

LAWYERS SEEK FEE OF \$500 IN AUSTIN WILL CASE AT EATON

EATON, O., Dec. 13.—Fee of \$500 is sought by a Dayton, O., law firm and an Eaton attorney from a distributive share of Charles E. Winters, of Cincinnati, formerly of Eaton, as a legatee under the will of the late Lola M. Austin, of Eaton, which was contested through the several courts to the supreme court.

Oscar F. and Richard L. Davisson and P. J. Sheridan constitute the Dayton law firm, who with V. V. Brumbaugh, local lawyer, combine in seeking the fee, although they admit they did not directly represent Winters in the court litigation involving the will. The attorneys have filed a formal application in common court here in which they seek an order from Judge A. C. Risinger directing A. J. Hiestand, administrator, with the will annexed, of the late Lola Austin, to pay them \$500 as a fee from the distributive share of Winters now in his hands.

Estate Valued at \$60,000.
Mrs. Austin, widow, without children, by will, disposed of an estate valued at about \$60,000. The will was submitted in common pleas court for construction. The will bequeathed the children of aunts of the testatrix her estate. One heir contended that the estate was entitled to his mother's share, while heirs of other aunts claimed the legacies should be prorated. The latter contention was upheld by common pleas court. The supreme court affirmed the lower courts.

Brumbaugh and the Dayton law firm represented the heirs of the late Sarah Winters, with the exception of Charles Winters, according to their admission, in the litigation. The lawyers aver their efforts resulted in the Winters heirs' interest, including Charles Winters, being increased from a 1-25 part to a 1-18 part, which gave Charles Winters about \$1,500 more. It is from this \$1,500 that the lawyers think they are entitled to the \$500 fee.

Seek Adjustment.
Tangled condition of an account involving about \$10,000 existing between F. R. Christman, of Eaton, and J. C. Connell, of Camden, is to be straightened out by referee or master as commissioner instead of going through the courts, as the litigants have agreed to waive the right of trial by jury and have a master commissioner or referee adjust the matter. Christman had brought suit in the courts. Judge A. C. Risinger has appointed Harvey H. Hawkins, local accountant, as referee to take charge of all books and records involved in the controversy. He is to complete the work within a reasonable length of time and file his report with the court. Christman and Connell are automobile dealers. The alleged account represents various and numerous business transactions between the two men.

Poultry Show Closes.
Although advertised to close Tuesday, the third annual show of the Western Ohio Poultry Fanciers' club closed Sunday night, after having held forth since last Tuesday in the armory here. The show was open all day Sunday and large crowds viewed the 600 birds on exhibition. Visitors were here from nearby cities and towns, among them a number of poultry fanciers.

Secretary Harry W. Deem of the club, states the show broke about even in a financial way. He stated the show would be staged again next year. In a published list of special awards made in the show F. S. Smith, of Eaton, was credited with having received a \$5 special for the best display in the Mediterranean class, when the special should have been credited to P. M. Garland, of Eaton, on Black Minorcas. Secretary Deem states the error was detected after the list had been given out for publication.

Elect Officers. Knights of Pythias, No. 143, Knights of Pythias, has elected the following officers to serve the next six months: Past chancellor, Walter Cohee; chancellor commander, Benjamin Pence; vice chancellor, Harry Shaffer; prelate, Roy Kelly; keeper of records and seal, H. Riley Spiller; master of finance, O. O. Fisher; master of exchequer, Le Roy McNeal; master-at-arms, John Ernst; inner guard, Roy Benjamin; outer guard, Walter Cohee; trustee, Frank E. Overholser. The lodge will confer the first rank upon a class of candidates at a regular meeting Wednesday night.

Waverly lodge, Knights of Pythias, has perfected organization of a social club within the lodge membership. It is known as Triangle club, No. 2. Dr. H. Riley Spiller is president; Harry Florio, vice president; Harry Florio, secretary-treasurer, with E. E. Morrow and O. H. Tucker, directors. The club will equip club rooms in the Pythian temple. It is also planned to later provide equipment for athletics. The club starts with a membership of about forty.

