

### "Charity Trick," Is Costly To American Tourist In London

London. (United Press) — The "charity trick," one of the oldest stock-in-trade hoaxes of confidence men, recently cost an American tourist \$500 here.

The trick, which netted great profits to confidence men on the Continent following the World War, is usually played in the most prominent hotels and restaurants, mainly to mislead the victim.

One or two very engaging persons approach the victim and inquire if he is a visitor. They usually pose as visitors who are lonely and seeking companionship. Then they tell their story.

The father or uncle of one of the men was very wealthy and recently died in Chicago, leaving vast sums to charity in England, with the designation that the "son or nephew" distribute the money for him. They display a full purse—ordinarily stuffed with paper—and engage in a conversation about "honesty."

The bearer of the pocketbook turns to the victim and declares that he has an honest face and that although his purse contains \$20,000 he would be willing to allow the man completely out of sight with it. The victim takes the purse and walks around the block—remembering that he is an honest man and must not look inside the purse.

He returns smiling and to show that he honors the integrity of his new friend, gives him his own purse to carry out of sight. The companion, if there is one, usually leaves on some

pretext and neither returns. The trick has not been employed for several years here and Scotland Yards are investigating the possibility of a revival of the old confidence ring.

### Expect Further Reduction In Federal Auto Tax Soon

Washington, Aug. 11. — (United Press) — Motorists can look forward to the December session of Congress for reduction of the remaining automobile taxes and establishment of more national parks and good roads, according to American Automobile Association.

The last session was one of the best since the World War for motorists, five helpful steps for the motorist having been taken as follows:

1. The war excise tax on trucks, tires, parts and accessories was repealed, and the 5 per cent tax on passenger cars was cut to 3 per cent, saving more than \$50,000,000 annually.

2. Appropriation of \$165,000,000 made for the next two fiscal years to carry out dollar-for-dollar federal highway aid plan.

3. Accepted membership by the United States in the Permanent Association "of International Road Congresses."

4. Granted to states, counties and municipalities the privilege of acquiring or using lands for recreational purposes when such lands are not needed by the federal government.

5. Established the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee, and the Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky.

### Americans Lose Money By Doped Cigarettes

Paris. (United Press) — Tourists from the American boats arriving at Cherbourg and Marve and taking the train for Paris have reported to the police several times in the last month that a gang of confidence men have been reaping a big harvest by means of doped cigarettes handed to the victim by a benevolent looking man casually met with in the station or on the train.

The crook usually waits until he spots a man traveling alone, strikes up a conversation and offers the cigarette. If the newcomer is over for the first time it is easy to talk to him about what he should see in the gay capital. If he accepts the smoke conversation becomes hazy, the tourist gets dizzy and gradually his senses leave him. When he is awakened at Paris—boat trains come through without a stop—he is without his roll and often without his passport.

### Plans For Legion Convention In Paris Are Going Forward

Plans for holding The American Legion's ninth annual convention in Paris, France, in September, 1927, are going forward without interruption. It was announced here today in a communication received by the Old Adams county bank, authorized depository for the American Legion Savings Clubs, from Bowman Elder, of Indianapolis, Indiana, National Chairman of the Legion France Convention Committee. Mr.

Elder's announcement came in response to rumors that recent developments might cause the Legion to abandon the project.

Mr. Elder gave assurance that the plans for the movement of 30,000 veterans to France will go forward without delay. He said the Legion had received a cordial invitation from former Premier Briand to come to Paris and that the French Foreign office has placed in operation a special bureau to facilitate the handling of the convention in France. That the pilgrimage to France in 1927 will do much to renew the friendship of America and her ally in the World War is the opinion of John J. Wicker, Jr., National Travel Director, who returned July 21 from Paris with first hand information as

to conditions there. "When I mention every Frenchman became most cordial to the American Legion convention, dial," Mr. Wicker said in discussing the reception in France. Get the Habit—Trade at Home, it Pays

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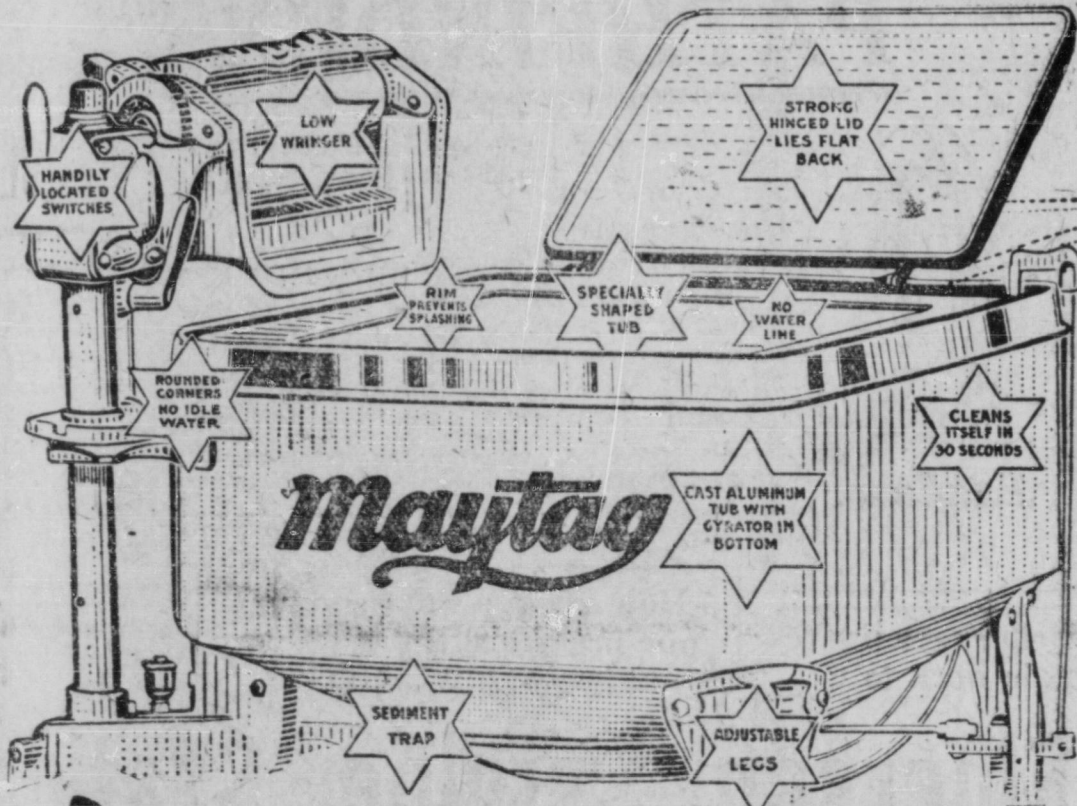
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