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Drunken Drivers Are Not Always Convicted

The policeman watched the "gentleman"—cursing, stumbling, defying mankind and policeman-kind from the sanctity of his own property where a warrant signed by some complainant would be necessary to enter in order to arrest the man, obviously under the influence of intoxicants. The other person present was reluctant to go that far for family consideration since no damage was done and nobody else was present to hear the mouthings coming through said gentleman straight from the bottle.

After an excess of such carrying on, the man moved toward where his car was parked in the yard. The policeman left for the patrol car in a hurry, saying, "If he drives away from that yard, I'll get him."

The man drove away from his yard, and the policeman DID get him and carried him in to city hall. From this point on the story is quite different from what you might guess, or what the above details might lead you to believe.

The witness to the foregoing asked Chief of Police P. O. James later in the day what happened to the man. The chief replied, "We sent him home."

Somewhat shocked, the witness asked, "No charges?" Chief James replied, "None."

Shocked for sure now, the witness had already expressed some disgust for such a police department before the police chief explained his side.

Here's the gist of the reasoning which led the chief to free a man who had been observed obviously under the influence of alcohol by the policeman who brought him in, as well as the other witness, five minutes before driving on Mount Olive's streets:

The policeman observed the way the man drove. There was no weaving, he apparently had control of the car, made all stops and starts as well as anybody, before being picked up. At the police station, he walked and talked, the chief said, all right. With these things observed, even if the shock of arrest had the sobering effect, on what grounds could he cite the man for driving under the influence of intoxicants?

This didn't completely satisfy the chief's questioner, but he began to see in his mind's eye what prompted the release of the driver. He could see a smart defense lawyer make a fool out of the police if they didn't see him drink, and he drove, walked and talked in a satisfactory manner. Even with two witnesses that he was acting in a drunken manner five minutes before he drove his car, there would be little use in prosecuting such a case. Who could swear he was drunk instead of sick, like the famous case of the judge sometime ago?

A driver in the shape that man must have been can often make a long trip without mishap, as long as nothing but steering the car is involved. However, even one drink in the drinkingest drinker around affects his reflexes. What if some child had darted suddenly in front of the car? In his condition, he might have pressed the accelerator instead of the brake. Yet, according to Chief James' reasoning following many such cases, the accident would be "unavoidable"—because "he drove straight, walked straight, and talked straight."

Something is wrong with a law or courts which won't allow conviction of a man for drunken driving until he's so drunk he can't start the car to begin with. Ask any patrolman, anyone in the highway safety department, the drinking driver most involved in wrecks and causing the most deaths and injuries is not the "sloppy" drunk—it's the one who's had "only one or two" drinks, or a beer or two, and can "drive straight, walk straight and talk straight."

Just a smell of the breath is all that should be necessary. If a man has drunk ANY alcoholic beverage, he shouldn't drive. If he does drive and is caught at it, there should be no "degree" of alcoholic influence. He had it in him, or he didn't.

North Carolina has cut traffic deaths so far this year way under last year, an accomplishment which should earn the highway patrol, police and drivers a pat on the upper spine. If something could be done to put the above type of driver off the highways, there would be the biggest drop in traffic deaths in motoring history.

If some law is possible to allow the one-drink driver to suffer the penalty all drinking drivers deserve, it most likely will never be passed. Why? Because drinking to some extent is so universal now that there probably will never be enough legislators who are teetotallers, or who NEVER drive with a recent drink under their belts, to vote for and pass such a bill.—E.B.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Writing in a national magazine recently, James R. Morris, a University of Chicago economist and specialist on labor unions, deals in considerable detail with a case which, in the view of many, may prove to be a milestone in the tangled history of labor legislation. The case is that of Sandsberry vs. Sante Fe, and Mr. Morris' article carries the descriptive title, "The Right to Work."

Curiously enough, as Mr. Morris points out, ". . . the Supreme Court has never ruled on the constitutionality of compulsory union membership as a condition of employment." Now there are several cases involving the issue which may reach that tribunal. And one of the most significant of these, Mr. Morris states, is Sandsberry vs. Sante Fe.

Under the original Railroad Labor Act, passed in 1932, compulsory union membership was prohibited—any railroad worker was free to join or not join, as he chose. In 1951, Congress amended the act to make the union permissible. The Sante Fe Railway opposed the demands of the unions in this regard, even though threatened with a strike. Then in 1953, thirteen Sante Fe employes went into the 108th District Court of Texas and asked for a permanent injunction against a union shop agreement between the Sante Fe and the unions, on the grounds that such an agreement would deprive them of rights guaranteed under both federal and state conditions.

