

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1935

Working Miracles

Former President Herbert Hoover's much quoted comment on prohibition would very well fit the automobile driver's license law. Of this law we might say "it is an experiment, noble in motive and far reaching in purpose, we wish it to succeed."

But the law within itself will not work miracles in eliminating the almost 1,000 automobile deaths yearly in North Carolina. The very fact that the measure gets on the statute books will not save a life or make for safer conditions on the highways.

Like all other measures it has its advantages and drawbacks and to be a success this "noble experiment" must be enforced rigidly and efficiently. It looks as if the state highway patrol could make itself very useful in this phase of work.

Like almost everything else the licenses will cost money and we are given to understand that a great part of the fee will go for a thorough examination of the subject. Now "the boys" should get busy and work out some plan whereby the examination can disclose just what per cent devil the prospective driver's mind is made up of. An examination of this kind should cut out some of the reckless and careless drivers.

But to lay all jesting aside the drivers license law should prove beneficial and again we add if it is enforced without fear, favor, partiality, politics or any of the other evils that tend to creep in to the carrying out of a noble experiment designed to remove the reckless and dangerous drivers that infest the highways of the state.

If we understand the measure correctly its motive is to cancel the driver's license and bar him from the roads in the event of continued recklessness and disregard of traffic regulations and the rights of others.

Some Ideas On Inflation

We do not pretend to be financial or economic experts. But we hear so much talk about "inflation" that we have gone to some trouble to find out what the talk all means.

As nearly as we can make out, "inflation" means putting the value of money down by comparison with the things that money will buy. It does not necessarily mean printing money with nothing back of it, as Germany did, nor the free and unlimited coinage of silver, though that, too, would be inflationary. It means any artificial process of sending prices up.

Well, it appears that we have been gradually going through a process of inflation for a couple of years now. The devaluation of the gold dollar, the forcing-up of farm prices, the addition of silver to our monetary system, the increase of bank credits through Government borrowings—all of those are part of the process of inflation. Almost everybody is feeling the effects of it in rising prices of things they buy, though not all have yet felt the inflationary effect upon their incomes.

The next step, the experts tell us, will come about through the centralization of banking and credit control.

Expert advisers pointed out that the ones who benefit are those who have property of any kind bought at the pre-inflationary price, which they can sell in terms of the cheaper dollars. Also those who owe money in dollar debts, who will get money with which to pay more cheaply than they can now. That sounded reasonable to us. If inflation puts up the price of hogs or of a day's work, the man with a mortgage or a note in bank won't have to sell as many hogs or do as much work to pay off his debt.

Backing It Up

Judge Harding in his charge to the grand jury in Wilkesboro Monday morning stated that the reason some laws are unpopular is because they are not enforced. History and observation will show that the jurist is right in his belief and he has been in a position to know the whys and wherefores of laws and their failure.

The judge's comment was directed to the grand jury body and its duties in the setup of law enforcement and he placed part of the blame for disrespect for law and difficulty of enforcing law on the failure of grand juries to fulfill the duty to which they are sworn when they begin the week's work. Those who have watched court procedure will notice that the oath taken by members of that body is in part "to due presentment make" of violations of the law.

Thus we get around to the heart of this editorial. That being the failure on the part of citizenry to carry out what they proclaim is right and their unwillingness to actually aid with their time and means the enforcing of laws which they favor. No law can be adequately enforced unless officers have the helpful and sympathetic backing of their constituents. Thus a law that the people actually want becomes a failure because of the unsympathetic behavior of the people in general, or as a mass.

Many people have conceded that the failure of national prohibition was to a great extent the fault of people who actually wanted liquor outlawed but who were content to think that the laws against liquor would outlaw the traffic. As a consequence many who had fought for the 18th amendment let down in the fight and did not follow up what had been started with actual help toward enforcing the laws. The prohibition laws, nationally speaking, were so abused and violated that they became unpopular to the extent that the nation voted out the 18th amendment. The same principle is true in the case of practically all laws and the tremendous crime wave of the past few years has been due, to a great extent, to the sympathetic attitude toward the criminal and the unwillingness of the average citizen to do more than fold his hands and pay little attention to the inroads of crime.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

PETER PREACHES TO GENTILES
Lesson for March 10th. Acts 10:34-48. Golden Text: Acts 10:34, 35.

The story of the Gentile Cornelius brought to the Master by the Jewish Peter is most fascinating. Cornelius was almost the first, if not actually the first, Gentile convert. He had never seen Jesus in the flesh, and was nurtured in a distinctly Roman atmosphere. But out from the grey light of paganism he first walked into the brighter rays of Judaism, becoming a proselyte, or God-fearer, who observed the three primal laws of Jewish piety, alms, prayers, and fasts. Finally, in the providence of God, he came into the full blaze of truth.

When we look at Cornelius what do we see? First we behold a man who represents the military ideal. He was a soldier, both before and after his Christian profession. Therefore we are not surprised to find in him the capacity for obedience. When the angel instructed him to "send men to Joppa" to fetch Peter, he at once complied.

Secondly we note in Cornelius a man who was faithful to the best light he had. There were certain Jewish rites, such as circumcision, which did not appeal to him. But he was loyal to all he could accept. In these modern days of intense confusion what we must all learn to do is to accept what we can believe, and then follow its light with fidelity. Let us anchor to what we are sure of, and build on that.

In the third place we see in Cornelius a man who accepted further knowledge. His mind was not closed. In open-minded fashion he responded to more light. And so it is no wonder that when he had heard Peter's message the Holy Spirit fell upon him. Thus he was richly blessed.

And now note that Peter, by this contact, was made a new man. He was broadened out. He saw that "God is no respecter of persons." He lost his parochialism, his nationalism. He learned the tremendous truth that all men everywhere are united by the bonds of God's forgiving love in Christ.

