

GAMBLING IN FUTURES

South Carolina Statutes Forbid the Practice.

PENALTY FINE AND IMPRISONMENT

All Participants Are Guilty—Having an Office and Posting Quotations Sufficient Evidence on Which to Base a Case.

Pee Dee Advocate. Editor Pee Dee Advocate: Isn't there a law against gambling in cotton futures in this state or running a bucket shop or office where such gambling is allowed, or where orders are taken for dealing in futures, such as the so-called "exchange" now being run in Bennettsville? Citizen.

There is a very stringent law against dealing in futures or conducting offices or agencies for such dealing. The law, copied from the criminal code is published below.—Editor.

Section 262. It shall be unlawful for any person, association of persons, or corporation, either as principal or agent, to establish, maintain or operate an office or other place of business in this state for the purpose of carrying on or engaging in the business, forbidden by Sections 263 and 264, commonly called dealing in futures or margins.

Section 263. Every contract or agreement, whether or not in writing, whereby any person or corporation shall agree to buy or sell and deliver, or sell with agreement to deliver, any wheat, cotton, corn or other commodity, stock, bond or other security to any other person or corporation, when in fact it is not in good faith intended by the parties that an actual delivery of the articles or things shall be made, it is hereby declared to be unlawful, whether made or to be performed wholly within this state, or partly within and partly without this state; it being the intent of Section 262 to 270 to prohibit any and all contracts or agreements for the purchase or sale and delivery of any commodity or other thing of value on margin, commonly called dealing in futures, when the intention or understanding of the parties is to receive or pay the difference between the agreed price and the market price at the time of settlement; Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to apply to transactions by mail or wire between persons in this state and persons outside of this state, where the person outside of this state is not represented in this state by any broker, agent or attorney in said transaction.

Section 264. Every person who shall become a party to any such contract or agreement, as is by Section 262 and 263 made unlawful, and every person who shall as agent, directly or indirectly, participate in making or furthering or effectuating the same and every agent or officer of any corporation who shall in any way knowingly aid in making or furthering any such contract or agreement, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Section 265. No person shall be excused on any prosecution under Sections 262 to 264, inclusive, from testifying touching anything done by himself or others contrary to the provisions of said sections.

Section 266. In all prosecutions proof that a defendant was a party to a contract, as agent or principal, to buy or sell and deliver any article, thing or property specified or named in Sections 262, 263 and 264, or that he was the agent, directly or indirectly, of any party making, furthering or effectuating the same, or that he was the agent or officer of any corporation or association of persons in making, furthering or effectuating the same, and that the article, thing or property agreed to be sold and delivered, was not actually delivered, and that settlement was made upon the difference in value of the said article, thing or property, shall constitute against such defendant prima facie evidence of guilt of the offenses prohibited in Section 263 and 264.

Section 267. Proof that anything of value agreed to be sold and delivered was not actually delivered, and that one of the parties to such agreement deposited, or secured or agreed to deposit or secure, what are commonly known as "margins," shall constitute prima facie evidence of a contract declared unlawful by the terms of Section 263.

Section 268. Proof that any person, association of persons or corporation, either as principal or agent, has established an office or place where are posted or published from information received the fluctuating prices of cotton, grain, provisions, stocks, bonds, or other commodity or things of value, or either of them, shall constitute prima facie evidence of guilt of the offense or offenses in Section 264.

Section 269. Sections 262 to 270, inclusive, shall not be so construed as to prevent or render unlawful the posting or publishing of market quotations or prices of commodities, stocks, bonds and securities by any regularly organized commercial exchange or other bona fide trade organization in which no purchase or sale for future delivery on margin is permitted.

Section 270. Any person or persons guilty of the violation of any of the provisions of Sections 262 to 270, inclusive, shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500), and be imprisoned in the discretion of the court.

Bathing Suits.—The Enquirer man has been asked what can be done to eradicate the bathing suit evil. He does not know, but he guesses that about the best way to eradicate the

bathing suit evil is to have a frosty morning and a skim of ice over the pond.

Gilmer Lynn Nisbet, who thinks he knows as much about bathing suits as the Enquirer man knows about them, says that a good way to eradicate the bathing suit evil is to put the women in a pond all to themselves and to put the men by themselves in a pond over the hills and far away from the one the women are swimming in.—Monroe (N. C.) Enquirer.

DOC SHUFFIELD PASSES

Friend of East Side Bums Has Gone West

The Bowery mourns the passing of Doc Shuffield, writes O. O. McIntyre, New York newspaper man. He was a scholarly gentleman, who dragged down by drink, cast his lot with the floozies and jettisoned up by Chinatown and the East Side.

