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DIVORCE MENACE NATIONAL LIFE

United States Leads All Other
Countries in the World
in Divorces

UNIFORM LAW NEEDED

Judge Says That Country
Should Take Some Action
to Stem Tide of Divorce
—Sanctity Disregarded

WINONA LAKE, Ind., Aug. 9.—(A. P.)—Divorces are granted in America at the rate of one every four minutes throughout the year, and are more numerous here annually in proportion to total population than in any other country which records marriage statistics. The annual total of decrees for the 48 states is in the neighborhood of 160,000 and is increasing three times as fast as the population. Such are the conclusions of Judge W. H. Thomas of Santa Ana, California, former associate justice of the California district court of appeals, drawn from a world survey of marriage and divorce figures in preparation for an American campaign for a national code governing marital relations.

Judge Thomas, survey included 54 countries, and the summary of his study, made public here, reaches back into the domestic relations of ancient Rome, Greece, and Babylon. In his conclusions is the suggestion that our national life is seriously threatened by the present status of our family relationships. Much of our trouble, he believes, is chargeable to the chaotic state of our marriage laws and his recommendation is a uniform law, applicable to all American territory, based on wisdom and experience.

"In contrast with our records, one divorce for every three marriages," Judge Thomas said, "those of France and Germany our closest competitors, dwindle into insignificance. We have only one rival, Japan. Until recently that nation has been grinding out divorces faster than our own. Now, however, the United States census bureau discloses a rapidly mounting table of divorce which far outstrips the ratio of increase in population. Our rate of increase in divorces between 1870 and 1917, was for the entire country, exactly 400 per cent." In 1870, he said, we had 28 divorces for every 100,000 of population; in 1916 the figure was 112 for each 100,000.

"Our country heads the list among the nations of the world in this downward procession. In 1890 there were 33,107 divorces here; in 1916 there were 112,000. In Canada in the whole year of 1913 there were 59 divorces." Judge Thomas came here recently to present his findings to officers of the National Reform Association at the organization's international conference on Christian citizenship.

Seventeen states in the Union fix no marriageable age, he pointed out in commenting on our present varied law. In nine of these states—Florida, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Vermont, the common law ages of 12 for girls and 14 for boys have been formally recognized by the courts. In 19 states there is no law restraining feeble minded persons from marrying, and only three states forbid miscegenous unions, or marriages between people of different races.

There are now in the United States more than 12,000 married girls under 15 years of age. Approximately 100,000 girls 17 years or younger are married.

"The need of a uniform divorce law is apparent," Judge Thomas declares. "Disregard for the sanctity of marriage, over-emphasis of sex, under-emphasis of domestic responsibilities, lack of uniformity in the law were among the chief contributing causes that led to the downfall of Rome, of Greece, of Babylon. We cannot allow the rate of divorce in the United States to continue at three times the rate of population increase."

"No logical and sound-thinking person any longer denies that, in certain circumstances, men and women who can not live harmoniously together should be allowed to reconstruct their happiness. No one now argues against the necessity for marriage laws which will make it impossible for the free and unfit to marry and reproduce. "Everyone is satisfied that these laws must be uniform. Hence the time for action has come. And because men have dilly-dallied about it, and because, too, the integrity of the family is women's quest, upon the women of the country must be laid the burden of bringing about reform."

"But legislation will not usher in an era of wisely planned marriages. The real hope of the world lies in putting as much painstaking and progressive thought into the great business of matrimony as we do into the other big businesses of our day, and in bringing to bear upon marriage the advanced ideas of science, religion, and law, so that we shall be able to offer to young men and women a sensible presentation of the subject that will convince them of the necessity of permanent family relations and assure them of the happiness to be found in a wholesome family life."

"Unification of marriage and divorce laws is only a partial solution of the problem. There must be early training for marriage and parenthood, and this cannot be provided for by law."

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The proceeds of the sale of this stock will be used exclusively for additions to and betterments of property and equipment.

THE COMPANY

The history of The California Oregon Power Company shows a substantial growth in facilities and earnings resulting from the large sums of money invested in its properties and from the development of the territory in which it operates.

Steady Growth in Customers Served

The territory now served by The California Oregon Power Company includes parts of Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Douglas Counties in Oregon, and Siskiyou County and parts of Shasta and Trinity Counties in California. This is an area equal to the combined areas of the states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

During the period between 1912 and 1922, the number of consumers has grown from 6,561 to 13,123, an increase of 100%.

Increase in Facilities

The Company owns and operates eight hydro-electric plants in Southern Oregon and Northern California. In building these hydro-electric plants, a natural resource is being developed which will be productive forever.

In 1912, the generating capacity was 11,000 H. P., and at the end of 1922 it amounted to 52,580 H. P.

The Company's high tension lines at the end of 1922 were over six hundred miles in length.

The aggregate length of the distribution lines was over eight hundred and ten miles.

The investment needed for the construction of these facilities has increased from \$4,189,325.76 in 1912 to \$10,293,569.69 in 1922.

These figures do not include the recently purchased system of the Douglas County Light and Water Company.

THE STOCK

Par value \$100 per share.

Dividends have been paid on The California Oregon Power Company Preferred Capital Stock since issuance (April 15, 1921) at the rate of \$7 per share per annum. Checks are mailed every three months at rate of \$1.75 per share.

Proceeds of all securities sold are devoted exclusively to additions to and betterments of Company's properties.

It is not assessable by the Company for any purpose whatsoever.

It is non-callable, and if purchased at the present price yields a permanent return of 7.14% on the investment.

It is exempt from Federal Normal Individual Income Tax.

It takes precedence as to assets and dividends over common stock amounting to \$4,441,100 par value. The equity back of the preferred stock now outstanding amounts to a total of \$8,385,361.53, which equals \$288.30 per share, or nearly three times the present cost of \$98 per share.

