

HOW FEMALE PANHANDLERS PLAY THE GAME; EXTORT MONEY BY CLAIMING RELATIONSHIP

(New York Sun)

The female panhandler is not quite as common in New York as her male brethren, but there are a few and they work their game in a much more businesslike manner. The man who tries to live by begging usually looks the part and often is so badly deformed or disfigured that he attracts the sympathies of those he approaches. But the woman who goes out to get something for nothing is usually a pretty clever workman.

One of the best and latest schemes is to approach the victim at his business place. The artist is usually well dressed and her line of talk goes something like this:

"Oh, you are Mr.—are you? Well I found your name in the telephone directory and as it is the same as mine I came down to see you. Are you by chance a relative of James? He was my father and we come from Colorado. My home is in Denver and I want to ask you if you can be of a little aid as my allowance for the month has failed to arrive and I need temporary help."

The woman in question was about forty years old and she had picked out a man in business on Chambers street and whose name is not common even in telephone books. The strike artist knew her game. She was stopping at a hotel in the Times Square section and had come east to put her daughter in school. The family was one of the oldest in the State and surely the Chambers street business man must be related in some way.

The business man sensed just what was coming when the woman approached him and he thought he would see just how far she would go in claiming relationship. She had a long speech but did not mention a name that the intended victim ever heard before. Incidentally he had few relatives and as the woman continued to connect herself to his family he inquired: "Just what do you want in the way of assistance?"

"Well, could you let me have five dollars? If you do I will give it back to you just as soon as my check comes and that should be any day now. In fact it is overdue or I would not have taken the trouble to look you up."

In Other Stores

By this time the merchant felt that he had spent enough time on her and passed her two quarters which she grabbed and without a "thank you, sir," walked out into the street. The merchant followed her to the door, saw her put the money in a small purse and enter a store three doors away. She was in there about five minutes. Knowing the owner of the other store he became inquisitive and found that she had used the name of the owner of this store and again attempted to establish relationship.

This man was busy and with a "no, you are no relative of mine," handed her a dollar to get rid of her. This she put away in the same purse. The two men watched her from then on for the next twenty minutes and saw her work four more stores. In each case she sprung the relationship

plea and in each case collected some cash.

It was a pure panhandling game but the woman was clever enough to have her data complete before making her entrance. In one place the man whom she asked for was not in. She started a new racket here.

"I am his cousin and if he were here he would give me the assistance I need. I came up from Baltimore to see him and I lost my purse and I managed to get down to the store here only to find him gone. What am I to do?"

The clerk told her he didn't know and started to walk away when she caused quite a rumpus by beginning to cry. There were customers in the store and in order to get rid of her the clerk gave her two dollars. She asked for more but her request was denied and she was advised she had better move along. She did and when the boss came in the following morning the clerk told him the story.

"Why I haven't a cousin in the world. Just a plain fake," replied the merchant. The clerk was therefore two dollars out and his boss warned him never again to fall for any such bunk. However the racket seems a good one and probably this woman who worked Chambers street has visited many other parts of the town with the same story.

The story about this woman was brought to the office of The Sun by the man who had given up the half dollar. As he told it, more as a warning to others he admitted he must be a marked man among those people who make a living by begging.

Scared Into Giving

"Almost every night just about the time I close up one of these pannies come along. The other night I was scared half out of my wits by the appearance of a huge negro youth who walked to the rear of the store to approach me. He was big and black and he carried his right hand in his outer coat pocket. His finger made the appearance of a gun muzzle, or at least that was the thought that came to my mind. One of my clerks was still in the store but not in sight.

"The negro in a calm, collected way said he had to have money and would I give him some. Well, I didn't want to say yes and I didn't dare say no and I was trying to figure out how cheaply I could get rid of him.

"I put my hand in my fob pocket and pulled out thirty cents, which I handed to the man, feeling all the while that I might be handing him a real insult. Instead he took it and thanked me and said it was enough to buy a bit to eat. With that I asked him if he was really hungry, to which he replied that he had not tasted food since the night before. I was sorry for the man and I managed to find thirty-five cents more, which I gave him. He was profoundly thankful in his talk and I guess he was, for he has been back three times since.

"I buy him cheaply now—never more than a quarter. He tells me he is unable to find work. Perhaps that is so, but up to date I have never seen

a sign of liquor on him and he may be a legitimate case of charity. He told me once in confidence that he lived in a Park Row lodging house and that was the reason he was so handy to my store."

In contrast to the mildness of this negro I had an experience at the entrance of the Brooklyn Bridge a few afternoons ago, when two husky, young men reeled toward me and shouted: "Hey, buddy, give us a dime to ride across the bridge!"

