KEEP TO THE RIGHT

HOW TWO BIG WASHINGTONIANS SETTLED THIS POINT.

The Rule of the Road Crank Insisted on His Rights, but He Had Met His Match and Finally Had to Walk to the Left.

A big, broad shouldered man swung along Pennsylvania avenue in front of the White House at about 8:45 the other morning. He kept close to the coping of the iron fence, and as he was traveling in an easterly direction it was not difficult to see that he belonged to the keep to the right school.

Another big, broad shouldered man approached from the opposite direction. Now, it was up to this man to pass to the right and to permit the man going east to retain the coping. But he gave no indication whatever that he was going to do any such thing as he bore down upon the rule of the road crank. He was close to the fence coping himself, and his whole attitude as he approached the other man was that he intended to keep the coping, rule of the road or any other old rule.

The two big men met and came to a standstill within two feet of each other. The rule of the road crank indicated by a gesture that the other man was to pass to the right of him. The other man set his jaw hard and shook his head. The two men glared at each other for fully a minute. Then each sat back in a leaning posture against the coping and gazed over at Lafayette square. If they could have known how utterly silly they looked, they would probably have hastened to yield the point each to the other.

After scowling for some time at Lafayette square the rule of the road crank turned and tried to wilt the other man with a look.

"Say," he said, "did you ever hear of the rule that requires civilized human beings, walking on civilized thoroughfares, to keep to the right?"

"Yep," replied the man who was in the wrong. "Been hearing that for about 30 years now."

"You have, hey?" said the keep to the right precisian. "Well, why don't you abide by the rule, then? Haven't I got the right to walk to the right of you?"

"Sure thing," replied the other. "You've got the right to do any old thing you can."

"D'you mean to say that I can't walk to the right of you?" snapped the keep to the right man, looking threateningly.

"Well, it looks a heap like it, doesn't it, now?" responded the other man cheerfully as he pulled a cigar out of his vest pocket, examined it carefully for points and then coolly lighted it.

The man who was technically in the right looked very ferocious for about half a minute, and then he calmed down and lighted a cigar himself. He went the other man one better by pulling a morning paper out of his top coat pocket and beginning to read it with every evidence of great interest. However, this move was called by the other, who also took out a paper and began to read. At length the rule of the road crank remarked as he turned over a page of his newspaper:

"I s'pose you work for a living, don't you?"

"Bright guess," replied the other, flicking the ash from his cigar.

"Due at your office at 9, I suppose?"

"Uh-huh—when I can make it," replied the other, turning to the editorial page.

"Don't s'pose you know it's 9 now, eh?"

"Well, I figured it was about that."

Then they went on reading and smoking, each occasionally shooting a glance at the other out of the tail of his eye.

"Haven't got much of a sense of common justice, have you?" remarked the rule of the road precisian after awhile.

"Oh, yes, some," replied the other, "but I don't stand for having it pumped into me on the king's highway. It wouldn't kill you to walk to the left of me, nor would it break me up in business to walk to the right of you. But I saw that you were determined to have me walk to the right of you, which is why I didn't do it. See?"

The keep to the right crank had no fitting words at hand to reply to this, so he again applied himself to his newspaper.

They read and smoked, leaning there against the coping of the White House fence, for about ten minutes longer, and then the man who was technically in the right gave the first evidence of caving by looking nervously at his watch.

"Say," he growled to the other man, pulling a quarter out of his pocket, "I've got a family to take care of, and I've got to work to take care of 'em, and I'm 25 minutes overdue at my office now. I'll match you for it."

"You're on," replied the other man, folding up his newspaper and producing his quarter. "Who's matching, me or you?"

"You," said the keep to the right crank, and they matched. The man who was technically wrong won, and he grinned in a Mephistophelian manner at the rule of the road chap, who looked daggers at him as he restored his coin to his pocket.

"You win, all right," said the rule of the road man hoarsely, swallowing a gulp and moving out to let the other pass to the left of him, "but if I'd had had time I'd never let it come to matching for what belonged to me by right. I'd have had a caterer serve my meals right here, and I'd have bunked here, and I'd have smoked you out if it took me 4,000,000,000 years."

The other stubborn man only smiled sardonically again, however, and then they went their ways, and the ridiculous incident was at an end.—Washington Post.

Change Admitted.

"In your wife's divorce petition she says you have trampled upon her affections," said the lawyer.

"Yes," assented the client, "I'll admit it. All the affection she has is centered in a little hairy dog, and the way I've trampled on him has been frightful."—Indianapolis Sun.

WHAT COLOR TELLS IN HORSES.

Arabs Believe the Chestnut Is the Strongest and Swiftest.

Whether or not a horse's color is an indication of his breeding and powers of endurance is a much disputed question. The color theory doubtless originated among the Arabs, for centuries famous as horsemen. Its exponents say that it is the result of constant observation and long study, but many competent horsemen deride it as a superstition.

Be this as it may, the chestnut is the Arab idea of perfection. In this connection it is significant that the majority of successful race horses have been chestnut in color. Chestnuts also seem to have carried off the greatest number of honors in the show ring. The Arabs, like the dictionary, make but little distinction between the chestnut and the bay and considers the latter color about as desirable as the former. The dictionary defines bay as a shade of chestnut.

Horses of a rich seal brown are good to look upon, but among the Arabs rarely fetch a large price, as they are considered lacking in hardihood, prone to sickness, with little or no endurance. Roan horses are by many regarded as very hardy, but all horsemen do not concur in this opinion, and, as the race horse trainers express it, the roan color indicates a cold cross somewhere in the breeding.