His "office" was in The Alligator, where for five cents in the old days one might buy a shot of third-rail liquor and occupy the "flop room" in the rear at night.

His patients were those sodden wretches who heard strange whispers at night as the result of drink and the victims of the "black smoke" of the Chinese opium joints. He ministered, too, to the white wives of Chinese who bore half-caste children, for he once occupied a chair of obstetrics in a London hospital.

Near The Alligator was Callahan's Mission. John Callahan was a drunkard and thief who had gone straight and devoted his life angling for lost souls in that wayward quarter. His mission was once McGuirk's Suicide Hall, so named because soiled doves so often quaffed their last drink there and left in clanging ambulances, their mouths burned with acid.

Doc Shuffield would never go into the mission himself to join the coffee cup mourners—who came to mourn and get free coffee—but he often staggered to the entrance with some bleary-eyed sinner and bowed him in. Doc never lost his gentlemanly demeanor.

At night at The Alligator, surrounded by befuddled denizens and in an alcoholic haze himself, he would talk of learned topics in the English of his classics. He had known Whistler and many other notables, including Oscar Wilde. Once a drink-crazed doc walloper slit the throat of Pete, the

bar-tender, and Doc stopped the flow of blood and saved his life.

So ever after that when slummers would gather around Doc Shuffield and attempt to make sport of him, Pete would leap over the counter with hung-starter in hand. Doc was a picturesque figure with his high hat, soiled white vest and iron gray side whiskers. He was never known to ask a fee on the Bowery—all he wanted was drink to blot out the past and he managed to get all he wanted of that.

STATISTICS ON AGES

Census Bureau Makes Announcement of Interest in South Carolina.

According to the census of 1920, 49.5 per cent, or about two-fifths, of the people in the state of South Carolina are either infants or children under fifteen years of age; 10.9 per cent are young people fifteen to nineteen years old; 33.8 per cent, about one-third, are men and women in the prime of life, being from twenty to forty-four years old, while 14.4 per cent, being forty-five years of age and over, are well along in middle life if they have not reached old age, according to an announcement by the bureau of the census, United States Department of Commerce.

The urban population as compared with the rural shows some rather striking differences in age, the percentage twenty to forty-four years of age being 43.2 for the urban population as compared with 31.8 for the rural, while the percentage under fifteen years of age is 30.2 in the urban population against 43.1 in the rural. These differences may indicate larger families of children in the country than in the city, but probably indicate also the fact that country children, as they grow up have a tendency to flock to the cities, thereby increasing the active adult population of the cities at the expense of the rural districts.

Over two-fifths of the population, 46.3 per cent, are old enough to vote, being twenty-one or over, and in this class the men and women are practically equal in number. The males of military or fighting age, eighteen to forty-four, constitute 36.5 per cent of the male population and 18.2 per cent of the total population.

Now that a dollar is worth money, it doesn't seem to care to visit a poor man.

SINFULNESS OF HOARDING

Idle Money Means Both Folly and Danger.

It is common enough to find bankers and writers in financial papers advising farmers to patronize the banks, and the advice is doubtless, none the less valuable because of the banker's financial interest which is involved. But no self-interest attaches to a sermon against hoarding which is preached by a farmer's paper, Wallace's Farmer (Des Moines). This editorial on "The Sin of Hoarding" is prompted by the writer's conviction that there are in many communities men who are sinning against themselves and their fellows by keeping from \$200 to \$10,000 around the house; "they are laboring under the impression that things are going to get worse and worse until the final crash comes and that then they will be at a peculiar advantage because they have a stock of hard cash on hand." The point is that—

Cash kept around the house is dead money. Cash deposited in the bank is live money. A dollar of cash deposited in the bank serves as a source of from \$5 to \$10 of credit. The man who keeps \$1,000 around the house is, in effect, preventing five to ten other men from borrowing \$1,000 each from the bank. We suspect that there is at least \$5,000,000 in the state of Iowa being kept out of circulation by timid hoarders. This \$5,000,000 if it were put in the bank would serve as a source of from \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000 of credit, and would go a long way toward relieving the present critical situation.

Never keep more than \$50 in cash around the house, and if you can get along with as little as \$10, by all means do so. If you have large quantities of money on hand there is always danger of losing it by robbery and fire. But the biggest reason why all surplus money should find its way into the bank as promptly as possible is that the banks are credit factories, and the raw material of the credit which they manufacture is hard cash. Remember that the bank makes out of every dollar of cash which you deposit, from \$5 to \$10 worth of credit. We are satisfied that if only one-half of the money which at present is being hoarded in the United States were deposited with the banks that credit could be increased to such an extent that prices would rise by from 5 to

10 per cent. The man who keeps his money about the house is helping to hold prices down.

