

This Is The Law

By ROBERT E. LEE
(For the N. C. Bar Association)

MINORS AND THEIR CONTRACTS
Are parents liable for the contracts of their minor children?
No. Parents are liable only for actual necessities furnished to a minor child.

When may a minor disaffirm his contracts?
The ordinary contracts of a minor may be avoided by him at any time before he reaches his majority and within a reasonable time thereafter. To this rule there is one important exception: A minor cannot avoid a conveyance of real property made by him until he reaches his majority.

Land is permanent and the minor cannot be materially injured while awaiting his majority. The minor may, however, prior to disaffirmance enter into possession of the land during his minority and collect the rents and profits from it while the title rests in the adult.
In North Carolina a conveyance of real property made by a minor must be disaffirmed within three years after he reaches his majority.

A minor sells corporate shares of stock that he has inherited. He squanders the money he has received. The corporate shares become greatly enhanced in value. May the minor recover the corporate shares or their present value from the adult purchaser?
Yes. The minor may disaffirm the contract and recover back from the purchaser either the corporate shares or their present value. He is not obligated to return the money he received as the purchase price if he has lost or squandered it.

A husband and wife are co-owners of a house as tenants by the entirety. They wish to sell. The wife is a minor. May the purchase acquire a valid title?
Yes. A North Carolina statute confers upon a married person less than 21 years of age the power to execute a deed, mortgage deed of trust or other instrument involving an estate in land held by the entirety to the same extent as if he or she were an adult, provided the other spouse is 21 years of age or older.

The same rule is applicable if real or personal property is held with such other spouse as joint tenants, tenants in common, or in any other manner.

The statute also permits the minor spouse to waive release or renounce by writing any right or interest which he or she may have in the real or personal property of the other spouse.

But the statute does not enlarge the contractual capacity of a married person otherwise than as expressly provided therein. Neither a male nor a female acquires full contractual capacity by virtue of marriage.
How old must a person be in North Carolina to obtain a marriage license?
Eighteen years of age if

the consent of a parent is not obtained. Persons over 16 years of age and under 18 years of age may obtain a marriage license with the written consent of one of the parents.

When a female between the ages of 12 and 16 is pregnant or has given birth to a child, a special license to marry may be granted to the female and the reputed father with the written consent of one of the parents of the female, or by the guardian of the female, or the director of public welfare of the county of residence of either party.

Sports Afield

By TED KESTING

For sportsmen in the field, it is no great problem to have suitable protection against wet weather. The old days of relatively heavy, sticky, unwieldy oilskins is gone—for general use, anyway. You still see them occasionally, but most sportsmen are glad to be rid of them once and for all. In cold weather they turn stiff; in hot weather they become soft and tacky and exude an aroma not pleasing to everyone's nostrils.

For most outdoor use, the full-length slicker is not to be desired. It is noisy, it is apt to become tangled in the legs and the constant flapping and rustling is enough to drive a parson to the bottle. A type or subtype of slicker is the saddle version. Saddle slickers, still preferred by many old-timers in the West, are longer than ordinary and even have a slit up the back (about to the crotch). With this commodious rig, on horseback not only will you yourself be protected from the elements—but so will the saddle, saddlebags and rifle scabbard and the entire upper midsection of the steed. This is all fine if you are going to stay in the saddle for hours on end (as many Westerners do). But if you have to dismount and walk frequently, as in big game hunting, a saddle slicker is an abomination.

Much better are the newer lightweight rainsuits. Modern materials and know-how make it possible for these to be reasonably tough and enduring—yet astonishingly light in weight.

A rainsuit, to be perfect for use afield, should always be cut very roomy, no matter what the material. The trousers must be able to go easily and quickly on or off over the biggest boots—such as mountain boots or rubber hip boots. There are times, for instance, in a canoe or boat, when it is an astute procedure to get rid of your rain gear in a hurry. Or conversely, to put it on without delay. "You should never get hung up while doing either of these things," points out John Johnson, Camping Editor of Sports Afield Magazine. "It could be irritating as well as downright dangerous."

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