

WORK OF THE BLACK HAND

Encouraged by Success They Become Bolder

"BIRD" BEARS THREAT

Expert in Such Cases Explains Why the Criminal Can Flourish and be More Daring—Send Letters to Merchants Demanding Large Sums—Laxity of Our Laws a Factor.

"Black Hand" blackmailers have extended their field of operations. Where formerly only Italians were victims, nowadays Americans complain frequently to the police that they are in receipt of letters demanding money on pain of death or injury, says the New York Herald.

In police headquarters, among the more recent blackmailing letters sent there by the recipients was one demanding \$2,000 from a man whose name the police would not make public.

Why he was selected as a victim, he told the headquarters' staff, he does not know. He also said he would pay no attention to the letter and did not believe the threats made if its demands were not complied with, would be carried out. Details are not obtainable except with regard to the rude drawing which was part of the blackmailing letter.

This is a sketch of a bird having in its beak an oblong object upon which is written "\$2,000," and the bird is hovering over a boxlike receptacle which represents in a crude way the place where the merchant is directed to deposit the money demanded. Around the bird are rows of daggers to indicate its fate if it does not leave the packet of money in the box.

Sergeant Dunn and Detective Sergeant Petrosino, experts in blackmail cases, say that often the attempted extortion is traced to persons near in business or even in family relationship to the intended victims.

The "bird" letter's character seems to stamp it, however, as a "Black Hand" effort, and one of the several which are going outside the classes where that organization finds its thousands of ignorant victims in this city annually.

This case has followed closely on an attempt to blackmail a woman of excellent social position who lives on Madison avenue. A demand for \$1,000 was made upon her and she turned the letter over to the police.

Though it attempted to throw a "Black Hand" character into its appearance and demands it was traced to an artisan who had been employed by the woman. She would not hear of prosecuting him, and the police could only use extreme measures to make an impression upon the man. They did so with enthusiasm and success, as he was not heard from again.

The widest field so far covered by the blackmailers outside of their own race is among Hebrews who are owners of small shops.

Men in headquarters say "it is only a question of time when the 'Black Hand' will get Petrosino." He has won high fame in the ferreting out of criminals among the Italians but takes a gloomy view of the possibilities of real success in extirpating blackmailing. He says the laws concerning evidence in this country make convictions almost impossible.

They are good laws for Americans, but not for these brigands, whose whole ancestry has practised the same sort of crimes. There are hundreds, yes, thousands, of Italians who live well together on blackmail in New York. They have a regular system, and not one man out of a thousand who is blackmailed ever reports it to the police. Shopkeepers all over New York are paying tribute of from fifty cents a week up to the "Black Hand." They have their lawyers, and when one gets in trouble money, the best legal advice and a horde of men ready to perjure themselves on the witness stand are prepared in his defence. They are the offshoots of Italy, criminals who would never be permitted to land there if they attempted to return. They live by this blackmail, just as their fathers and forefathers have lived since the Bourbon kings ruled in southern Italy.

The "Black Hand" makes large sums out of the great Italian religious festivals. The city should not permit those affairs. When the feast day of a great saint comes on the "Black Hand" goes out and makes every Italian give large sums for the shrine and the altars, and they cost, say, \$1,000. The "Black Hand" collects \$10,000 and keeps \$9,000. They set off fireworks and endanger themselves. It is illegal and very dangerous, but because it is under the cloak of a religious celebration it is permitted.

Automobile Skidding

The antics of some of the motor omnibuses on the greasy road surface in London after rain would be amusing were it not for the danger to life involved, says the Engineer. Although skidding can be avoided largely by skilful driving there are occasions when this remark does not apply, and the need of some form of tire which gives a better hold on greasy surface than solid rubber is being sadly felt by omnibus proprietors.

OSCAR STRAUS' CAREER.

Man of Varied Activities Worked His Way Through College.

Oscar Solomon Straus, the first Jew to be a member of the United States Cabinet, was born in 1850, and is the third son of the late Lazarus Straus, who was well known in New York as the founder of the firm of L. Straus & Sons, importers of pottery and glassware, says the New York Times. Mr. Straus' ancestors were agriculturists and his father had an estate in Bavaria. The elder Straus took part in the Revolution of 1848, and met Carl Schurz, with whom he maintained friendly relations until his death in 1898. He was driven from Germany for the part he took in the Revolution, and found refuge in this country, settling in Philadelphia, where he found several small merchants who had been workmen on his farm in Bavaria.



Oscar Solomon Straus.

