

What Is The Law?

This column is prepared as a public service by the College of Law, Willamette University, Salem, to explain basic legal principles, not to provide legal advice. The reader is cautioned not to apply these cases to his own problems without an attorney's advice, for differing facts may change the outcome.

Law Helps Repairman Collect His Bills

Since his car was not functioning properly and needed body repairs, Mr. Driver took it to Joe's garage. Joe overhauled the motor and removed all the dents. When Driver picked up his car he told Joe that he was short of funds but would pay him the \$800 repair bill within a week. Driver immediately went to Loan Co. and borrowed \$50 on the car, giving Loan Co. a chattel mortgage to secure the loan. Three months later Driver, having paid neither his repair bill nor his loan, is completely without funds and Loan Co. levies on the car. Does Joe, the mechanic, have any rights in the car is worth less than \$50?

For several centuries the courts have given a repairman a "possessory lien" on items of personal property (chattels) that he repairs. However, this lien was based on possession and lasted only as long as the repairman retained possession of the chattel. It gave the repairman the right to retain the goods until he was paid. If the chattel is returned to its owner and no force or fraud is involved, as this law now stands in many states, the repairman has no security interest in the item. Of course, the debt still exists and he can sue the owner to recover the cost of the repairs, but he has no rights in the property.

Non-Possessory Lien

In addition to the possessory lien, many states (including Oregon) have statutes which give the unpaid repairman a "non-possessory lien" on items which he has repaired. This lien remains on the property for one year after work is completed even though the owner regains possession of the chattel. Therefore, Joe would have priority over Loan Co. in Oregon, but would not have any rights in those states which do not have laws providing for the non-possessory lien.

Under the early law, persons who merely protected and cared for goods did not have a lien for their charges such as was given to those who improved property by their skills and labor. Oregon has also changed the law in this area to give liens to many types of businessmen who do not specialize in repair and improvement of chattels. Special legislation has been passed in Oregon giving a lien to loggers, sawmill workers, mining workers, fishermen, farm laborers, sheep and cow herders, nurserymen, seed dealers, innkeepers and hospitals. Some of the statutes require the filing of notices with a county official before the lien is complete.

PT&T Signs Pact Involving 2,500 Men
Portland - (UPI) - A contract involving 2,500 workers in five Western states was signed here Sunday by Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company and the Order of Repeaters and Toll Test-board Men. The new contract must be ratified by union members before July 3 for it to become effective. Wage increases range from \$2 to \$5 a week. The telephone company also agreed to designate three more Oregon cities as high wage classification areas. They are Albany, Pendleton and Corvallis.

Louisiana Faces Week of Crisis; Long Seeks Release

Baton Rouge, La. - (UPI) - This is a week of crisis for Louisiana. It may see the governor emerge from a mental hospital and try to take over power. It could see violence. Gov. Earl K. Long, confined as a schizophrenic paranoid, was determined to get out of the state hospital at Mandeville. He had picked a political henchman today to do the legal blocking for him. The consensus in this capital was that there would be "hell to pay" if the 63-year-old Long gets back in the governor's chair. A hearing was expected by Wednesday. It could be a public sanity hearing before the Baton Rouge district judge who committed him last Thursday. It could be a hearing before a judge in St. Tammany Parish where he is now held, demanding release on grounds he was unlawfully committed. Theo Cangelosi, Long's appointee as chairman of the board of supervisors at Louisiana State University, said the governor was calm and rational when he talked with him at the Southeastern State Hospital Saturday. "He said to me, 'Do I behave like an insane man?'" Cangelosi reported. Long's doctors at the hospital reported Sunday night that the governor is in "satisfactory general condition and that he was cooperating in physical and mental tests." The bulletin said he had been examined by Dr. Anthony Rousos, a hospital staff psychiatrist at Southeastern Hospital, and Dr. Victor Lief, an internal medicine specialist. Dr. Rousos is in direct charge of the patient. **Could Introduce Reports** If a sanity hearing is held, Long could introduce the report of the staff doctors at the state hospital. He was committed without a hearing by Judge Fred S. Leblanc after an examination in the back seat of a police car when he was forcibly brought to the East Baton Rouge Parish courthouse Thursday night. Louisiana law provides that "an examination of the patient shall be held at a place not likely to have a harmful effect upon his condition." It also provides that any mental patient committed involuntarily can demand and get a sanity hearing. Long's top lawyer in his freedom fight is Joe Arthur Sims. Sims ran for state attorney general on the Long

