

Cupid on the Rebound

Klamath Marriages Drop Off
But Divorce Business Thrives.

BY BILL CUMMINGS

Because of the newly enacted law requiring both parties to take medical examinations, marriages in Klamath county have suddenly dropped off, but a survey of the facts and figures shows that during the past three years the Good Ship Marriage has whammed into the rocks of divorce in surprisingly regular manner.

The medical exam bugaboo has frightened off an unbelievable number of young couples stung by Dan Cupid's darts. They leave the Klamath county license bureau in the lurch and pour into California or to Reno, Nev.

TROUBLE RUNS STEADY

But not so for the divorce-getters. Figures show that wives and husbands are continuing to find married life "burdensome and unhappy" on an even scale through the years, such an even scale, in fact, that the number of divorce suits filed in Klamath county per year has varied less than 30 since the beginning of 1937.

In that year just 233 wives complaining of "great humiliation and mental anguish," or husbands, as the case may be, trooped into the county clerk's office seeking divorce. The next year, 1938, was a less stormy one and the figures dropped to 204. But in 1939 it climbed back to 232, just one less divorce suit than was filed in 1937.



Marriage applications numbered 458 in 1937, declined to 344 the following year, and in 1939 took a sudden nosedive—due to the medical examination rule—to only 156.

ADAM AND EVE JUSTIFIED

The explanation lies in the fact that young people bitten by the love bug simply go out-of-state to get married, and, after returning here, find that wedded life after all is not a bed of roses and that even Adam and Eve probably were justified in having their family spat.

Several years ago the solemn institution of marriage suddenly became, for no good reason at all, a bad among the Indians of the Klamath reservation. Klamath Falls attorneys, many of them rubbing their hands together after the fashion of Shylock as the fees rolled in, well remember the baffling "run" on the marriage application bureau, when Indian couples known to have been living together for long periods out of wedlock came to Klamath Falls to be married "for the fun of it."

GETTING THE DIVORCE BUG

But the secret of the fad was not the delight the Indians obtained in repeating the marriage vows. The intrigue lay in getting the divorce. Scarcely had the bronze-skinned couples secured their marriage certificates than they were back knocking on the county clerk's door for divorces. The whole procedure was a lark.

But to most Klamath Falls attorneys, laying aside the Indian divorce fad, which soon died a natural death, divorce is a serious business and a very important one. Nullification of the marriage vows is viewed by most attorneys as quite necessary in an extremely high percentage of the cases of application for divorce.



One attorney, who handles a fare share of Klamath divorce business, puts it this way: "In practically every case where divorce is granted, the divorce is a proper remedy. In almost every case it couldn't have been avoided, and, contrary to public opinion, if the decree had not been allowed the couple would have continued to live in a disorderly fashion which ultimately would have resulted in the breakup of a home."

ONLY WAY OUT

Proof of this contention is furnished in a breakdown of divorce figures. More than 98 per cent of all divorce decrees in Klamath county are granted by default, demonstrating an understanding between the two parties that divorce is the only way out. If divorce were not the best solution, more than that slim four per cent would be contested.

Getting a divorce is a relatively simple procedure.

First, the party who feels the urge to untie the knot visits an attorney and recites to him the facts that seem to justify divorce. By far the most popular grounds are "cruel and inhuman

treatment." Under this label the "better half" can be accused of almost anything, from being an habitual drunkard and using vile and obscene language in the presence of the bridge guests to actually bludgeoning the plaintiff and accusing her (or him) of adulterous or unfaithful conduct.

DESERTION NEXT

Next in line of popularity comes "desertion," but it ranks far down the list and figures show that in more than 90 per cent of divorce suits filed in Klamath county the grounds are cruel and inhuman treatment. Other grounds sometimes alleged are habitual drunkenness



or conviction of a felony, and further reasons are so rare that during the last three years they could be counted on the fingers of one hand.

Many complaints accuse the plaintiff of associating with other men (or women) and such allegations usually include the assertion that "such accusations are untrue and entirely without foundation."

COUNTY'S MEANEST MAN

One wife was probably granted a divorce in record time. She accused her husband of stealing the toilet from their home and of selling it to get money for drinking and gambling. Then, to add insult, this particularly mean hubby brought "bologna" home for dinner, "ate the bologna" himself and fed the skins to the children.

