

HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO PAY?

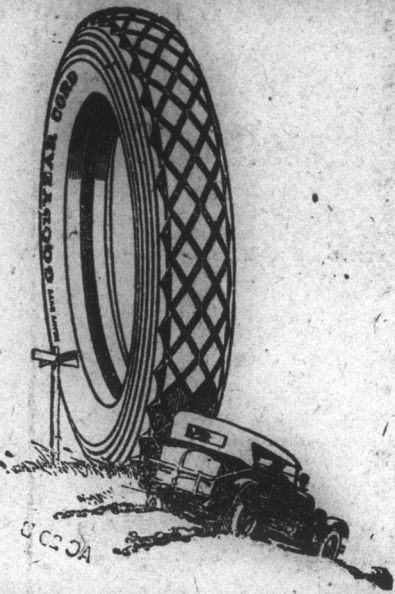
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NATIONAL MASONIC MEMORIAL

The National Masonic Memorial at Alexandria, Virginia, as it will look when completed. The construction of the Memorial was started two years ago and will take five years to complete. Masons throughout the United States are co-operating in this wonderful work. In the Memorial will be situated a room exactly like the one in which Washington officiated as Grand Master of his lodge at Alexandria. The many precious relics of his administration in Mason-

WHY NOT REPEAL IT?

Statesville Daily. In Catawba Superior Court this week Major George E. Lyerly, of Hickory, chairman of the Catawba county highway commission, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging in effect that he, as a public official, traded with himself as a private citizen, the same being contrary to the statute made and provided. It was in evidence that Major Lyerly was one of the largest stockholders of the Shurford Hardware Company, of Hickory, and that as chairman of the highway commission he had bought for the county, from the company in which he was a stockholder, goods of the estimated value of approximately \$5,000. It was also developed at the hearing, according to the news report, that Major Lyerly had "possibly" saved Catawba county between fifty and sixty thousand dollars. Whether buying about \$5,000 worth of goods from his company saved the county the amount stated, or whether the efficiency and good business management of the chairman saved the amount in other ways, isn't explained. Judge Webb properly ruled that the saving wasn't an excuse for violating the law but that he would consider it in mitigation of punishment imposed, as he did. The punishment was a fine of \$50, which leaves the impression that the offense isn't seriously considered; and it isn't.

"Saving the public money" is an old excuse for violating the law which prohibits an official trading with himself, directly or indirectly. It is brought forward on all occasions. The saving isn't impossible. A public official might offer his own goods for public use at a less rate than others would offer. He might, as an act of patriotism, furnish the staff at cost or less. Or he may figure that his services are worth so much more than he is paid that he saves the public immense sums in that way, wherefore he should be allowed to make a little profit by dealing with himself as part compensation for his invaluable services. Fact is the big savings we hear about on such occasions are usually figured that way. And while they are largely, if not entirely, imaginary, the calculation being made by an interested party, there are numerous public officials who figure that way and boldly, not to say brazenly, attempt to justify their nullification of the law by saying they are entitled to make additional compensation on the side. They do the work; why should they not be allowed to make a little something as part compensation for their services, take a sort of commission from the great savings they affect. It never seems to occur to these that if they feel that the allowance provided by law isn't sufficient for their services they can get out. Not at all. In fact they would resent and resist any effort to remove them. Their patriotism is such that they fear that their successors may not save the public money. Therefore they insist on retaining the privilege of serving and saving at a sacrifice for the public good, with such additional commission as they may deem is coming to them.

No doubt this law is violated in nearly all the counties and municipalities in the state. Certainly it has been violated in Iredell. In some instances there may be no monetary loss to the public. An official engaged in private business may, and often does, feel that he should have the same privilege to furnish public supplies as any other business man, as long as he sells as low as anybody and doesn't hog the trade. Major Lyerly may have felt that way. He may have made no extra profit off the county as a business man; in fact he may have undersold competitors. But the wisdom of the law is so plain that it isn't arguable. Once the public official, put in place to guard the public interests, begins trading with himself as a private individual, what is likely to happen is so apparent that the law was made to guard the official from temptation—temptation to which the best of them would yield. But little attention is paid to the law. In counties and municipalities not only, but in State boards and commissions, infringements may be found, directly and indirectly. Sometimes companies are formed to take contracts for public work, or to sell public supplies, through which, indirectly, public officials profit. It may be insurance companies that bond contractors, banks through which they will do their banking business, or some other concern that a contractor may have a tip to patronize for his own good. Seeing that the law isn't taken seriously, and when anybody is indicted he appears as a martyr trying

to save the public money for which he is penalized, why, not, following the logic of Judge Harding as to speed laws, repeal the whole business and let him take who can! That would be more just to those who stand off because of conscientious scruples, while those who have no scruples get theirs. Anyway it would give the patriots (?) who would have (?) the public money a chance to do the saving (?) without being beleaguered by the suspicious who impugn their motives while they are sacrificing and serving for the public good (?).