The jury held for the plaintiffs and against the unions. Last February 6th the judge, E. C. Nelson, granted the desired injunctions and, additionally, enjoined the union from striking to coerce the Sante Fe into signing a union shop contract. It is Judge Nelson's reasoning which, Mr. Morris writes, ". . . was based upon the jury's findings of fact as well as upon the Court's conclusions of law," that is of exceptional interest and significance. Judge Nelson held that the section of the revised Railway Labor Act which legalized the union shop is beyond the power of Congress, and is a violation of the First, Fifth, Ninth, Tenth and Thirteenth amendments to the U. S. Constitution.

He also held the Texas right-to-work law valid and applicable. He said Congress' right to regulate interstate commerce ". . . does not mean that Congress has the right to regulate matters that have no essential relation to interstate commerce . . ." He emphasized that his decision was in no way an attack on labor unions, which are ". . . recognized as necessary and proper . . ." but that to require membership in any organization as a condition of the right to work ". . . is repugnant to American concepts of individual freedom."

Finally, and perhaps most important of all, Judge Nelson drew an analogy between the old, and long-outlawed "yellow dog" contracts and union shop contracts. Here he said: "The evidence indicates there was a period of union busting and head busting and of 'yellow dog' contracts. That was wrong, but that time, thank God, has passed. And it is just as wrong now that the unions should endeavor to compel men and women to join a union at the price of holding their jobs. The right answer is that they must be free to join, as they as individual persons choose to do."

Colonial Flag

Here's the Answer

HORIZONTAL
1 Depicted is the flag of ——
8 This British colony consists of a —— of islands
13 Wakened
14 Slow (music)
15 Uncooked
16 Puff up
18 Eternity
19 Exists
20 Prime minister
22 Mixed type
23 Drop of eye fluid
25 Iroquoian Indian
27 Therefore
28 Beverages
29 Measure of area
30 Bone
31 Sun god of Egypt
32 Artificial language
33 Impale
35 Allowance for waste
38 Step
39 Volcano in Sicily
40 Not (prefix)
41 Tasted
47 Tungsten (ab.)
48 Rodent
50 Parts in plays
51 Vase
52 Oak seed
54 Small ring
56 Small (comb. form)
57 Tents

VERTICAL
1 Mineral
2 Expunger
3 Paddle a boat
4 Greek letter
5 Employer
6 Remove
7 First man
8 Mirth
9 Concerning
10 Unit
11 Ideal state
12 Small horses
17 Palm lily
20 Distributes fairly
21 Replied sharply
24 Fungus
26 It is a popular vacation ——
33 Helical
34 King's home
36 Dinner course
37 Baits
42 Italian river
43 "Show Me State" (ab.)
44 Scheme
45 Smooth and unaspirated
46 Domestic slave
49 Peak
51 Diminutive suffix
53 Right (ab.)
55 Preposition

FLAG OF BERMUDA

Great Planet Neptune Was Ignored When First Found

By SKI SCOPE

Neptune is the last of the great planets in the solar system. You remember, we said Uranus was discovered by accident, but not Neptune. Why? For a long time astronomers and scientists knew our old friend Uranus was being "pushed around", something was making it wobble. No respectable, worthwhile planet the size of Uranus would be "acting up" like that. Some powerful outward influence was making it stagger.

Two men, wholly independent of each other, set out, by calculation and pure thinking, to locate this influence, which they believed to be another planet. One was an Englishman named John Adams, a professor at the University of Cambridge. The other was a brilliant young French astronomer by the name of LeVerrier.

Now here is where we have an international controversy arising. Adams sent his calculations to the then British Astronomer Royal, by the name of Airy. He must have been a stuffed shirt, for he scoffed at the young man's work and stuffed them in the dustiest pigeonhole of his desk. He made some little casual observation, then said no planet. LeVerrier, not knowing of Adam's work, assembled his own work and sent them to the French Academy of Sciences. These folks were not overly impressed, so LeVerrier wrote to a famous German astronomer.

Dr. Galle did just that on the very first night the information reached him and low and behold he found the new planet within one degree of where LeVerrier told him to look. After Galle made his announcement things really began to happen. England belatedly claimed the victory, then the French press took it up and was very bitter on the subject.