An investigator reports that in Missouri and Arkansas Hillbilly crime is decreasing. Probably not decreasing—just transferred to the radio.—Providence News-Tribune.

Berlin astronomers are at a loss to explain the rapid growth of new spots on the sun. It might be just a trick to embarrass the astronomers.—San Diego Union.

Maybe the baby bonds will be O. K., but it always is dreadfully hard to tell how a baby is going to turn out.—Detroit Free Press.

"OUR DAILY BREAD," NEW VIDOR TRIUMPH



Another brilliant feather was added to the already feathery cap of King Vidor when "Our Daily Bread" comes to the Liberty Theatre Monday and Tuesday. The reception accorded this production, which he wrote, directed and produced, will confirm the advance reports that it is a worthy companion piece for "The Big Parade," "The Crowd," "Street Scene," "Hallelujah" and the other Vidor triumphs of the past. The film features Koren Morley and Tom Keene with Barbara Pepper in the cast.

Surgeon's Deft Hands Right Inverted Stomach of Girl; Chance to Live Good

Fall River, Mass., March 4.—The "upside down" stomach of Clyce Jane McHenry was set right today in a prolonged operation of peculiar difficulty, an operation carrying an added touch seemingly drawn from the child's own faith.

Late in the afternoon, attending physicians described her condition as satisfactory. They said she was sleeping and that her pulse was 120, about normal.

Whispers were repeatedly heard in the operating room, as the chief surgeon performed his delicate tasks.

"Bully!" was one spoken fervently. "That's splendid!" was another.

All were heartfelt cheers for

the chief surgeon as one after another knotty mixup of vital organs untangled under his swiftly moving fingers.

Whether the prayers are to be answered was unknown tonight. The strain was terrific on the child, but she stood it surprisingly well. She has apparently a good chance, but it may be several days before there is certainty.

Dies Of Injuries

Salisbury, March 4.—Charles W. Foster, 53, Southern Railway brakeman familiarly known as "Dad" Foster, died today in a local hospital from injuries he received several nights ago when he fell from a box car while on duty in the local railway yards.

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Wilson Man Sues Brother For Biting Off His Ear

Wilson, March 4.—Jesse Aycock Wilson county farmer, has entered suit in Superior court here for \$15,000 damages against his brother, Simon Aycock, who allegedly bit off his ear in a fit of rage in the local courthouse corridor a few weeks ago. The suit is for \$10,000 actual damage and \$5,000 punitive damages.

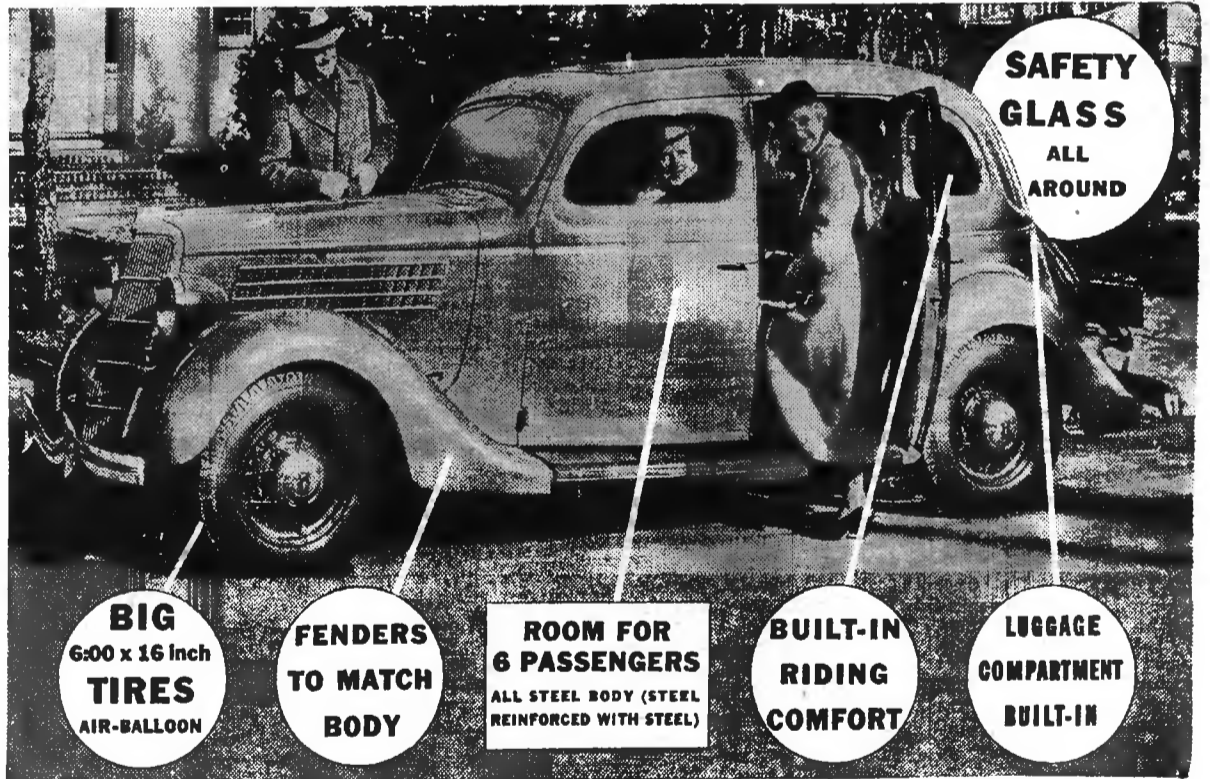
In his complaint Jesse Aycock alleges that he was threatened

with death and bodily harm by Simon a few minutes before the ear biting episode.

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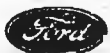
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