After the grounds are determined and judged sufficient by an attorney, the complaint is filed and a copy of the summons and the complaint is served on the defendant by the sheriff, or by publication if his or her whereabouts is unknown. If the defendant is in the county, he has 10 days in which to answer; if in the state but outside the county, 20 days; and if outside the state but in the United States, four weeks.

TAKING THE STAND

If the defendant fails to answer, which is most often the case, and if all legal provisions have been fulfilled, the attorney makes a motion for an order of default. Then the plaintiff goes into court with the attorney and on the stand gives testimony that serves to substantiate the allegations listed in the complaint. The court, acting on this testimony, invariably hands down a decree.

If the case is contested, the defendant files an answer and cross-complaint, which action places the burden of proof on both parties.

One month is the average elapsed time between the filing of a complaint and the granting of a decree. If the plaintiff has the money on hand to pay the fees, the minimum time is 10 days, and if contested, cases have been known to drag out for as long as a year.

YOUNGSTERS SPARED

About 60 per cent of couples who seek divorce have no children, due to a common realization that breaking up the family works hardships on the youngsters for years to come.

More than 60 per cent of all divorce suits are filed by the wife, probably due in part to the element of chivalry. Even if he takes the initiative in the matter, the husband will often-times allow the woman of the family to appear in public as the plaintiff.

Custody of children usually goes to the wife, with reservations made for visits at the proper times and places by the ex-husband.

Striking an average, Klamath county marriages headed for the rocks last about three years before the crackup occurs.

SOUNDS FISHY

BUCKINGHAM, Va. (P)—James river catfish, with a reputation for truculence and bigness, have quit making news by spitting in fishermen's eyes. They've gone to chasing rabbits. That is the explanation given by Sportsman John Wood for the discovery of a half-grown rabbit in the stomach of a six and a half pound catfish he pulled out of the river.



Handshaking Wins Election

MILWAUKEE — Simply by getting acquainted with the people who vote, pink-faced Carl Zeidler, 32, deposed Daniel W. Horan, socialist mayor of Milwaukee for 24 years.

It was the first defeat for Horan. Before he was elected mayor he was city attorney six years.

As an assistant city attorney four years ago, Zeidler set out to shake the hand of the Man on the Street. He wiped out the pinball machine operators.

Hitching to dozens of clubs, societies and singing groups, Zeidler began a steady ride. He became president of the influential Milwaukee Sunday Morning Breakfast club, was awarded the Cosmopolitan club's "outstanding service" medal in 1938.

Smiling, white-haired, husky, Zeidler became a shining example. Wherever he went, he found votes.

Zeidler ran as an independent, but his younger brother, Frank, was elected county surveyor on a socialist ticket in 1938.

That Season's Here Again!

When skies take on this brighter sheen
And hillsides bulge with lovely green
And thoughts of kids take wing from schools
We resurrect our garden tools
And mentally transplant the flowers
From gardens prettier than ours
That grace the packs of seeds we got
To beautify that barren plot.
But all too soon the fishing "bug"
Will hatch out from that worm we dug
And swing a punch below our guard
As we make plans to clean the yard.

—A. S. B.

INDIAN ARTIFACTS EXHIBITED BEFORE WALTON LEAGUE

At a dinner meeting of the Klamath-Medoc chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America held Wednesday evening in the blue room at the Willard hotel, Frank A. Payne, widely known collector of Indian artifacts, gave an informal talk and exhibited a number of pieces of his collection.

The meeting was called to order by the president, John Ebinger, and later turned over to the vice president, Forrest C. Losee. Mr. Payne was introduced immediately after the business meeting. Part of his collection that he exhibited, including arrowheads, pipes, awls, knives, ceremonial beads and primitive tools, were on display at the exposition at San Francisco last year.

Hans Christian Andersen, author of fairy tales, disliked children.