Preaches Sermon.
The Rev. Frederick A. Miller, D. D., of Chicago, who is to preach here in the absence of the Rev. Thomas Murray, preached his first sermon Sunday morning and evening in the Universalist church. He was greeted by large audiences at both services. He will preach here every other Sunday during the absence of Mr. Murray, who is on a trip to England.

Tags Arrive.
Consignment of 2,500 metal tags for decorating licensed dogs in Preble county has been received by County S. C. Hunt. Owners of dogs are required to procure license for the canines on or before January 1.

Delivers Speech.
John O'Leary, head of the local public schools, addressed the Men's Bible class at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning.

Funeral Services Held for Miller H. Greene

Funeral services for Miller H. Greene were held Saturday at 2 p. m. from his home, 1616 East Main street. The Rev. L. E. Murray officiated. Pallbearers were Samuel Dintiman, Frank Carter, Walter Cox, Joseph Schattel, Clarence Schattel, and Roy Schattel. Whitewater lodge I. O. O. F. conducted services at the home Friday night.

Women are not as easily insulted as they were in grandmother's day. The really great man often knows he's great but the small man never knows he's small.

Five Minutes with Our Presidents

By JAMES MORGAN

As he stood at the clerk's desk in the hall of the House of Representatives on the evening of April 2, 1917, President Wilson was the central figure in one of the great moments of world history. Not only his own people but mankind stopped to listen. The President had been re-elected only five months before because "he kept us out of war." Alas, the war would not keep out of the United States.

For two years and a half the President and people together had continued to draw back from the yawning inferno into which events were pushing them. As late as June, 1916, both political parties in their National conventions, agreed on one thing and one thing only: Each squarely declared itself in favor of neutrality. Nevertheless the President himself publicly admitted a few days before his re-election that "neutrality is played out." As the one remaining means of keeping us out of war, he tried to stop the war in December and again in January by appealing to the belligerents to make peace. His voice was drowned in the roar of the guns.

The war took on new fury, with the resumption of ruthless submarine warfare which Germany had modified the year before at our demand. The President thereupon handed the German Ambassador his passports, and next he proposed that we should arm our merchant ships. The filibustering Senate, failing to give him this authority, he proceeded himself to arm them. But our shipping vanished from the sea, with its hidden terror, and at last he called the newly elected Congress in extraordinary session to "receive a communication concerning grave matters of National policy."

Did he mean war or something short of war? All afternoon of the meeting day the country and Nations beyond the sea waited in suspense, while Congress was organizing and getting ready to receive this history-making message.

No other President in the whole course of his service has had to take so many momentous decisions as Woodrow Wilson has had to make in the solitude of his study at the White House in those anxious days before the assembling of Congress. He could not divide the burden of such a heavy responsibility; he had to bear it alone and without a precedent to guide him.

The course seemed plain enough, once we had entered upon it. But first the President had to chart it by himself.

Should we give a further trial to armed neutrality? Or should we enter upon an independent naval warfare against the submarine menace to our shipping? Or should we back the Allies with money and supplies, but leave them to do the fighting? Or should we join forces with them unreservedly, contrary to the historic policy of America to go it alone?

Those alternatives were in every mind in that bewildering period, and the President had to choose between them in framing the policy to be submitted to Congress. He made the bolder choice of going into full partnership with the Entente Allies, pooling with them all our resources, our man power, our money and our producing power, and resorting for the first time in our history to compulsory universal military service.

The broad plan which he unfolded and which Congress quickly approved assured in advance the success of the great, unparalleled undertaking, and he pushed it through to victory with grim, unrelenting persistence. Americans generally assumed at the start, and the British Government agreed with them, that we should not have to send a great army to Europe, if indeed any at all. But when it became an imperative necessity to go to double quick to the relief of the broken line in France, the foundation was so well laid that we rose to the unforeseen emergency, building up in a

1916—May, Germany promised the United States to observe international law on the sea. June, Republican and Democratic Conventions declared for neutrality.