The American, or Know-Nothing party, urging a Government conducted by native citizens only, secret in its operations and formidable was then strong in the North, and Straus was counseled to go South. Two or three wholesale merchants, also Jews, promising to sell goods to him on credit, he settled in Talbotton, Ga., in 1854. Afterward he moved to Columbus, Ga.

Oscar S. Straus spent most of his boyhood in Georgia. At the age of ten he was placed in care of a private tutor by his father, and then went to Collingsworth Institute. In 1865 Lazarus Straus came to New York. The war had forced him to the wall. He paid off all his creditors, who were New Yorkers, and then again a poor man, opened a crockery store in Chambers street. The business grew and flourished.

Oscar, following his father's belief in the value of an education, was desirous of preparing for college soon after the arrival of the family in New York. He entered Columbia Grammar School and attended it for two years, and then entered Columbia College. Mr. Straus supported himself while in college by writing for the newspapers. He was graduated from the Columbia Law School in 1873. While a student in this school he was a clerk in the law firm of Charles O'Conor, the prosecutor of the Tweed ring.

Mr. Straus was appointed Minister to Turkey in 1887 by President Cleveland to succeed the late S. S. Cox. His mission to that country was remarkably successful. His knowledge of international law brought him into intimate relations with the Porte, and this enabled him to obtain great concessions for the American mission schools. He obtained a letter from the Sultan which acted as a charter, and under this fifty schools that had been closed for years were opened, and all the 550 missions were amply protected.

In Europe Mr. Straus met Baron de Hirsch, who conferred with him relative to the establishment of the Baron de Hirsch fund for the relief of immigrants. Mr. Straus agreed to be a trustee of the fund. In 1889 he returned to America. He was reappointed to the office of Minister to Turkey in 1897 by President McKinley and retained it for three years. In 1902 President Roosevelt appointed him to the vacancy in the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, caused by the death of ex-President Harrison.

Mr. Straus has all his life been a deep student of history and international law and is the author of numerous publications dealing with these subjects. In 1885 he published "The Origin of the Republican Form of Government in the United States." He is also the author of "A Life of Roger Williams" and "The Development of Religious Liberty in the United States." A treatise on "The Reform of the Diplomatic Service" came from his pen about the time when the Venezuelan controversy started.

Mr. Straus is president of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation and of the National Primary League, vice-president of the National Civic Federation and a member of the International Law Association. He is a director of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and of several other sectarian and non-sectarian institutions. He was one of the founders of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, and was for years connected with the Deaf-Mute Institute.

In Making a Pair of Shoes.

A piece of leather, with the assistance of the latest machines, can be transformed into a pair of shoes in thirty-four minutes, in which time it passes through the hands of sixty-three people and through fifteen machines.

Do You Think For Yourself?

Or, do you open your mouth like a young bird and gulp down whatever food or medicine may be offered you?

Do you see an intelligent thinking woman, in need of relief from weakness, nervousness, pain and suffering, then it means much to you that there is one tried and true home medicine of proven reputation, sold by druggists for the cure of woman's ills.

The makers of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, for the cure of weak, nervous, run-down, over-worked, debilitated, pain-racked women, knowing this medicine to be made up of ingredients, every one of which has the strongest possible endorsement of the leading and standard authorities of the several schools of practice, are perfectly willing, and in fact, are only too glad to print, as they do, the formula, or list of ingredients, of which it is composed, in plain English, on every bottle-wrapper.

The formula of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will bear the most critical examination of medical experts, for it contains no alcohol, narcotics, harmful, or habit-forming drugs, and no agent enters into it that is not highly recommended by the most advanced and leading medical teachers and authorities of their several schools of practice. These authorities recommend the ingredients of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for the cure of exactly the same ailments for which this world-famed medicine is advised.

No other medicine for woman's ills has any such professional endorsement as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has received. In the unqualified recommendation of each of its several ingredients by scores of leading medical men of all the schools of practice, is such an endorsement not worthy of your consideration?

A booklet of ingredients, with numerous authoritative professional endorsements by the leading medical authorities of this country, will be mailed free to any one sending name and address with request for same. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

FOR THE LITTLE ONES.

Baby socks—for the hottest days have come out in pique, with the tiny buttoned traps buttonholed, and the whole tiny thing embroidered with wash cottons. Some of them boast big bows of wash ribbon in baby pink or blue.

Children's collars are stunning, squared or rounded, for the most part, quite simply scalloped by hand, with a few rare ones of the shourest sort of linen, embroidered with flowers and scrolls as delicately as a French handkerchief.

Laces and jewelry are always in bad taste for children, making them look like overdressed dolls. Those huge collars of embroidery known as "Lord Fauntleroy's" were ridiculous, and a veritable cure to the forlorn children whose parents decked them out.