B. H. ALEXANDER HELD FOR HITTING TWO MEN

One May Die as Result of Being Struck By Greensboro Man's Car.—Drunkness Charged. Charlotte, Feb. 13.—Another was added to the series of recent automobile accidents here when two well known Charlotte men were injured, one perhaps fatally. A. N. Boger, steward of the Mecklenburg hotel, and B. C. Mooney, restaurant employe, were run down by an automobile driven by B. H. Alexander, of Greensboro, who was held on a charge of driving an automobile while drunk. Other charges later may be preferred, and he was denied bail.

Boger was perhaps fatally injured, reports from Charlotte sanatorium said. His skull was fractured and he sustained other injuries about the body, but no bone was broken. Police officers reported that Boger was dragged perhaps 30 feet under the car. Mooney sustained a fractured right leg and his body was severely bruised. Physicians said they expected him to recover, according to reports from the hospital.

The accident produced its hero in the person of A. G. Ivey, of Rock Hill, S. C., guest of the Mecklenburg hotel, on the street before which the accident occurred at about 8 p. m. Eye witnesses told police officers that after Alexander had struck the two men he apparently made no effort to stop the car, a sedan model, Ivey, a witness to the accident, jumped upon the running board, succeeded in opening the door and applied the emergency brake, according to reports from investigating officers.

REPORT FOUND TO BE MISLEADING

No Unusual Departure of Students From Davidson College. Davidson, Feb. 13.—Highly exaggerated and erroneous reports are circulating over the State relative to the number of withdrawals from Davidson College this year. Solicitous inquiries have been coming to the college as to the authenticity of these rumors. Official statements issued refute these rumors, since announcement has just been made that there are five more students on the Davidson campus today than there were a year ago, today, the present enrollment being 500.

The total withdrawals up to date have been 54; the corresponding withdrawals of last year were 42. This includes both voluntary and required withdrawals. These facts are from the official report of Dr. W. J. Martin, president of the institution who will make this statement before the board of trustees at its meeting next Wednesday. Twenty-seven students were required to withdraw at the end of this semester because of failure to measure up to the scholastic requirements of the college, this number being larger than in the past. It was explained, however, that this number was augmented somewhat by the fact that fewer students withdrew at the Christmas holiday season and prior in anticipation of failure in studies than have heretofore withdrawn. Partial account for the increased number was the fact that the passing grade this year was increased five points, the present mark being 75 per cent.

Two Kinds. Little Louis had gone to the kitchen to observe old Aunt Sally, the colored cook, at work making biscuits. After he had sampled one, he observed: "Aunt Sally, I can spell, now. These are made out of d-o. do." "But that doesn't spell dough," Louis' mother corrected, as she entered the kitchen to give the cook some orders. Whereupon Aunt Sally thought that she, too, would enter the discussion. So she said: "Dere's two kinds of do, chile. 'Do' what you shute, and 'do' what you eat."

WANTS REJOICING AT FUNERAL

Charlotte News. A Cincinnati man, dying left orders that \$100 of his estate should be spent to furnish music for his funeral and to provide a luncheon for the singers and for his friends.

Nothing unusual in that, on the face of it. Solemn feasts and wailing dirges have characterized elaborate funerals ever since the days of Homer. But this Cincinnati man reversed the usual idea. Instead of on an occasion of mourning, he wanted the luncheon to be a time of mirth and smiles; and he asked that the music sung at his funeral be of a light, cheerful nature. The who's ceremony, he thought, should be a festival of rejoicing.

That's news because it's unusual. It did he have the right idea? To answer such a question is to take all our notions about life and death out of the dusty closet, where we ordinarily keep them, and examine them thoroughly.

It is largely because our notions on those matters are so confused that the funeral is ordinarily a time of such unrestrained grief.

We know that it is sweet to be alive. The fine joys of human friendships, the pleasure of walking in the streets and mingling with other men and women, the struggle and victories and defeats that make up the daily routine—these things, for most of us, are good, and when one of us is called to leave them all and go, we do not know where, we grieve. For we can see surely only that our friend has had to give up life in exchange for something that may be better—and may not.

And so, when a man requests that there be no sadness at his passing, but gaiety and gladness, we are surprised.

Probably we will never be able to attain to a steadfastness of faith sufficient to keep us from mourning when loved ones die. The mere pang of parting, even if we are sure that those who have died are happier than before, will always bring the tears. Yet we may hope that we can reach a calmness and a certitude that will enable us to say, when we ourselves approach death: "Do not grieve for me. Death is nothing—it is only an incident. The world, on the whole, is a good world, and death is the one thing that it gives to all alike. How, then, can death be bad for me? I do not know what it will mean, exactly, but I am sure that it will mean something good. I am not afraid; you must not be sad."

What Price Crime?