Busiest City Also Safest

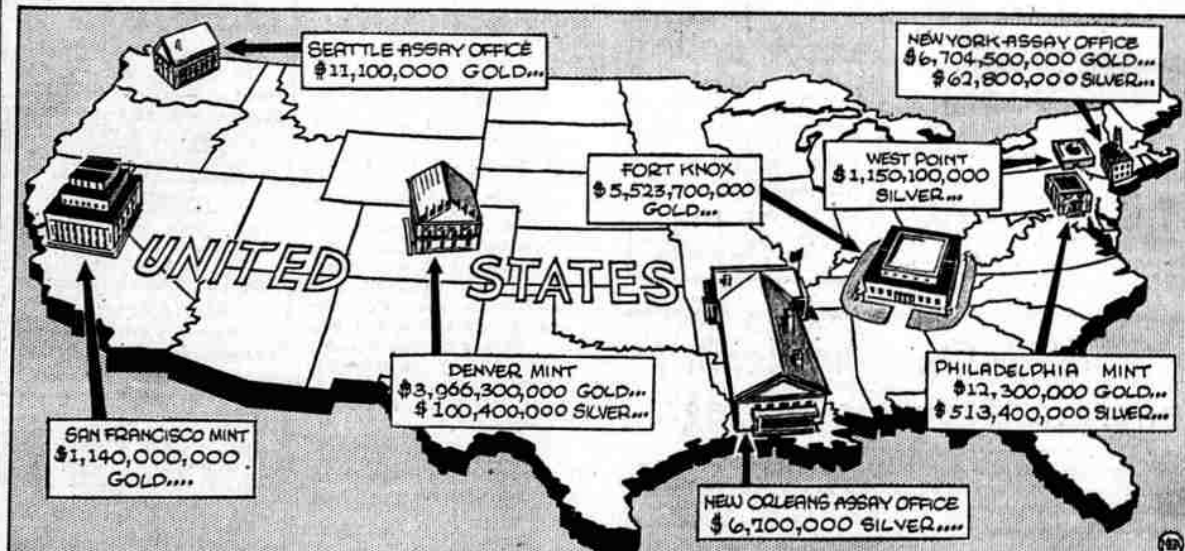
By NEA Service
TRAFFIC in Cleveland, sixth largest U. S. city, is the most congested in the country, yet the Ohio metropolis holds undisputed the title, "Safest Large City in the Nation."

Cleveland counts 205 commercial and pleasure vehicles to every mile of her street system, while New York and Chicago have but 152 and 162, respectively. Los Angeles has 104 and San Francisco 166. These figures were released by the Cleveland chamber of commerce.

In New York and Chicago, where cars swarm to central business districts, streets are more crowded, but traffic moves faster and congestion is relieved.

Wider streets, more arterial and express highways, and fewer restricting traffic lights are antidotes for congestion in U. S. cities where vehicular travel is heaviest.

U. S. Gold Policy Drifts Towards Crisis



Sprinkled from the shores of New York's East River to bayside in San Francisco is the greatest hoard of gold in the world—18½ billion dollars worth. Along with nearly four billion in silver, it forms

the major part of the metallic wealth of the U. S. In eight closely guarded vaults, spotted on map, the piles of gold and silver continue to grow with U. S. imports and purchases of the valuable metals.

By JOHN T. FLYNN
NEA Service Special Correspondent

LITTLE by little all the gold in the world is drifting into the United States. And many people ask—what is the use of it? What is it doing to us? What is the effect on the rest of the world? And how is it going to end?

Let's answer the last question first. It is probably going to end in one of the strangest and greatest currency crises in modern history.

There is about \$25,000,000,000 of gold in the world. We have just about \$18,500,000,000 of it in this country. There is another billion and a half, but it is not ours—merely stored here for the account of foreign countries. But with \$18,500,000,000 you will see that we have around 75 per cent of the world's gold.

How long will it take to get the rest of it? Well, we had \$8,000,000,000 in 1934 when we devalued. Thus we have averaged a gain of \$1,500,000,000 a year. If we were to keep that up we would have it all in about four years. If the war continues

any length of time, in spite of anything they may do, we will get so much of their gold that, for all practical purposes, speaking in terms of gold, they will be broke.

