

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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MORE LOSE LICENSES

A big increase in the number of arrests for drunken driving is evidenced by the records of P. J. Stadleman, secretary of state, which show that nearly 100 more persons were convicted on such charges in the first six months of this year than in the same period in 1933.

Reports from courts from January to June, 1934, brought revocations of the operators' licenses of 272 persons who were driving while drunk, and last year 176 drivers were involved in similar charges during the half-year. In 1932, 139 persons lost their driving privileges for the same offense in the first six months, and in the same period in 1931, only 74 were lited. The gain in 1934 was 54.4 per cent over 1933, 95.7 per cent over 1932, and

267.6 per cent over 1931.

Some of the increase over the first year listed were due to a change in the state laws requiring city courts to forward all convictions in drunken driving cases to the secretary of state, and greater cooperation of justices of the peace in reporting convictions during the last year has been partially responsible for the larger number of cases brought to the attention of the state.

For a considerable period of time, many court officers were apparently not aware of the requirements of the law which makes it mandatory on the secretary of state to revoke the driver's license of any persons convicted of driving while intoxicated, but this condition has been remedied and all court are reporting to the state the convictions in such cases so that the required license revocations may be made.

NEW "FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH"

Science now tells us that if Ponce de Leon had eaten common foods containing vitamin G he wouldn't have crossed the uncharted seas in search of the fountain of youth in Florida. Although specific use of this vitamin has not been developed fully as yet, its discoverer asserts that it promises "lengthened youth for the human race."

Will not the adolescent in their eager pursuit of maturity forego tomatoes, spinach, liver, yeast and other essential foods containing the youth-preserving and old-age defying vitamin G? And will not men and women who should be growing up gorge themselves on these selfsame foods, thus depriving the country of all maturity and making it a land of eternal youth?

Here is glorious news for those who desire eternal youth, but it is likely to complicate rather than simplify one of the greatest problems of life—that of growing old. Should this news get abroad, the old will act childish to escape the spinach diet and spinsters will not dare ask for vitamin G foods for fear of confessing the advancing years.

Will science never learn to leave well enough alone? Here is a system that has endured through the ages, and for all the complaints heard from both young and old it has worked well. Science might improve upon nature but youth would still look wistfully forward and old age wistfully backward.

TEACHERS AS EXAMPLES

Once more school teachers as a class come in for unfavorable criticism by one of their number. This time they are called sissies—"the men teachers are sissies." They have to be. Rules laid down by school boards make them so.

The charge is that of Dr. John Carr Duff, of New York University. He is quoted as saying that teachers have to live up to a code that would put a strain on a thirty-second degree saint. The teacher, he said, not only has to be a paragon of virtue while he is in the classroom but the same high standard of conduct is required of him all the time.

One is a little at a loss from this description to know just what is Dr. Duff's notion both of sissies and saints. And the point is not cleared up by his statement that "in many districts a teacher is not employed until he has given his word of honor that he does not drink, use strong language, or stay out late at night." The implication would seem to be that a teacher who got drunk, swore and kept irregular hours would be demonstrating some desirable qualities commending him to the choice of school boards.

It is doubtful, however, if Dr. Duff will succeed in abolishing the prevalent notion that teachers, like parents, have a big responsibility to set good examples before young people.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS BY CLARK WOOD

We share President Roosevelt's yen for hamlets, if egg-lets are added.

Communists who do not use their heads in Germany are likely to lose them.

It will probably be found that Europe's strongest repudiationists are munitions makers, who want the dough that should be paid to Uncle Sam.

Mr. Roosevelt is an ardent back-to-the soil advocate. He no doubt realizes that too many backs are still close to the stomach.

Cars wrecked by drunken drivers identify themselves, but repeal isn't what it was cracked up to be.

Money is defined as a medium of exchange, but when locked up it's not a happy medium.

Oh, for the good old days when you could kiss a girl and taste nothing but girl.

More men of standing would run for office if politics wanted men who stood anywhere.

Times are so much better, they say that some of the ex-technocrats have found jobs.

If he says the world will be ruined if it doesn't adopt his plan, the plan usually is no better than the prophecy.

A thing that never upsets a munitions maker is competition. It is found when one goes into production, orders pour in on all.

Another evil effect of the movies is the danger of being shot when you come out, as the death of Dillinger proves.

Kite flying has been made illegal in China, but you can still tell a fellow to go chase himself.

Farmer Brown's - - Observations

Nyssa, Oregon, July 31, 1934

deer edetur:

I had to send an order not long ago to seers robuck company, so I write it out on plane paper and ask them to send me 3 rolls of skotch tissue. by and by an ancor kaim back from the kumpany saying I must look in there katalog and order by number. I rit rite back and tole them there peupul that if I had 1 of there katalogs I wud-ent need to order the skotch tissue. I gess that wil hold them fer awhile, sez I.

I sea by the paiper that Ontario be goin to hold a big fare down there pritty sune. I wuz down there last year, and wuz looking at the live stock I herd a couple of city felers talkin. One of them sez to the other sez he "what is a heffer, is it a pig or a sheep?" and the tother city feller he sez, sez, he "I don't no becuz I never did no mutch about poultry."

I time bob millur wuz boardin at a boardn house run by a widdo. he wuz the star boarder, of korse. I mornin kold, the edetur of the weakly paiper notised bob's kold and that he wud rite sumthin funnie about it, so he maid a squib like this: "our feio townsmen bob millur hasan awful bad cold; it wuz kaused by bob sleapin tew close to the boardn house windo." thets the way the edetur rite it, but it was printed and kumout without the "n" in the windo. boath the wido and bob got mad, but tew this day I kaint see what bob had to be mad about.

yours trulle, FARMER BROWN

Voice of the Press

DR. MEAD'S MESSAGE OF TOMORROW

Dr. Elwood Mead, reclamation commissioner, declared in an interview at Washington this week that much of the drought-stricken areas of the Dakotas must be turned back to nature. Man should never have tilled the soil there, should never have tried to turn the bunch grass into fields of grain and alfalfa. The cards were against him from the start. Insufficient rainfall from the beginning made the venture one which yielded successful crops only spasmodically. Subsequent denuding of more and more land is bringing less and less moisture as watersheds are destroyed.

Dr. Mead's solution of the problem is, undoubtedly, the correct one. It is recognition of mistakes made in our period of western colonization. Moving of farm families from such "marginal lands" to lands that are capable of supporting them comprises a plan that

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holds promise to correct the mistakes of pioneers.

However, the problem is more complex than it seems. It is more complex than merely using government money to buy up marginal farm lands and turning them into untitled reservations for conservation of watersheds to protect fertile lands farther down stream channels. It is a problem to be worked out over generations to come. But nevertheless it is a problem that must be tackled and solved. It is a problem calling upon all the resources and vigor of a nation dedicated to future planning.—Ex.

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