Do You Know the Law? . . . by

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DIVORCE

Twenty-five percent of the marriages contracted in California this year will wind up in the divorce courts—if last year's record is maintained. This ever-increasing percentage of acknowledged martial failures seems to belie the principle of permanency upon which Christian marriage is said to rest.

Not all states are so liberal in the matter of divorce as is California. Many states still adhere to the old Jewish law, first promulgated by Christ on divine authority, which limits divorce to the single case of adultery. South Carolina forbids divorce entirely, and several other Southern states are nearly as strict. In England, up until 1860, divorce could only be secured through an act of Parliament—thus making legal separation a luxury for the rich and influential.

California, following the modern trend, permits divorce for any of the following causes:

Adultery: A single act is sufficient to support an action for divorce, if brought within two years of the act.

Desertion: To be a ground for divorce, the desertion must be willful; ie., it must be with the intent to desert. In other words, separation by mutual consent is not such desertion as here contemplated. But if the parties first separate by consent, but one spouse later requests the other to return but is met with refusal, then the reluctant spouse becomes a deserter.

If one spouse by cruelty, or fraud, or threats causes the other spouse to leave the home, it is not desertion by the absent party, but is considered desertion by the one whose cruelty etc. induced the leaving.

Such desertion must have continued for at least a year, to support an action for divorce.

Extreme Cruelty: This is the most popular ground for divorce in California, covering as it does a whole gamut of offenses, real and imaginary. The cruelty may be expressed by violence, by words, by acts or omissions, which courts deem to be cruel things for one spouse to do to another. In addition to the requirement that the act complained of be legally cruel, it must also be an act which was accepted as cruel to this plaintiff. Thus, obscene language by a husband with reference to his wife is legal cruelty; but if the wife is shown to have been equally obscene, the court will say that such language was not cruel to this particular plaintiff-wife.

Willful Neglect: This means the failure for at least one year to provide the wife with the common necessaries of life—the husband having ability to do so, or else lacking such ability due to dissipation, etc.

Habitual Intemperance: This ground is hard to prove, requiring as it does that the intemperance extend unremittingly for a period of one year. If the drunkenness is for a lesser period, it may be alleged as cruelty.

Conviction of Felony: Such action must be commenced within two years after pardon, or other termination of the sentence.

H. S. Office Force Being Reorganized By Principal

A reorganization of the high school office force is in progress now, according to Principal Thomas Elson, who announced today that two changes have been made. Mrs. Leitha Banks has been promoted from clerk to secretary, a full time assignment, and Miss Margaret Tiffany, Torrance high school and U. C. L. A. graduate, has been named a full-time 12-months clerk.

Miss Tiffany is well known here and has had about six years' experience as clerk and secretary. In college she worked in the Dean of Women's office and followed this with two years' scholarship in the Elementary school here. For the past two years she has been working at the Carson street and Center avenue schools.

The school office is to be re-arranged and new furniture added. Principal Elson said this week that furniture is being received for the new gymnasium annex and that work on this structure is proceeding rapidly.

This group of pictures shows some of the members of the great clan, Columbia Steel. It is reproduced here by courtesy of The Steel Blade, Columbia workers' monthly publication. The pictures are:

(1) Ray Rogers, Warehouse reporter. (2) and (4) Barbara Ann and Herbert Curley, Jr., are the daughter and son of the Shearman on Mills 4 and 5, Herbert Curley. (3) Tommy Dan Webster, age 2½ years, is the son of Owen Webster, Rolling Mill Warehouse inspector. (5) Fred Woodall, Warehouse foreman. (6) Scene at the dinner-dance, left to right: Hays Schlundt, Mrs. Disario, Miss Pierce, Jess Reddington, Mrs. Schlundt and Jack Disario. (7) Arthur N. Armitage, physical tests engineer, is a member of the reserve maintenance corps attached to San Francisco. (8) Kathleen Carol Christy is shown in the arms of her grandfather, J. C. Christy, of Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, who is visiting J. S. Christy.

Children Ride Turtles

CUDGERA (U.P.)—Local children have one of the strangest pastimes in the world. It consists of riding huge 400 pound turtles that come ashore for a strole.

CLUB TO MEET

The Southwest McGroarty club will hold a meeting next Tuesday evening, April 13, at 109th and South Broadway. An interesting program and entertainment is planned and all are invited to attend.

YOUR PERSONAL GUIDE

Travel the "Royal Road to Romance" with Richard Halliburton, in person, at the Civic Auditorium May 3. Tickets on sale at The Herald office.

Letters to the Editor

TIMELY AND GENEROUS

Grover C. Whyte, publisher
Torrance Herald.

Dear Mr. Whyte:

It is my pleasant duty to convey to you an expression of deep appreciation from the Kiwanis club of Torrance for the timely and generous cooperation extended on behalf of the play "The Gay '90's which was sponsored by our club on April 1 and 2.

The wide interest and audience response shown by the citizens of Torrance was not only gratifying but amazing, which, be assured, could not be accomplished without the splendid medium of publicity which your publication made possible.

We are convinced that whenever the social interests of our community are desired to be brought together for public entertainment that your good organization will be found willing to play an important part in conveying the message to our people.

Sincerely,
(Signed) L. J. GILMEISTER
Publicity Chairman
Kiwanis Club of Torrance

EXPAND SCOUT WORK

Addition of 21 field executives to the staff of the Los Angeles Metropoliton Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, to assist in training the large number of men now volunteering for Scoutmaster duty, was proposed this week by Superior Judge Robert H. Scott, president of the council.

Poultryman Sees Better Times Ahead

According to Louis A. Federer, manager of the Fedco Company and a poultryman for better than twenty years, it is only a question of weeks before the poultry industry will be looking on a more favorable situation.

"Taking everything into consideration, deducing our observations from contacting hundreds of our dealers and thousands of poultrymen from Santa Barbara to San Diego the next several months will show a surprisingly inproved poultry condition," says Mr. Fererer.

"There has never been a time in the history of any business when conditions were at an extreme low that they did not come back. The pendulum must swing back. The wise poultryman with favorable weather conditions coming on is getting ready to brood. The time to go in is when the other fellow gets out. 1937 will find millions of dollars more in circulation and you are bound to get your share if you have eggs and poultry to sell," according to Mr. Federer.

Upholsterer Offers Time-Payment Plan

Launching a new purchase plan, Jack Abramson of the Torrance Upholstering company at 1513 Border avenue announced today that he will extend time-payment service to those desiring room furniture rebuilt and covered with the latest fabrics. All of his work is carefully done and he has modernized a large number of overstuffed pieces for Torrance families during the past few months. Abramson will be glad to explain his time-payment plan at his Border avenue shop.

TREAT FOR ALL

The whole family will enjoy Richard Halliburton's travel-talks at the Civic Auditorium. Get tickets at The Herald office now.