"I looked at them in surprise and found words to ask why they did not walk across, inasmuch as they were young and the distance not far.

"One of them replied, 'Hey you got dough and we want a dime, so give up.'"

"I didn't give up and was about to call a policeman when they both disappeared in the crowd. I must look like an easy mark, for I am constantly being approached by these people. But usually I give up rather than take a chance of being punched in the eye. It's probably the best and easiest way."

CHRISTMAS PROVERBS

To issue an invitation is to make ourselves responsible for our guest's happiness as long as he is under our roof.

It is a sin against hospitality to open your door and shut up your countenance.

The giver makes the gift precious.

A gift with a kind countenance is a double present.

The charitable give out at the door and God puts in at the window.

There is no grace in a gift that sticks to the fingers.

Hearts alone buy hearts.

Kindness like grain increases by sowing—Montreal Herald.

RUM LADEN SCHOONER WAS TOWED TO PORT

Halifax, Dec. 17—Seized off LaHave about three o'clock Saturday afternoon by the Customs preventive cruiser Fleur DeLys, Captain John C. McCarthy, the schooner Francis W. Smith, Captain Mosher, with between 500 and 1000 kegs of Demerara rum on board was towed into Halifax early yesterday morning and customs guards placed on board. The exact cargo was not known yesterday but will be checked up today.

The schooner sailed from Lunenburg on August 20 for Georgetown Demerara, and was sad yesterday to have been observed off the coast for about 80 days.

On June 22 the vessel was seized off the mouth of Halifax Harbor and, while at that time said to have been outside the three mile limit was inside the twelve mile limit now applicable to Canadian registered ships. The vessel was later released and towed to sea. On her previous seizure the Vigilant under Captain Coffin, was the vessel which brought her into port.

FEEDING AND CARE OF POULTRY IS IMPORTANT

(Experimental Farms Note.)

Winter egg production depends upon the breed, breeding, development, housing, feeding and health of the flock. The first mentioned factors, at this season of the year have passed beyond control, hence the poultryman must now rely upon the care and feeding of the flock to promote their maximum production.

Clean, sunny, comfortable quarters are essential. Houses should be fitted with glass or glass substitutes and open front, the open section being fitted with a sash covered with cotton which should be closed at night and on stormy or very windy days. This cotton covered sash should be kept open during the sunny part of the day. Litter should be kept clean and dry. Birds should not be crowded on the floor or on the roosts.

Feeding should be regularly done and the skill of the feeder is as important as the feed. The system of feeding at the Experimental Station, Fredericton, is to feed a scratch grain mixture in the litter in the morning and late afternoon. A very light feed is given in the morning, the heaviest feed being given at night. The amount to be fed will depend upon the condition of the birds. This usually averages between 2 1/4 and 2 3/4 ounces per bird daily. See that the grain is kept eaten up. This scratch grain mixture usually consists of: 200 pounds feed wheat; 200 pounds cracked corn; 100 pounds oats. A dry mash is fed in hoppers. This usually consists of: 100 pounds wheat bran; 100 pounds wheat middlings; 100 pounds corn meal; 100 pounds crushed oats; 50 pounds beef scrap or fish meal; 5 pounds charcoal; 5 pounds bone meal; 5 pounds fine table salt.

A wet mash may be fed daily if the feeder so desires but care must be taken not to feed too much wet mash or the flock will be inclined to become sluggish. Cod liver oil may be fed in a moist mash and this will help to prevent leg weakness.

Skim-milk or buttermilk should be fed if available, otherwise the beef scrap should be increased to 15 or

MERCHANT FLEET OF BRITAIN CARRIES BIG SHARE OF U.S. TRADE

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 17—It is not generally known that the British Empire which is the most active competitor of the United States in the foreign trade lanes, is also its best customer as it engages in approximately one third of America's water borne foreign trade, according to a survey made by the Bureau of Research.

While America's total annual trade with the British Empire exceeds 35,000,000 cargo tons, actually less than 10,000,000 tons represent trade with Great Britain proper. The bulk of the business 60 per cent, is transacted with British territory in the Western Hemisphere which includes Canada, Newfoundland, British Honduras, British Giana and the British possessions in the West Indies.

Canada totals in more than one half of the total American trade with the Empire. This trade comprises approximately 8,000,000 tons of imports and 11,000,000 tons of exports, which represent 68 per cent of all American import trade and 49 per cent of all her export trade with British territory.

From a statement published in the "Merchant Fleet Bulletin" in Washington it is found that vessels flying the British flag carried more than 30

18 per cent of the mash. Grit and crushed oyster shells should be fed in open hoppers. Green feed should be supplied daily and for this purpose cabbage, mangels, turnips and potatoes may be used. A dose of Epsom salts every two weeks in the drinking water at the rate of one pound per hundred birds will help to maintain the health of the flock.