Prof. J. L. Gillin, University of Wisconsin. Shameful to state, one out of every 300 persons in the United States is put into jail or prison every year. That percentage doesn't include the people who are assessed fines or those who are placed on probation instead of being jailed or fined.

Of the half-million people sent to penal and correctional institutions in the United States in 1910, 91.2 percent were sent to jails and workhouses. Half of them were committed to jail for the non-payment of fines.

We have an enormous investment in the 10,000 jails, lock-ups, and police stations in the country. The prisons use 135,000 acres of land worth \$30,000,000 and machinery and tools worth \$4,000,000. Occupying these lands and buildings are 75,000 men.

Yet our prisons don't pay! Americans are the most murderous people in the civilized world. We had, in 1921, 8.5 homicides per 100,000 people. And, as far as we can judge from statistics, the rate has been steadily increasing during the last two decades. The newer crimes, such as automobile stealing, are growing by leaps and bounds.

Crimes cost an enormous amount of money. In 1922 it was estimated that criminals cost the taxpayers of the United States three billions of dollars.

Almost.

The secretary of the bar association was very busy and very cross one afternoon, when his telephone rang. "Well, what is it?" he snapped. "Is this the City Gas Works?" asked a woman's soft voice. "No, madam," roared the secretary. "This is the Bar Association of the City of Louisville." "Ah," came from the lady's end in the sweetest of tones, "I didn't miss it so far, after all, did I?"

The Louvre has the finest Egyptian collection in the world.

TWO ARE KILLED IN AN AUTO SMASH-UP

Baines and Son Victims of Accident on Winston-Salem Road.

High Point, Feb. 14.—F. J. Baines was killed instantly and his son Rainey Baines, probably mortally injured in a bad automobile smash-up on the High Point-Winston-Salem road this morning about 10 o'clock. Two others, Raymond Baines, another son of the dead man, and Pete Jones, sustained minor injuries.

The accident occurred half way between High Point and the Twin City when a Ford roadster and Dodge touring car met as the Ford was attempting to go around another automobile. Pete Jones, driving the Dodge, in which the Baines were riding, said the Ford was running at a terrific speed toward Winston-Salem. He pulled his own automobile as far to the right of the road as he could to keep the Ford from hitting him, he said. The Ford apparently struck the rear end of the Dodge, when F. J. Baines and his two sons were sitting on the rear seat. Mr. Baines died without moving out of his seat.

Reports heard here tonight say that a High Point man, who was driving the Ford, is being held by police at Winston-Salem.

The Dodge was practically demolished, while the Ford received less damage. Occupants of the lighter automobile are said to have escaped with few injuries.

Mrs. Pete Jones and her 14-month-old baby miraculously escaped injury. They were sitting on the front seat of the Dodge.

The Baines people live at Winston-Salem, it is understood.

RED FLANNELS MORE SENSIBLE THAN SILK

Once Took 20 Yards to Make a Dress But Now Three Are Ample For the Flapper Tye

New York, Feb. 12.—The woman of the "red flannel days" was more sensibly dressed and healthier than the modern flapper, E. M. Thirkield, 50-year-old merchant of Franklin, Ohio, said today at the closing session of the 15th annual convention of the National Retail Dry Goods association.

"In those days," he said, "we used to sell 20 yards of silk for one dress. Now a woman buys three yards and considers that is more than enough. Then there were only three or four shades of silks to be obtained; now there are hundreds.

"The men of 50 years ago were superstitious beyond all believing in the matter of what they wore. In winter it had to be medicated red flannel underwear and only a few people of the better classes could be induced to wear white merino."

The speaker pointed out that there are 4,800 different articles of women's underclothing on the market today and 1,800 different kinds of stockings for the fair sex.

Craigton C. Hill, of the Babson statistical organization, warned the merchants of the "serious evils" connected with installment selling, which, he said, were certain to bring trouble to merchant who do not put a check on this practice.

Wool From Waste.

London, Feb. 13.—A new yarn, with the warm, soft feel of lambs' wool, is being made from the waste product of the artificial silk industry. The new "wool" is shimmery and dyes in beautiful colors. Combined with real wool in making serge and other goods, it improves its appearance as silk does. Commercially, the new yarn is the same as artificial silk, for it is made from scraps or directly from cellulose or wool fibre by the identical process.

One of the latest applications of electricity is in the treatment of dogs for distemper. Exposed to ultra violet rays for fifteen minutes at a time, the treatment is said to be very effective.

FIVE GALS. PAINT FREE

A large paint concern, in furtherance of an advertising and introductory campaign now in progress, offers to give, free of charge, five gallons of its best house paint, any color, to one property owner at each postoffice or on each rural route in this county. This concern wants its paint on a house in each locality this season which is the purpose of this remarkable offer. It also wants a local salesman in each county. Persons interested are requested to write the Kero Paint Company, Louisville, Kentucky, 15-17-p. (Adv.)

500 VOTES for every dollar

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