CONTRADICTION IN POLICY

WHY does this gold come here? First, because trade balances have been in our favor; second, because foreign investors have sent their funds here for investment; but principally because Uncle Sam, under the president's gold purchase plan, literally stands in the markets of the world and offers to buy all gold offered to him at \$35 an ounce. The price before we started that strange policy was \$20.67 an ounce. As a result we are getting more than all the new gold produced and much of the existing supply.

But here is an interesting question: Why do we do this? I have many times asked people that question. I seldom can find anyone who remembers why we do it. It was started in 1933 when the president announced that he was going to create a market for

farm products. Our export farm surpluses must be sold abroad. To accomplish that the president took the advice of the late Professor Warren of Cornell. An Englishman, to buy wheat here, must pay for it in dollars. Hence he must buy dollars first. He buys dollars by exchanging his own currency for dollars in the exchange market. The more dollars he can buy for his pounds the more wheat he can buy.

BUT POLICY IS CONTINUED

SO by reducing the amount of gold in the dollar the president was told that foreigners could buy more dollars for their currencies and would thus be enabled to buy more grain and this would tend to move our surpluses out of the market.

That was the chief reason, although the president did say it was a start toward a managed currency. The plan, of course, was a complete failure. Our farm surpluses are greater than ever; our foreign market for them worse than ever. And, of course, no one ever hears any more about a managed currency. But,

for some reason, we go on buying gold at \$35 an ounce, although the reasons have vanished.

The great question then is—are we doing ourselves any harm by this? The answer must be yes.

First of all, we are inflicting a terrible injury upon foreign countries. Their money troubles have much to do with their economic troubles, which are at the bottom of their wars. Second, taking their gold this way tends to make them establish trade barriers in order to cut down the extent of their buying here. Because if they lose gold both by buying and by our gold drainage, they will soon have none.

Oscar, the Eye-bug

Amazing Story of Animated Eye-Cleaner, 125 Years Old, Told in Court.

By ROGER JOHNSON
United Press Correspondent

SAN JOSE, Calif., (UP)—The amazing story of Oscar, little bug which supposedly is more than 125 years old, was told in Santa Clara county superior court this week by Arnold Rumwell, Palo Alto city attorney.

Rumwell said he had "written evidence" the bug was turned over to its first owner about 1815 and has lived continuously, with periodic hibernations, since then.

Oscar's strange story was injected into testimony in the divorce case of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hayes of Palo Alto, owners of the bug. Both of them claimed custody of Oscar. Hayes said Oscar was a "family heirloom" given him by his grand-

father, and Oscar was valuable because he was capable of removing irritating particles from a human eye.

Mrs. Evelyn Hayes, who filed the divorce suit, claimed Oscar on the grounds the bug was given to her by her husband as a wedding present in 1934. In the end, Superior Judge R. R. Syer awarded Oscar to Hayes' custody.

He's An Eye Bug

Hayes calls Oscar an "eye bug." He doesn't know anything about Oscar's biological background, although he says he has inquired of entomologists. Rumwell says Oscar is grey, about one-sixteenth of an inch long, and has a tiny, hard shell on his back.

This is Rumwell's story of Oscar:

"More than 125 years ago a sea captain gave a bug to Hayes' grandmother, Mrs. Mathew Hayes, when she was a girl living near Dublin, Ireland."

"Mrs. Hayes kept the bug and brought it with her when she came to America years later. Oscar lived most of the time in hibernation. He hibernated into sugar and would form a shell of crusted sugar about himself by excreting a yellowish substance. When Mrs. Hayes wanted to bring him out of hibernation, she would drop a little vinegar on the sugar. Oscar would wriggle a little, then emerge alive and kicking."

Slept Ten Years

"Hayes' grandmother lived to be 92. In her latter years, she resided near Fort Bragg, Calif. She put Oscar to good use. When railroad workers got cinders in their eyes, they came to Mrs. Hayes' home and she would turn Oscar loose in their eyes. The bug would climb about the eyes, removing cinders and dust particles."

"Once Oscar stayed in hibernation for ten years. Vinegar brought him out again, hale and hearty as he was before."

"Oscar was handed on to Mrs. Hayes' grandson, Clifford. He was kept in the same flannel cloth Mrs. Hayes reserved for him for 70 or 80 years. We still have that flannel cloth."