Purchase may be made in any amount from one share upward.

The stock may be purchased for cash or on our special savings plan, namely, \$5.00 per share as first payment, and \$5.00 per share per month.

Interest is paid by the Company on all partial payments under the savings plan at the rate of 6% per annum. Interest checks are mailed to subscribers under the savings plan every three months.

The stock is listed on the San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange.

THE RECORD OF TEN YEARS' GROWTH

YEAR	Value Physical Properties	Gross Revenues	Operating Maintenance Expenses	Net Earnings without Deducting Interest or Depreciation	Kilowatt Hours Generated
1912	\$4,189,325.76	\$ 307,040.29	\$137,663.49	\$169,376.80	21,492,374
1913	4,787,624.35	347,261.70	143,746.67	203,515.03	26,485,359
1914	5,054,312.08	385,331.23	163,209.21	222,122.02	33,245,366
1915	5,265,839.88	398,349.83	171,458.24	226,891.57	38,133,884
1916	5,985,095.29	426,106.64	213,679.91	212,426.73	41,936,855
1917	6,498,375.71	487,916.44	226,509.67	261,406.77	47,755,628
1918	7,311,310.73	502,269.05	245,150.37	257,118.68	46,216,299
1919	7,416,522.45	726,079.30	295,743.74	430,335.56	108,238,745
1920	7,692,884.51	948,277.07	398,041.48	550,235.59	142,404,975
1921	8,407,581.82	1,001,272.07	449,082.18	552,189.89	129,368,808
1922	10,293,569.69	1,066,189.52	447,787.60	618,401.92	130,124,154

Our partial payment plan of \$5 per share per month enables you to take immediate advantage of the exceedingly attractive price at which this high-grade security is now being offered—\$98 per share, to yield 7.14% per annum.

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To Portland—
Fred Schwartz left yesterday afternoon for Portland to attend Buyers Week. He will return to Roseburg Sunday or Monday.

Returned From Tour—
Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Thrall and son, William, returned Thursday evening from a motor trip to points in California and Nevada. They visited for several days in Sacramento and Reno. They were away from Roseburg two weeks.



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CROPS IN OREGON

SHOWING GAIN

Prospects Improved Somewhat During Month of July as Result of Good Rainfall, According to Observer

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 9.—Oregon crop prospects improved somewhat during the month of July as a result of unusually good rainfall early in the month, followed by good growing weather. The damage to ripened grain was much less than appeared probable at the time of the heavy rainfall, says F. L. Kent, agricultural statistician, United States department of agriculture.

The rainfall of July 5 and 6 was the heaviest on record for July in most of the eastern Oregon country. Slight damage occurred as a result of blanching of ripe grain and lodging of grain ready for cutting, but spring sown grain and winter wheat on the higher lands were greatly improved by the rains. Most grain growing districts are now expected to produce a larger crop than the very excellent one of the year 1922.

Wheat—Harvesting of the crop was approximately one-fourth completed in the principal wheat growing counties on August 2, and since much of the harvesting is done with "combines," a considerable number of yields per acre are available. Numerous twelve to fifteen sack per acre yields are reported, with an occasional yield of twenty sacks (about 45 bushels) per acre. One fire loss in Sherman county was settled on a basis of 38 bushels per acre, and another in Gilliam county on a 37 bushel per acre basis. From Umatilla county comes a report of 63 bushels per acre on a "demonstration" field

of 45 acres. In the western part of the state much of the crop had been cut by August 1, but very little threshing done. Estimates of growers, however, are for larger than usual yields of winter wheat, and as a result of the unusually favorable soil moisture conditions the yield of spring wheat is expected to be considerably above the average.

Hay—The hay crop showed a slight improvement during the month of July. The second crop of clover made a very fine growth, due to the June and July rains, and will make a high quality of hay. Probably most of this second crop of clover will be cut for seed. Very favorable conditions prevailed for the harvesting of the grain hays, and the yield per acre is the best in some years. The second cutting of alfalfa on unirrigated fields was heavier than usual, and the quality of the crop was not injured materially by rain, as was the first cutting.

Apples—The crop showed some improvement in the state during the past month, due to favorable weather conditions. For the United States there was a slight falling off in condition. Production of commercial apples for some of the principal states is estimated as follows: New York, 15,638,000 bushels; Pennsylvania, 3,747,000 bushels; Virginia, 5,004,000 bushels; Michigan, 6,924,000 bushels; Colorado, 2,520,000 bushels; Idaho, 3,957,000 bushels; Washington, 25,949,000 bushels; Oregon, 5,916,000 bushels.

Hops—Hop lice and the red spider have given hop growers a lot of trouble this season. Where the yards have been thoroughly sprayed (five or six times) the crop promises above a normal yield, but fields not receiving the best of care promise a comparatively light crop.

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LOCAL NEWS

This is a Studebaker year.

In From Ruckles—

C. C. Van Spreckens, a resident of Ruckles, was in this city yesterday transacting business and visiting.

See Willard Smith, breeder of pure-bred Holsteins, Glade, Ore.

Riddle Residents In—

Mr. and Mrs. Jean Fowler and children residents of Riddle, were in on business matters Thursday afternoon.

From Myrtle Creek—

Mrs. H. Wood, who is a resident of Myrtle Creek, was here yesterday for a short time shopping and visiting with friends.

Visited Mrs. Dunn—

Mrs. Hazel Ireland, who has been visiting here with Mrs. F. C. Dunn, left Friday afternoon for Medford, where she will visit before returning to her home in San Francisco.

Returned Home—

Mrs. C. M. Blevins, who has been visiting at the home of her son, F. R. Blevins, for the past ten days, returned to her home in Grants Pass Thursday afternoon.

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