Various modifications of the rations outlined are available. Commercial scratch mixtures and mash can be used. The rations outlined may be modified to make use of more home grown feeds. The mixtures outlined have given excellent production records in our Egg Laying Contest.

For further information in regard to the feeding of poultry and the use of home grown feeds write the Superintendent, Experimental Station, Fredericton, N. B.

per cent of the total cargo tonnage moved in American foreign water borne commerce in 1928. Of the aggregate commerce with Canada only 46 per cent is exported under the American flag. American and British vessels carry about the same percentage of combined import and export tonnage movement between the United States and Canada.

The statement says: "This immediately brings into prominence the fact that more than seventy per cent nearly 1,500,000 tons of our traffic with Canada, our immediate neighbor is carried in foreign ships having no interest in trade other than the freight money realized from it."

DECEMBER DIRGE

Let the music stop,
The jig is done—
Lay the fiddle down
Make no more fun!

Autumn does no dance
Of buck and wing;
It is winter now
And no birds sing.

Let the fiddlers claim
The fiddler's fee—
Let the snowflakes blow,
There is no bee.

Save the wild pursuit
Of homing geese;
There is nothing now—
Let the music cease!

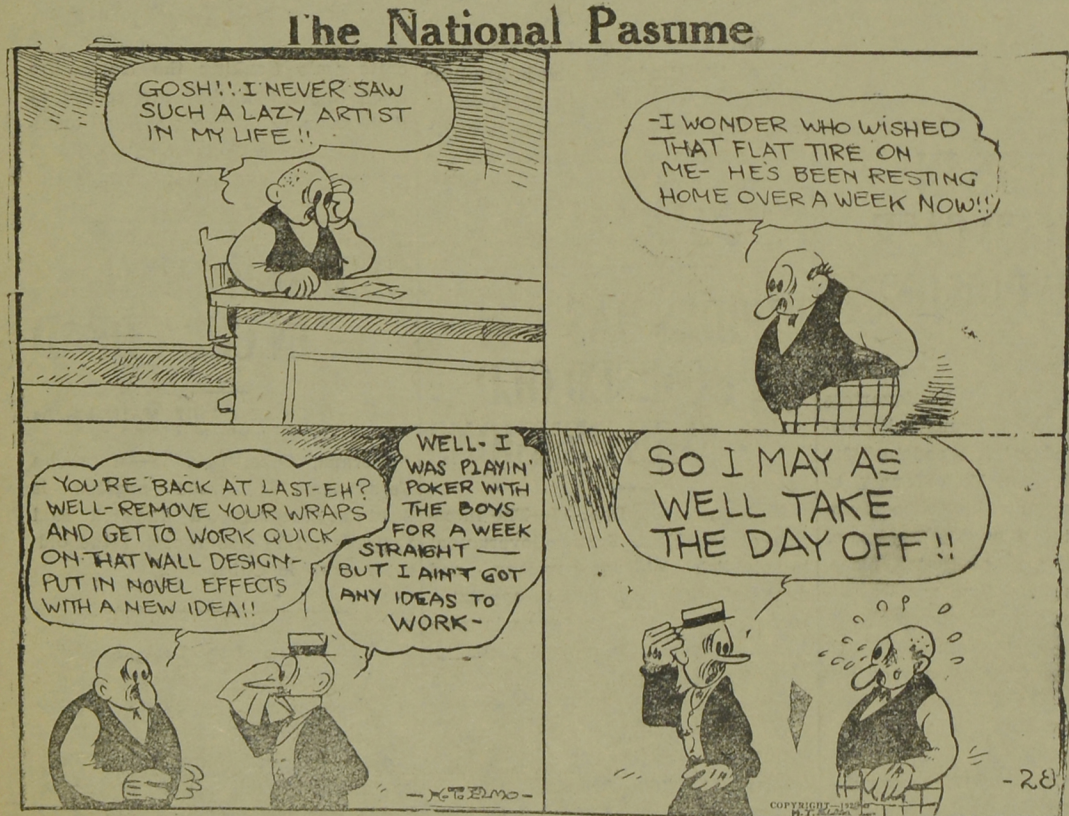
Lay the fiddle down
And stand the prop—
Let the lights be snapped,
The curtain drop!

—JOHN MINNICH WILSON in Detroit News.

ON THE AIR

Welcome, each day of winter,
Each cold and frosty night,
When I can bear the indoor air
And close my windows tight!
Some people love the summer,
And all the airs that blow;
But those I hate that emanate
From the neighbor's radio!

—M. U. in Chicago News.



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