A nice little dress for a boy between four and ten is a brown linen one, with a deep pointed collar, stitched with white and a belt of brown leather with a leather buckle. The little skirt has inverted plaits from the belt down, and is finished with the stitching. Brown socks and ankle ties complete a very manly little costume. Of course, in white linen, with a colored leather belt, this would be pretty, or in gingham, say a check, with a red belt, and red socks and shoes.

In Buying Gloves.

There are more important considerations than their color, and the number of the buttons. Black gloves are generally less elastic than white or colored ones, and cheap grades are dear at any price. Dressed kid usually retains its freshness longer and is more durable than suede. The best and most serviceable kid is soft, yielding and elastic. A glove so small that it cramps the hand and prevents grace of motion gives poor service. Short-fingered gloves are ugly and certain to break soon between the fingers, if not at the tips. The way in which a glove is first drawn on and shaped to the hand has much to do with both its beauty and durability.

Unless you have ample time, do not have them fitted at the shops, but at leisure draw them on as here recommended and, if possible, wear them half an hour without closing the fingers. In buttoning a glove the greatest strain comes upon the first button, so, before attempting to fasten this, button the others, commencing with the second one and finish the first button last.

An Expert's Tea Rule

Use only freshly boiled water; water for making tea should never be boiled twice. When water is boiling hard (so that steam comes out of the nozzle of the kettle furiously), scald out the teapot, put in one generous teaspoonful of tea for each person, and one for the pot. Stand the teapot in a warm place and allow the tea to draw five and one-half minutes, then stir, and allow it to settle, say, one-half minute.

Correct English Style.

Whereas formerly no fashion was considered possible unless it originated in Paris, and people scoffed at the idea that anything good could be designed in England—although the great Worth was a Lincolnshire man—now the leading fashion papers of every nationality unite in extolling "the correct English style," and that not merely in connection with tailor built clothes.

Washing Knives Right.

Never put the handle of knives into the water, for thus the handle would be discolored and the blade loosened. Instead, dip each blade into hot water with soda and dry it at once. Another method is to have a large tin or basin with a tin or wooden cover. In the cover silt are cut, through which the blades of the knives pass to the water, while their handles rest on the top.

HOME HAIR DRESSING.

Every Woman Should Adopt Style Best Suited to Her Face

Neatness and evidence of care are the first and foremost rules which prevail at present.

These are some good general rules to follow in the choice of a becoming hairdressing:

For a long thin face, the arrangement of the hair should be full and round, and, if possible, the coils should just show from behind the ears. The nape of the neck should also be filled as much as possible, and softly waving or curling the hair will improve the appearance.

For a sharp featured face the hair should be arranged loosely, and at the back rather than at the top of the head.

A round, chubby face looks best with the hair arranged in a narrow style at the back and well carried



For the Chubby Face.

For the Thin Face.

For the Tall Girl.

down to the nape of the neck or piled high on the top of the head with the sides brushed tightly and smartly upward.

Unless the forehead be particularly high a fringe is not desirable, or, at least, only just so much as one is obliged to have nowadays for the sake of one's milliner.

Very tall women should not dress their hair high, but leave that style for their shorter sisters.

Young girls in their teens should wear their hair simply tied back as long as possible, and on no account should they turn it up until they have arrived at the stage of wearing long dresses.

All hair should so frame the face as to conceal defects and set off its greatest attractions, and the contour should be critically examined from every point of view, the back and sides being very important.

There is another point which must not be overlooked; it is essential that the style of hair dressing should suit the figure as well as the shape of the head.

For instance, a woman with square, broad shoulders and a short neck would look ridiculous with her hair dressed low, although it might be vastly becoming to the head and face, so some happy medium must be found, and all these points of face and figure taken into serious consideration before the best and most suitable style is discovered.

Brown and light hair are set off to greatest advantage when waved, fluffed or curled, while dark should be treated with dignity and displayed in glossy bands, coils and braids, setting off the contours of the head.

For evening wear nothing is prettier than the crown style of dressing the hair. This is done by twisting the braid to form the crown around the head.

INTERESTING ITEMS.

Mme. Patti's voice has brought her in more than \$5,000,000. Her best year's income was \$350,000.

As Richard Wagner's widow declared that the noise which they caused was out of harmony with the poetical atmosphere of Bayreuth, the municipal authorities have prohibited motor cars from entering the town.

The hardest worked women in England are the chainmakers of Cradley Heath, Staffordshire. These women have been known to work at the anvil for 15 hours and then go to the housework and the washing. They get \$1 to \$1.25 for every hundredweight of chain they make, which usually takes a day and a half.