WIZARD WITH A PEN

Englishman of Elizabeth's Time Did Work Never Equaled.

England at one time possessed a penman capable of rivaling Nessi Efferdi Markarem, an Arab now on a visit to Cairo with specimens of his art, including a grain of rice on which he has written 100 words from the Koran. Peter Bales, as we learn from Hollinshed's Chronicle, put in the compass of a silver penny more things than fill several ordinary pages, and presented Queen Elizabeth with the manuscript set in a gold ring and covered with a crystal, together with a magnifying glass so powerful that the queen could easily decipher the manuscript which she held on her thumb-nail and commended the same to the lords of the council and the ambassadors.

Bales subsequently issued a challenge "to the Englishmen and strangers" to write, for a pen of gold of 20 pounds, value, in all kinds of hands, "best, straightest and fastest," and most kinds of ways, "a full, a mean, a small, with line and without line; in a slow set hand, a mean facile hand, and a fast running hand," and further, to write "truest and speediest, most secretary and clearlike, from a man's mouth, reading, or pronouncing either English or Latin."

Another writing master, David Johnson, accepts the challenge, and the contest opened on Michaelmas day, 1595, before five judges and a hundred spectators. Bales was adjudged the winner in all three sections, though the competition in "writing sundry kinds of fair hands" proved a near thing for him. He gained points for the beauty and "most authentic proportion" of his "Roman hand," but Johnson scored more marks in court hand and in "baxard secretary" hand. Bales, being then on his mettle, presented his "Master Piece," composed of "secretary and Roman hand four ways varied," and offered to forego all his previous advantages if Johnson could better it. This proved impossible, so Bales carried off the gold pen and had it painted and set up for his sign.—Manchester Guardian.

Germany gets on her feet while we get on our ear.

STUDIES IN NATURAL HISTORY

By JAMES HENRY RICE, JR.

THE AMERICAN CROCODILE

A true Crocodile inhabits the rivers and lagoons of southern Florida, its northern limit being Lake Worth. This species is abundant in the waters of Venezuela, Columbia and Ecuador. Florida waters were probably peopled by Crocodiles swimming across the Gulf from South America. These reptiles are fond of salt water and have been found some distance from land in the waters of the Gulf.

The extreme length of this specimen is fourteen feet. The head shows a marked difference in form from that of the Alligator. The snout is sharp and triangular, ending in a small rounded protuberance on its top.

Like Alligators, however, the Crocodile has five toes on the front feet and four on the hind ones. There is no bony nasal septum, as in Alligators. The northern limit of the Crocodile is fixed by temperature. When subjected to a temperature below 45 degrees, Fahrenheit, the Crocodile becomes helpless, sinks to the bottom and drowns. The Alligator fills his lungs with air, closes a valve and sinks quietly, being capable of a long hibernation with no distressing consequences.

Difference in Disposition.

In disposition there is a marked difference, which one would do well to consider, for neglect of it might easily cost him his life. The Crocodile is treacherous, savage in disposition and enormously agile, being able to throw himself far forward and strike with almost incredible swiftness. The first

blow is delivered with the tail, which stuns the victim; after that the teeth and jaws come into play.

While there is only one other living species of Alligator, besides our own, Crocodiles abound all over the hot parts of the globe, in both the Old and New Worlds. The other species of Alligator (Alligator alleniensis), is found in China.

Little Known of Breeding Habits. There has been little published about the breeding habits of the American Crocodile. Whether it deposits its eggs in sand or not, as does the Egyptian Crocodile is, therefore, a matter of conjecture. The information may shortly be forthcoming. The presence of the Crocodile in Florida was discovered only in 1878 by my good friend, Dr. William T. Hornaday, who took two fine specimens in Arch creek, at the head of Biscayne bay. The bull was fourteen feet, two inches long. This was one of the many brilliant contributions to science of this distinguished American zoologist.

One of the oldest writings known to man, the Book of Job, describes the Crocodile. As the Crocodile is not found in Palestine and is found in Egypt, this description is given as one evidence that Moses wrote the Book of Job, as he was quite familiar with the fauna of Egypt. Says the book:—

Job Mentions Crocodile.

Canst thou draw out Leviathan with a hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down?—His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. One is so near another that no air can come between them. They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they can not be sundered.—Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more. The metes and bounds of the Crocodile's habitat have been fixed. His frame denies a wider range to the north. How easily and deftly nature settles such questions is a marvel and a mystery as well.

A Different Job.—"Aw-aw-aw" rumbled the hired man. "Rome wasn't built in a day!" "Well, you ain't buildin' Rome," sarcastically responded the astute agrarian. "You're shuckin', or miltatin' a man that is shuckin', com."

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