The black horse is, in the American mind, suggestive of the funeral, which possibly accounts for some of the prejudice against it. A black horse is a nightmare to his groom, for his coat shows the slightest speck of dust or dirt, and a little gust of wind often spoils hours of hard grooming. When a black horse has been exposed to the sun and weather for some days, his coat fades to a rusty, washed out color.

White horses always suggest the circus. Their coats are even more difficult to keep clean than a black horse's and are seldom in presentable condition. It is most disagreeable to drive behind a gray or white horse during shedding time. Then one's clothing is sure to be covered with clinging hairs that are very noticeable.

Piebald and skewbald horses attract too much attention to the rider or driver to be considered quite the thing and, like the white horse, remind one of the sawdust ring. A mixed coat is a pretty strong indication of low breeding.

There is an ancient tale of a band of Arabs being pursued by their enemies which sums up their theory about a horse's color. Among the fleeing band was a man with unusually keen eyesight, and from time to time he would describe to his leader the horses ridden by the enemy.

"What manner of horses do they ride?"

"Black horses."

"Then there is no need of haste."

At the noon halt the leader again asked, "What manner of horse do they ride now?"

"Bay horses."

"Then we must ride harder."

A few hours later the leader asked, "Are they horsed again?"

"They ride chestnuts."

"Then we ride for our lives."

Goes Without Saying.

Teacher—Now, Tommy, suppose you had two apples and you gave another boy his choice of them—you would tell him to take the bigger one, wouldn't you?

Tommy—No. mum.

Teacher—Why?

Tommy—Cos 'twouldn't be necessary.

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BYE-LAW.

L. S.
(Signed)
Wesley Vanwart,
Mayor of Fredericton

A Law in amendment of a law to impose a tax on the owners or harborers of dogs in the city of Fredericton

Be it Enacted by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Fredericton, as follows:—

1. Every person who is within the City of Fredericton the owner, possessor or harborer, of a dog or bitch, shall pay a yearly license for each such dog or bitch, as follows:—

For each male dog.....$1.00
For each female dog or bitch.....$3 00

2. Every person who is in the City of Fredericton, aforesaid, the owner, possessor or harborer of a dog or bitch, shall before the first day of August in each year, procure and cause such dog to be numbered and described for the year ensuing, in the office of the City Treasurer, and shall cause such dog or bitch to wear around his or her neck, a collar of metal, or of leather with metal plate on which metal or plate collars shall be inscribed the name of such person, and to which collar shall be secured or attached a metal check upon which shall be enscribed the letters F. T. P. (Fredericton Tax Paid) and figures indicating the year for which such tax has been paid, and a number corresponding with the number under which said dog or bitch is for the time being registered in the books of the City Treasurer.

3. Every person shall on payment of the tax imposed by section one of this law, and registering his dog as provided in section two, be furnished free of charge with the check mentioned in the next preceding section.

4. Any police constable, city marshall, or other person authorized for that purpose by the Mayor, City Council, or Police Magistrate, may sieze any dog or bitch found running at large or elsewhere than on premises of the owner, possessor, or harborer thereof, contrary to the provisions of this law, and it shall be the duty of such police constable, city marshall, or other person so to do; and every such police constable, city marshall, or other person shall forthwith after making such seizure, deliver such dog or bitch to the Pound Keeper of the city; and it shall be the duty of the Pound Keeper to whom the same shall be delivered to impound such dog or bitch in a suitable box or stall, to be by him provided for that purpose, and supply it with food and water while so impounded; and in case it shall not be reclaimed as hereinafter provided within six days after it shall have been delivered to the Pound Keeper, it shall be the duty of the Pound Keeper to kill such dog or bitch.

5. The owner, possessor or harborer of any dog or bitch impounded under the foregoing section may reclaim his or her dog or bitch on application to the Pound Keeper and proof of ownership, and on payment to the Pound Keeper of the sum of twenty-five cents for each and every day the said dog or bitch has been impounded, and the further sum of three dollars, one dollar of which shall be retained by the Pound Keeper, one dollar paid to the person or persons by whom such dog or bitch shall have been impounded, and one dollar to the City Treasurer to form part of the city revenue.

6. Any person or persons so keeping or harboring or allowing to be kept or harbored, any dog or bitch within the City of Fredericton, neglecting or refusing to comply with the provisions of the first section of this bye-law, shall be liable to a penalty of three dollars for each and every dog or bitch so kept; and in case any person or persons shall neglect or refuse to take out a License for any such dog or bitch within four days next after any conviction, under this bye-law, said person or persons shall be liable to a further penalty of four dollars for each and every subsequent offence.

7. All licenses issued under the provisions of this bye-law shall expire on the first day of August next following the date of the issue thereof.

8. Dogs and bitches under the age of six months are excepted from the provisions of this law.

9. This law shall come into full operation, force, and effect, on the first day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five.

10. The bye-law passed on the fifth day of August, A. D. 1886, entitled, "A Law to impose a tax on the owners or harborers of dogs, and otherwise restrain the keeping of dogs in the City of Frederirton," and any and all bye-laws passed in amendment thereof and in addition thereto are hereby repealed

Passed and enacted this twentieth day of June, A. D. 1895.

(Signed)
Chas. W. Beckwith,
City Clerk.

July 15 d eod

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