Oct. 26, President Wilson declared at Cincinnati, "Neutrality is played out."

Dec. 20, asked the belligerents to discuss peace.

1917—Jan. 22, proposed that we should join in world league for peace if the belligerents stopped fighting.

Feb. 3, broke off diplomatic relations with Germany on her renewal of ruthless submarine.

Feb. 26, asked Congress to authorize arming of our merchant ships, but Senate filibuster defeated aim. March 12, proceeded to arm them.

March 21, called Congress in extra session. April 2, read his war message to Congress.

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year and a half an army of 4,000,000 and ferrying 2,000,000 soldiers across the Atlantic.

The brains of the country, all the talents were mobilized for the war, merchants and scientists, bankers and railroad men, labor leaders and clergymen, each being charged with the task for which his training fitted him. The chronic weakness of our war-making—favoritism—rarely was permitted to show its head. Mistakes aplenty were made in meeting some of the new problems of warfare. But at least we did not repeat the mistakes of our past wars. For once our soldiers were not sent to the front under political Gen-

erals and colonels and left dependent upon the supplies of political contractors. For the first time in our military history, politics was shut out of the army.

"It is a race between Wilson and Hindenburg," said Lloyd George, when the big German drive surprised the Entente and smashed through its front in the Spring of 1918. Well, whoever won the war, Hindenburg lost that race. We surprised ourselves and dumbfounded the German General Staff by the speed and efficiency with which this unmillitistic Nation put an immense army into a field 3,000 miles away.

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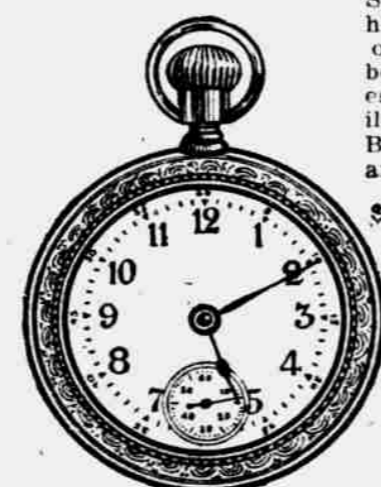
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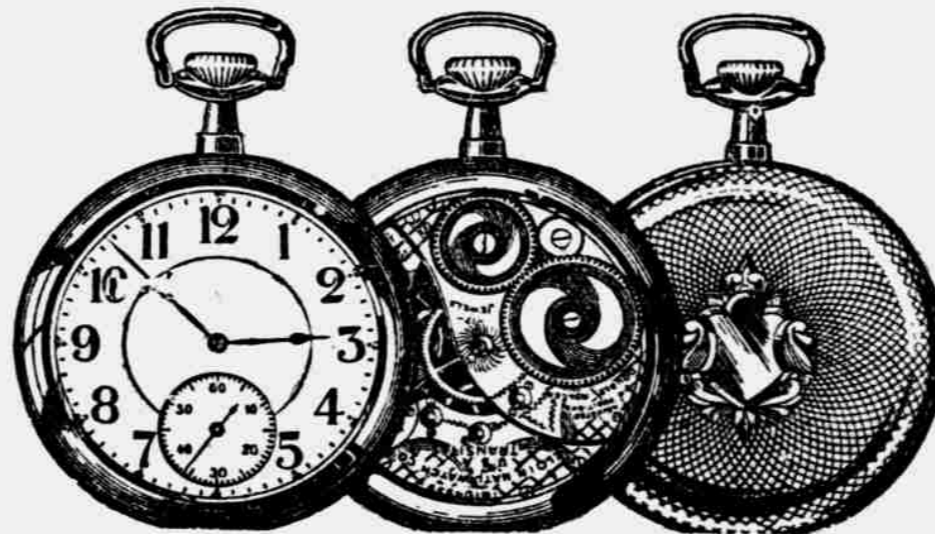
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