

Eastern Clackamas News

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FIRST DUTY TO OBEYING THE LAWS.

Obedience to the Constitution and laws of the country are the first duty of an American, says George B. Lockwood, editorially in the National Republic, quoting Stephen A. Douglas to that effect. Mr. Lockwood continues:

We hear more about the duty of officials to enforce the law than of the duty of the citizen to observe the law.

If law breaking were confined to those recognized as lawless, the necessity of stressing the importance of law observance would not be so great. But what more than all else weakens the cause of law enforcement is the disposition of literally millions of Americans to disregard those laws they consider unjust or unwise.

Disbelief in law is not unusual among those who disregard law. The burglar and the murderer often believe themselves justified; the one arguing that he is only taking a direct method of effecting that which many others accomplish by indirection, and the other that he has the right to avenge a wrong.

Disbelief in a given law furnishes no justification for breaking it. The fabric of law, which protects the citizen in his right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, cannot be torn in one spot without affecting the firmness of the whole mantle of defense of individual rights. To leave to every individual the right to determine what laws he shall and what he shall not respect and obey would be to destroy all law.

No citizen who disregards and defies any law has morally the right to complain because other citizens disregard other laws, even laws necessary to his own protection. There must be respect for law because it is law.

Every infraction of law, by whomsoever committed, is a blow at the foundation of all law and order. If the example of lawlessness is given by the substantial citizen of respectable reputation, it is an invitation to disorderly elements, with less at stake in the preservation of law and order, to imitate that example.

In a republic like ours the law represents the will of the people in action. If it does not represent the preponderance of public opinion, the means of repeal are provided under our system of government.

The genuinely and intelligent patriotic citizens of this republic will not be found crying out against the laws of the land or engaged in breaking them, either privately or publicly.

The late President Harrison refused to follow a companion in his home city of Indianapolis who walked over a grass plot as a short cut to the street. He knew that one crossing of that bit of grass would not harm it. He knew, however, that if others did the same, a place of beauty would become an eye-sore, his deep-seated sense of justice, and his habit of measuring the results of his own actions if imitated by others, prevented him from doing even so small an anti-social act. He was concerned with the principle involved in such action.

The nation is the sum of the units which go to make it up. It is upon the behavior and the thinking of the individual that the stability and quality of government depends. Keep in mind your own responsibility. If every well-intentioned citizen of the republic did this, good government would be a much more easily attained objective.

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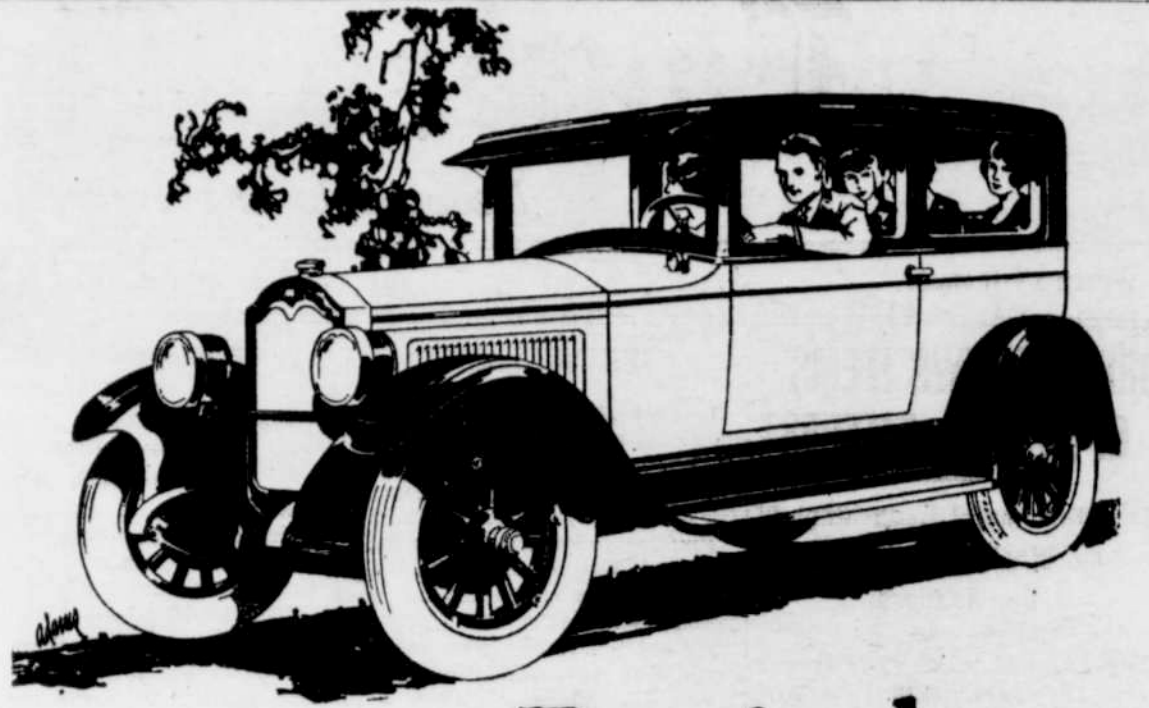
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LEGAL NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

No. 3389.
In the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Clackamas. In the Matter of the Estate of Van Woodard, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Clackamas, administratrix of the estate of Van Woodard, deceased and has qualified. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same, duly verified as by law required, at the office of my attorney, William Wallace Smith, Masonic Bldg., Estacada, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.
Dated and first published, Sept. 24, 1925.
Date of last publication, Oct. 22, 1925.

MRS. DORA HIRTE, Administratrix.
W. W. SMITH, Attorney for Administratrix.

Farm Reminders.

Three conditions are necessary for successful wintering of bees in any locality, says H. A. Scullen of the experiment station. The first is that there be a liberal supply of young workers produced during late August and September; second, that there be ample stores of honey in the hives during winter months, and early spring; third, that ample protection for the colony is given against winter cold and moisture.

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