Never wear a hat with light colored brim when your hair is at the pepper and salt stage. Either a rich dark color or black is the most suitable. Light or bright colors give a faded appearance to the hair that is most unbecoming. But with snowy white hair any light or bright color that suits the complexion may be worn.

Morning Suits.

The morning suits for street wear will be severely plain, especially so in the linen suits, which are finished with a deep hem and stitching. Russet shoes will be a feature of the street attire, but they differ from those of former years, not only in being of a much darker shade, but also in having the flat bow to the instep. With the tailor suit a soft leather belt is usually selected, which may be ornate or plain, according to the taste of the wearer.

JURORS FOR FEBRUARY TERM.

GRAND JURORS. George C. Fenstermacher, moulder George M. Vance, farmer, Mt. Pleasant. Samuel Absterter, farmer, Main. Peter Eddinger, laborer, Main. Fred Carl, farmer, Catawissa boro. Martin R. Rhawn, laborer, Bloom. William McHenry, farmer, Stillwater. Charles Harder, painter, Catawissa borough. Freeman Hartman, carpenter, Berwick. P. W. Miller, laborer, Catawissa Boro. Wellington Crossley, farmer, Hemlock. Evan H. Kreamer, farmer, Madison. George Kline, laborer, Greenwood. B. F. Bodins, merchant, Locust. B. F. Bodins, merchant, Locust. Steward M. Gilton, farmer, Hemlock. Wesley Shaffer, farmer, Briar creek. W. E. Koehler, laborer, Sugarloaf. J. H. Martz, piper, Berwick. Norman Mausteller, farmer, Fishing-creek. Thomas Quigley, laborer, Centralia. Philip A. Straub, farmer, Hemlock. Clark Bower, foreman, Berwick. William J. Burrows, laborer, Bloom.

TRAVERSE JURORS—1ST WEEK. Eugene Doty, Berwick. Lloyd Fry, Montour. Cyrus Hartline, Madison. Marvin Conner, Benton Borough. Edward C. Kahler, Bloom. Elmer Reese, Montour. John Ross, Madison. C. C. Fowler, Berwick. Elisha Dreisbach, Bloom. F. P. Fisher, Cleveland. Daniel Kistler, Catawissa Boro. B. B. Freas, Bloom. Rush Freas, Briar creek. David Brooks, Bloom. Obediah Yocum, Cleveland. H. B. Creasy, Catawissa twp. Pugh V. Glosen, Orange twp. A. W. Dresher, Benton twp. James Miller, Scott. H. R. Dieterick, Orange. D. C. Yeager, Locust.

Bowman Jordan, Madison. D. H. Hollenstine, Millin. Warren Hess, Stillwater. Harry W. Deily, Montour. William Parks, Franklin. L. B. Stiles, Benton borough. Clinton Helwig, Catawissa twp. C. F. Sweppenheiser, Main. C. M. Sweppenheiser, Center. Charles E. Hutton, Berwick. El Ikeler, Mt. Pleasant. L. Rabb, Bloom. U. A. Smith, Main. A. C. Hilday, Bloom. Harvey Fairchilds, Briar creek. John Adams, Bloom. James Smethers, Berwick. Michael J. Flynn, Centralia. Silas Yorks, Sugarloaf. Spangler Haus, Mt. Pleasant. J. R. Ritchie, Jackson. George Kelehner, Scott. Peter J. McDonald, Conyngham. John C. Walters, Locust. J. O. Ikeler, Orange. Amos Crawford, Mt. Pleasant.

TRAVERSE JURORS, SECOND WEEK. Clark Shannon, Benton twp. O. E. Gilbert, Mt. Pleasant. J. H. Cattorall, Berwick. Isaac Richard, Scott. E. E. Yohe, Bloom. A. B. Bitter, Locust. A. C. Hagenbuch, Center. Rutter Hagenbuch, Berwick. H. H. Kindt, Mt. Pleasant. John J. Ryan, Centralia. B. F. Hicks, Bloom. Harry C. Dieterick, Scott. C. L. Davis, Benton Boro. G. B. Appelman, Greenwood. George Thomas, Montour. Theodore Fox, Main. Samuel Fegley, Catawissa Boro. Arthur Cole, Greenwood. William C. Eves, Millville. E. J. Brown, Bloom. Joseph W. Hilday, Bloom. D. F. Bogart, Millin. W. M. Kneedy, Sugarloaf. William Merrill, Scott. Francis W. Bower, Berwick. John W. Grey, Bloom. J. D. Williams, Bloom. Wilson Rhodes, Roaringcreek. James Kostenbauder, Conyngham. E. R. Wilson, Benton Twp. Miles Longenberger, Beaver. C. R. Harder, Catawissa Boro. John W. Creasy, Millin. B. W. Lemon, Benton Twp. David P. Smith, Briar creek. W. O. Holmes, Bloom.