Four Persons Hurt In Accident Sunday

Four persons were injured in one of three traffic accidents Sunday, according to state police. Mrs. Glenn Cecil Downing, 52, of 3521 Hanley rd., Central Point, was treated for a cut on her leg and released; Chester Langele, 52, of 339 Haven st., Central Point, was treated for a cut lip and fractured jaw and admitted; Lucille Langele, 48, also of 339 Haven st., Central Point, was treated for a hip injury and released; Vanca Russel, 16, of 6211 Azalea dr., Central Point, was treated for cuts on her head and released. All were taken to Sacred Heart hospital by Medford Ambulance service.

FOR SAFER DRIVING

Minneapolis - (UPI) - Your auto should be given a thorough check-up before you start a long vacation drive on one of America's new super highways, warns American Automobile association. Hugh Craig, executive secretary of the Minnesota AAA, said: "The speeds maintained in expressway driving and the distance between service stations require motorists to have their cars in top condition." Reversing the tube may improve a fluorescent light that has grown dark at one end.

State police said they intend to file a complaint against the pickup truck driver for not having a signal device. Extensive damage resulted to the pickup truck which had to be towed away. Apparently the sports car was not seriously damaged, police said. A second accident occurred Sunday morning about 9 a.m. when a postal service panel truck driven by Delbert Edward Done, 39, of 902 Grant st., Medford, and a car driven by George Riley Moore, 403 North Holly st., Medford, collided at the intersection of Perrydale ave. and the Jacksonville highway. No injuries were reported, state police said. Both vehicles were west-bound on the Jacksonville highway when Done's car struck the panel truck as it was making a turn onto Perrydale ave. Both vehicles landed in a roadside ditch.

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How to Eat Grass and Eliminate the Middle Man...

We have a nice sort of a man in our Research Department who eats nothing but grass. About once every week, we call him in and ask, "Is it as good as gorgeous GOLDEN GUERNSEY MILK?" He never fails to reply with an emphatic "No!" and then always asks for a transfer to another department. If you care to pay the slight extra cost for our GOLDEN GUERNSEY MILK, you'll find that it makes a mighty handsome addition to your table.

Little Dairy
A Snider Cow

23 Persons Injured As Autos Collide

Issaquah, Wash. - (UPI) - Twenty-two teen-age girls and a young woman were injured Sunday, one critically, when the station wagon in which they were riding collided with an automobile here.

Most seriously injured was Joanne Eichner, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Eichner, who suffered multiple injuries and was listed in critical condition at Providence hospital in Seattle. Hospital attendants said she may have a skull fracture.

Kathleen Murphy, 14, Seattle, was admitted to Group Health hospital here for observation. Nine other victims were treated at hospitals and then released. The others were to see private doctors for treatment of minor injuries.

Most of the girls were students at Blanchet High school and were members of the "Debonairs," a club composed of Seattle high school girls.

Youngsters Need to Register With SS

Members of reserve or National Guard units are required to register with selective service within five days after their 18th birthday, it was announced here by Local Board No. 17.

The board said that some young men have received incorrect information advising them that they do not need to register if they belong to a reserve unit. Registration is required by the Universal Military Training and Service act.

Verification of date of birth, such as birth certificate or birth record, must be presented at the time of registration. Local Board No. 17, selective service, is located at 33 North Riverside ave., Medford.

Men in the Missouri "backwoods" determine whether a pair of pants will fit them at the waist by measuring the trousers against the distance between the elbow and the clenched fist of one arm.

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