. A. tournament this evening, when the Auto Factors meet the Federals at 7:30. Inasmuch as the Honk Honks were first in the first rounds, and the Feds second, there ought to be a real battle this evening. The complete schedule for the second round is as follows:

- Nov. 19—Auto Factors vs. Federals.
- Nov. 21—Pine Factors vs. Printers.
- Nov. 22—Financiers vs. Sugar Factors.
- Nov. 26—Auto Factors vs. Sugar Factors.
- Nov. 28—Pine Factors vs. Federals.
- Nov. 29—Financiers vs. Printers.
- Dec. 3—Financiers vs. Federals.
- Dec. 5—Auto Factors vs. Printers.
- Dec. 6—Pine Factors vs. Sugar Factors.
- Dec. 10—Auto Factors vs. Pine Factors.
- Dec. 12—Sugar Factors vs. Federals.
- Dec. 13—Financiers vs. Pine Factors.
- Dec. 17—Auto Factors vs. Financiers.
- Dec. 19—Federals vs. Printers.
- Dec. 20—Sugar Factors vs. Printers.

## MAKE DESERT REGIONS OF WEST ACCESSIBLE

To make the desert regions of the western part of the United States more accessible by locating their widely separated watering places and erecting hundreds of signposts to give directions and distances to the watering places is an interesting and practical project recently undertaken by the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

The project involves also the work of making accurate maps showing the locations of the watering places, of preparing guides describing them and giving the distances between them,

of selecting well sites, and of developing watering places (so far as money available will permit) in localities where water is most needed and where the geologic investigations indicate that under-ground supplies can be obtained. It is expected that this work will help to expedite the discovery and development of the rich mineral deposits in parts of these regions. It will, of course, also be valuable in other respects.

In recent years the water-supply geologists of the Geological Survey have developed trustworthy methods of locating ground water in arid regions from surface indications and of estimating the depth to water and the approximate annual yield of the under-ground reservoirs. These methods will be applied and further developed in connection with the survey of desert watering places.

U. S. Government ordered 42 additional gasoline locomotives for trench work.

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