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High Court Rights Wrong

This week the Supreme Court of the United States, the last resort of appeal by a person who believes that he has been wrongfully convicted, rightfully removed the threat of prison from over O. B. Williams and Lille Shaver Hendrix, of Caldwell county, who were sentenced to three to ten years in the penitentiary on a charge of bigamy.

It seems from the record that the man and woman went to Nevada and there under the easy divorce laws were divorced from former mates and "married up" with each other in Nevada. They came back to North Carolina and were thrown in jail because they were living as man and wife.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court is not surprising. What is surprising and at the same time disappointing, is that the court of North Carolina would be so "biggity", if you would pardon the slang term, as to take such action as it did in convicting and sentencing the man and woman, who were legally married in another state, to prison.

And what is more surprising is that the supreme court of North Carolina would uphold the superior court's action.

We by no means uphold the divorce laws of Nevada, but we can point out that if the precedent of the superior court at Lenoir and the state supreme court were followed far enough, chaos would result.

The majority opinion of the supreme court pointed out that thousands of children in this country now would be illegitimate if such procedure were followed constantly and that states must recognize the judgments of other states.

Suppose that every couple living together in the state, who had obtained divorces in other states, were brought before the courts and put in prison. Such would be possible if the U. S. Supreme court had not intervened.

The Goal Is The Same

About the only good things that can be said for any war, were said last week at the National Chemical Exposition in Chicago. There was exhibited at this wonderland of industrial development a wide variety of "war babies," war-opportunity products which will alter drastically the economics not only of the chemical industry but of the many industries dependent upon chemical research.

It is significant too that improvements and inventions have not been wholly confined to arms and armament although most of our efforts are in that direction. Products are being produced more cheaply, as industry, working with large war orders, carries to new heights the miracles of mass production techniques. Time is at a premium during a war, and industrial research, meeting the requirements of the day, must accelerate its pace as never before.

Many civilian products have come forth in industry's tireless search for substitutes as priorities curtail regular production.

Most things are best judged under duress, and American industry has proved in these trying times that, although burdened with war orders, its aim is still to make life in the American home and office and factory as easy and pleasant as possible for all people in good times or bad.

About 1,300,000 women are members of AFL unions and 1,500,000 belong to CIO unions. The Railroad Brotherhoods also have women members.

Girls in Czechoslovakia are excluded by Nazis from all but elementary schools, and so are the sons and daughters of "progressive" parents.

No Short Cut

William M. Jeffers, rubber czar, recently struck hardest at "loose and careless" talk about the rubber problem. The rubber problem is not licked; there is a definite rubber shortage; there will be fires for all only if the most stringent measures are applied and received with 100 per cent cooperation on the part of the public that is the grim truth.

There is no easy short cut to rubber conservation, or to the production of more rubber. "The facts are," Mr. Jeffers said, "that the Japanese cut off 90 per cent of our supplies and that as a result the United States is compressing into two years the building of a tremendous synthetic rubber industry which ordinarily would take a dozen years to build.

"The greatest reserve supply of rubber we have in this country is in the million tons of rubber in the tires of our passenger cars and trucks. We must stretch that million tons as far as it will possibly go—and maybe a little farther."

A new design for a metal-lined gunpowder box is saving Army Ordnance enough copper every month to fill specifications for 259 155 mm. guns.

A New Orleans furniture store is looking into the possibility of using mule-draw carts to save tires on deliveries of orders.

U. S. Army training and proving grounds are contributing five million pounds of fired cartridge cases a month as copper scrap.

The 1942 production of new typewriters is less than half of the more than 850,000 additional machines needed by the military and other Government services and agencies.

The Athens, W. Va., county jail, vacant for a year, was scrapped and yielded 30 tons of steel.

A Denver, Colo., grill offered a free hamburger for each five pounds of scrap metal brought in by customers.

LIFE'S BETTER WAY

WALTER E. ISENHOUR,
Hiddenite, N. C.

LAYING THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Common sense tells us that in order to build a strong, substantial building of any kind it is absolutely necessary to first lay a good foundation. If the foundation is poorly laid, or constructed of unsound material, the building cannot endure the storms and rains, or the wasting elements of time. The building will warp and twist and eventually collapse.

Is not the same true of life? No one can build a great, noble, royal, sublime life upon the wrong foundation. And sin and wickedness is that foundation. To begin life with bad, injurious habits which both destroy the health and morals, and which eventually destroy the character and the soul, should be guarded and advised against. No habit that is hurtful should be laid as a foundation upon which to build life. Parents should guard their children, as much as possible, against anything and everything that would injure them in body, mind and soul. In the meantime they should pray earnestly and sincerely that God would protect them, and come early into their lives and souls.

When I was a boy in school we were taught that character meant more than learning. Our readers were full of the best stories which inspired us to aim high, aspire for the best things, and have a purpose that was great and worth while, then do our best to bring it into effect, or accomplish it. We were taught the goal of life was high up in the manhood and womanhood, truth and honesty, uprightness and godliness, sobriety and nobility, and in order to achieve success we had to measure up to this.

Anything that was low, degrading, vile and mean was to be beneath us. We were not to partake of it. We were taught that "it is noble only to be good." In our examinations we were not to cheat. In our dealings we were to be fair. We were taught that to live a heroic life we had to be manly, womanly, virtuous and righteous, and take no unfair terms, or seek no buyers, in our effort to reach life's highest, grandest goal. Our success in life depended upon laying the right foundation and putting into life's structure the very best material. If that was true forty and fifty years ago, it is equally as true today. Indeed we know that it is true.