Kidded About Oscar

"I have talked to Hayes' sister. She says she has used Oscar to clean her own eyes. Hayes himself said he used to boast about his 'eye bug' when he was a boy, but his friends would laugh at him and he didn't talk about Oscar any more."

Hayes considers Oscar a "valuable family heirloom." Oscar presently is in hibernation in a ball of sugar, contained in a match box, in Rumwell's safe. Rumwell said an "old letter" in Hayes family written many years ago mentions "Oscar" and refers to him as "very old."

"I think Oscar is one of the most unusual insects I have ever heard of. He ought to be at the World's fair."

In Chicago, Dr. Morris Fishbein, secretary of the American Medical association, said the story of Oscar was "utterly ridiculous" and "does not deserve further comment."

In Palo Alto, Rumwell replied Dr. Fishbein "is in error."

"I am surprised that a man in such a high position as Dr. Fishbein should make such a positive statement when he hasn't even seen the bug."

"I will display Oscar to Dr. Fishbein or any other competent authority. If he will bring a microscope and a few drops of vinegar to my office, he can examine Oscar all he wants."

"I have plenty of witnesses to bear out what I have said about Oscar," Rumwell said.

THE OLD COLLEGE TRY

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. (AP)—Members of Phi Delta Theta fraternity at Union college, rallying to the aid of a "brother" who lacked a date for the junior prom, chipped in for a 35-cent classified ad in a newspaper to get him one.

Within an hour after the paper appeared on the street, 25 girls applied.

DEAD HEAT

MARION, Ill. (AP)—Williamson county democrats cast 5523 ballots for nothing at the primaries.

Ora Collard and John Sowman tied for the democratic nomination for county commissioner with 2764 votes each. They will cast lots to decide the winner.

SUFFICIENT GROUNDS

SEATTLE (AP)—Wesley sought a divorce. He testified he fell asleep at work because his wife kept him awake night nagging and eulogizing two former husbands.

Midland Empire Quiz

Test Yourself on Questions of Local Interest

HOW much do you know about your home community? Here's a little quiz that will help check up on yourself or members of the family. Select your answers, designating them by the proper letter at the end of each question. Then check with the key.

1. Klamath county is in the (a) ninth (b) second (c) third congressional district.

2. The state senator representing this county is (a) U. S. Balentine; (b) Henry Semon; (c) Walter M. Pierce; (d) Burt K. Snyder.

3. Klamath county makes up one state representative district. It is the (a) 17th; (b) 13th; (c) 2nd; (d) 32nd.

4. The Oregon primary election in which local voters will participate is to be held on (a) May 7; (b) May 17; (c) May 24; (d) May 1.

5. Klamath county is joined with certain other counties in a state senatorial district. These counties are (a) Lake and Deschutes; (b) Lake, Harney, Deschutes and Crook; (c) Lake, Crook, Jefferson and Deschutes; (d) Lake, Siskiyou and Medoc.

6. The circuit judge in this and other judicial districts in Oregon is elected on a non-partisan basis. This means: (a) That only republicans and democrats may vote.

(b) That candidates must not be affiliated with either the democratic or republican party.

(c) That the candidates must have a reputation for impartiality.

(d) That the names of all candidates appear on a separate primary ballot without designation as to party.

7. There are (a) 17; (b) 39; (c) 40; (d) 67 voting precincts in Klamath county.

8. The man who represents the people of Tulelake in the lower house of the United States congress is (a) Hiram Johnson; (b) Harry Engelbrecht; (c) Hiram Walker; (d) Sheridan Downey.

9. At the close of registration before the last general election (in 1938) registered republicans in Klamath county numbered (a) 7,529; (b) 16,093; (c) 2011; (d) 19,710.

10. At the close of registration for the 1938 general election registered democrats in Klamath county numbered (a) 5001; (b) 11,877; (c) 18,221; (d) 3663.

Key to the Correct Answers

1. a
2. b
3. d
4. b
5. c
6. d
7. b
8. d
9. a
10. b

If you answer six or seven you are fair; if you answer eight you're better informed than most of your fellow citizens; if you're okeh on nine or ten you are active in politics.