In the meantime, while this controversy raged, this newly found planet, the eighth in the solar system, went serenely on its way at the relatively slow pace of 3.4 miles per second. After things cooled off and as all true scientists do, they put aside their claims and grievances, then named the new planet Neptune, selected from the Olympian deities and known as the god of the seas.

Out of this world? Yes, just a little. Only two and a half billion miles from the sun. How cold? Just a little chilly—364 degrees below zero F. This bitter cold planet makes its awesome journey around the sun every 165 years. It is really a big boy. The "waistline" is 33,000 miles. The extreme cold has stabilized its atmosphere to such an extent that it is too thick and rigid to permit an accurate estimate of the planet's speed of revolution. Its day is about 16 of our hours. Neptune has one large moon called Triton, which is a trifle larger than our moon. It also has maybe one or two very small moons. Triton has a retrograde movement, that is, it moves backwards, from east to west.

Neptune is too faint to be visible with the naked eye. A good pair of opera glasses or a small telescope will show it. With a large telescope it appears to have a greenish cast and is easily perceived. It has a solid central core, a thick layer of ice and a cold deep complex atmosphere, which follows the unpleasant pattern of the giant planets in being composed largely of methane. Neptune must be a cold lonely planet, without the remotest vestige of life whatsoever.

Indian Springs

(By Jackie Coker)

The Rev. W. W. Clarke of Duke University will fill his regular appointment Sunday morning at the Indian Springs Methodist church.

Jackie Coker spent Thursday night in Greenville with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Ballenger.

Miss Angeline Coker left Saturday for a month's visit in Columbia, S. C., with Mr. and Mrs. Willie Coker.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones and family of Kentucky are new neighbors in this section.

R. K. Lewis, Mrs. Viola Hines and Bobbie Anderson left Sunday for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Whicker of Washington, D. C.

Mary and Merrill Carter of Goldsboro are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Carter, this week.

J. A. Carter gave a barbecue dinner Sunday in honor of his wife's birthday. Among the approximately 75 that attended were guests from Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Genell Rose and family of Selma spent Sunday with Mrs. Mamie Turner.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Creech were visited Monday by Mrs. L. H. Witherington and children of New Bern.

Mrs. Bobbie Arnette and son of the Long Ridge community are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Roland Kornegay.

Robert Dickinson left Sunday for Military Reserve camp with a group from Goldsboro.

Marion Shivar of Daly's Chapel is visiting the Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Price.

Mrs. Kenneth Carter of Goldsboro visited Mrs. Walter Creech Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Holmes of Seven Springs visited Mr. and Mrs. John Hancock Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Hollowell of Kinston visited Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hardison Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Pearsall of Norfolk, Va., is visiting Mrs. T. L. Sasser.

T. K. Holmes of High Falls is visiting in this neighborhood.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist meets Friday night in the home of Mrs. Paul Smith.

M/Sgt. Nathan Garner and his wife, Mae; of Fort Bragg and Mount Olive, respectively, were visitors at Wayne's Chapel Sunday night.

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TIPS

"I must be going nuts—I keep looking for a job in The Tribune Want Ads!"

NEWS for VETERANS

Veterans planning to start Korean GI Bill training before the forthcoming August 20 cut-off date were urged by the Veterans Administration to give extra-special thought to their choice of a training program.

The reason, VA said, is that after the cut-off date, the law tightens up appreciably on a veteran's right to change his course. He no longer will be allowed to make his one-and-only course change with the same ease that it could be made before the deadline.

At any time before the cut-off date, the Korean GI Bill permits a veteran one change of course. So long as his conduct and progress were satisfactory, he has a relatively free hand in making the change. It could be from law to engineering; from air conditioning to airplane mechanics; the choice was his.

But once the cut-off date passes, VA said, the one-and-only free change-of-course provision no longer holds good. After that time, a veteran may change his course only under one of the following circumstances:

1. The course he wants to change to is a normal progression from the course he has already taken. For example, if he obtained his AB degree, he would be permitted to change to an MA degree.

2. He hasn't been making satisfactory progress in the course he was taking, due to no fault of his own. If this is the case, he will be required to undergo VA vocational counseling, to help him select a new course more in keeping with his aptitudes and abilities.

The August 20 Korean GI Bill cut-off applies only to post-Korea veterans separated from active service before August 20, 1952. Veterans who got out of active service after that date have two years from separation in which to begin their training.

Newly-separated veterans in the latter group need not worry about having their one changed-course rights curtailed until after their individual cut-off dates come around, VA said.