Abnormal Absurdities

By DWIGET NICHOLS, et al.

Want To Butcher Beef Legally?

Get A T-Square and Slide Rule
The following story out of Washington, and by an Associated Press writer, is right up our alley. Here it is:

Want to butcher a beef and stay out of jail?

Then grab your skinning knife, a T-square, a foot ruler and a copy of revised maximum price regulation No. 169.

This 24-page illustrated document at the office of price administration, which lays down specific standards for cutting a side of beef to be sold at wholesale, was held up by Senator Butler (R), Neb., as being so specific as to be incomprehensible.

"The whole thing's nutty," Butler said. "It just shows what a bunch of young lawyers can do when they meet up with a beef chart."

There are three columns of fine print on each of the first 20 pages. The appendix contains sort of an X-ray view of a beef-cutter, a working plan of how to dismantle it into component steaks, and a good county map of the United States.

Suppose you want to cut a trimmed full loin, per OPA specifications. It's easy as falling off a logarithm, if you've got somebody to hold the book.

"After the severance of the round from the hindquarters," section 1364.455 of the regulations stipulates, "the flank shall be severed from the full loin by a cut starting at the heavy end of the full loin at the ventral point of severance of the round from the hindquarters and continuing in a straight line to a fixed point on the inside of the 13th rib determined by measuring off ten inches in a straight line from the center of the protruding edge of the 13th thoracic vertebra, but in making the cut no more than one (1) inch of cod or udder fat shall be left on the flank side of the face of the loin.

Paraphrasing the instructions say, "the 10-inch measurement shall be made from the center of the protruding edge of the 13th thoracic vertebra and not from the hollow of the chin bone where the 13th rib joins the 13th thoracic vertebra."

(Albert, maybe you'd better run into the house and get daddy's theodolite. Yes, and ask mamma for a paper clip. That darn 13th thoracic vertebra keeps slipping past the 13th rib.)

Next you trim away the excess lumbar and sacral fat. But that's only half the battle in preparing a trimmed full loin, the book cautions:

"Then all fat shall be removed which extends above a flat plane using the following two lines as guides for each edge of the plane: An imaginary line parallel with the full length of the protruding edge of the lumbar section of the chine bone which line extends 1 inch directly above such protruding edge; a line on the inside of the loin two inches from the flank edge and running parallel with such edge for the full length of the loin."

(You can move the theodolite over by the woodshed now, Albert.)

CAN HAPPEN HERE
The above story reminds us of an account brought in by one of our news scouts. It concerns some Wilkes people.

It seems that a couple of men back in the hills were butchering a hog. They started out in the approved farm style of the hill country.

But after they shot the hog and stuck it in the back part of the throat with a long knife they took time off for a little drink of fire-water in the approved fashion of rural people of the hill country. One drink called for another and before long one thought the other was sick, because he could see two hogs and his partner could not see but one.

Anyway, by the time they got to cutting the hog up in pieces according to the approved custom of the hill country, they could not very well tell one part from another.

First of all, they dropped the dressed hog on a shovel and the shovel cut a long slit angling across the back and side.

Seeing two hogs, they cut first one way and then another.

The women folks, seeing such a mess, decided that maybe the men had killed a horse instead of a hog and refused to touch the meat. They couldn't recognize anything that resembled the usual cuts of farm meat as they had been accustomed to seeing.

The men, still under the influence, as our police officers say, threw the pieces of hog into a truck, pulled out to town and shipped it to Washington. Being patriotic, and after hearing that the government wanted meat for the armed forces, they thought that would be an ideal way to dispose of the meat that the women

folks wouldn't touch. ... they received from a bureau in Washington—an extinguished service pin for being the only people in the country who could but up a hog according to the best approved methods as outlined by their particular bureau.

May Draft Men With Dependents

Washington.—The cold facts of the man power situation today point almost inevitably to gradual abandonment of dependency as grounds for deferment from service in the armed forces.

The facts . . . that the army and navy, as now projected, will want more men than there are in this country without dependents.

A system of payments to dependents of men in the military establishment already is in operation and it would absorb much of the shock of the induction of men who now are deferred because they support others.

President Roosevelt's executive order of December 5 authorizing War Man Power Commissioner Paul V. McNutt to stop induction of men over 35 is partly responsible for a situation which probably will require the induction of many men now deferred. There is some possibility, it is understood that the 35 age figure may be reduced ultimately to 35, although no decisions are expected soon.

There has been some congressional criticism to the 9,700,000 military force projected by the end of 1943. Of that number about 7,500,000 would be in the army. The Senate committee investigating the war program is gathering data to determine whether—in the light of production schedules—the country can properly arm and maintain a 7,500,000-man army by the end of next year.

Responsible officials emphasize that any abandonment of dependency deferments would be gradual. They explained that there would be no justification at this time for the nation to get into a jittery dither because dependency must be given progressively less weight in determining who shall bear arms. And, of course, inductions into the army and navy would exhaust men without dependents before any with dependents were taken.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Now, at the time of the year when gladness and thanksgiving are first in the minds of all, we welcome the opportunity to express our best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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for a
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