EXECUTRIX NOTICE.

Estate of George F. Watson, late of Madison Township, deceased. Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary on the estate of George F. Watson, late of the township of Madison, county of Columbia, Pa., deceased, have been granted to Hattie V. Watson, to whom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payments, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to Hattie V. Watson, Administrator, 12-13 St. Executrix.

ADMINISTRATORS' NOTICE

Estate of James Monaghan, late of the township of Conyngham, Co. Pa., deceased. Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of James Monaghan, late of Conyngham township, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned administrator to whom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payments, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to M. J. Monaghan, Administrator, 12-13 St. Ashland, Pa. 12-27-02.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Wm. Gingles, deceased. The undersigned, an auditor appointed to make distribution of the balance in the hands of Frank Koler Esq., and Harvey Gingles, executors of the last will and testament of William Gingles, late of the Town of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, deceased, as shown by their second account will sit to perform the duties of his appointment at the law office of Hon. Fred T. Kiefer, in the said Town of Bloomsburg, on Friday the 11th day of January, 1903, at 9 o'clock a. m. and where all parties interested may appear, present their claims or be forever debarred from claiming anything out of said estate. CHRISTIAN A. SMALL, Auditor. 12-25-02.

EXECUTRIX NOTICE.

Estate of Steward A. Ash, late of Briar creek Township, deceased. Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary on the estate of Steward A. Ash, late of the township of Briar creek, county of Columbia, Pa., deceased, have been granted to Murtis D. Ash, resident of said township, to whom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payments, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to Murtis D. Ash, Executrix. 11-29-02.

ELECTION NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the policy holders of the Briar creek Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Lime Ridge, Pa., will be held at the hall of Centre Grade, No. 66, P. O. H., on Tuesday, January 28th, 1903, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m., for the election of twelve directors to serve for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Professional Cards.

H. A. MCKILLIP, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Columbian Building 2nd Floor Bloomsburg, Pa. A. N. YOST, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Ent Building, Court House Square. Bloomsburg, Pa.

RALPH R. JOHN, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Hartman Building, Market Square Bloomsburg, Pa.

FRED IKELER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office Over First National Bank. Bloomsburg, Pa.

CLYDE CHAS. YETTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office in Wirt's Building. Bloomsburg, Pa.

W. H. RHAWN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office Corner of 3rd and Main Sts. CATAWISSA, PA.

CLINTON HERRING, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office with Grant Herring, Bloomsburg, Pa. Orangeville Wednesday each week

A. L. FRITZ, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office—Bloomsburg Nat'l Bank Bldg. Bloomsburg, Pa.

J. H. MAIZE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENT. Office in Townsend's Building Bloomsburg, Pa.

N. U. FUNK, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Ent's Building, Court House Square Bloomsburg, Pa.

SADE T. VANNATTA, (Successor to C. F. Rapp) GENERAL INSURANCE. Office 238 Iron St., Bloomsburg, Pa. Oct. 31, 1902.

M. F. LUTZ & SON, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS AND BROKERS. N. W. Corner Main and Centre Sts. BLOOMSBURG, PA. Represent Seventeen as good Companies as there are in the World and all losses promptly adjusted and paid at their office.

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J. S. JOHN M. D. PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Office and residence, 410 Main St. BLOOMSBURG, PA. 7-30-14

EDWARD FLYNN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, CENTRALIA, PA. Office Liddell building, Locust avenue

H. MONTGOMERY SMITH, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Office —Ent building, 11-16-99

WILLIAM C. JOHNSTON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office in Wells' building over J. G. Wells' Hardware Store, Bloomsburg. Will be in Millville on Tuesdays.

EXCHANGE HOTEL, I. A. SNYDER, Proprietor. BLOOMSBURG, PA. Large and convenient sample rooms, bath rooms hot and cold water and all modern conveniences.

CITY HOTEL, W. A. Hartzel, Prop. No. 121 West Main Street Large and convenient sample rooms, b. rooms, hot and cold water, and modern conveniences. Bar stocked with best wines and liquors. First-class livery attached.

MONTEUR TELEPHONE. BELL TELEPH. BYES TESTED, GLASSES FITTED. H. BIERMAN, M. D. HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. OFFICE HOURS: Office & Residence, 4th St. 10 a. m. to 2 p. m., 5:30 to 8 p. m. BLOOMSBURG, PA.

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