

FREE DIVORCE HERE

Severance of Marriage Ties in Norway Easy to Procure.

New Law is a Blessing—Its Enactment Has Not Been Followed by a Rush of the Dissatisfied to Courts.

London.—Norway has now solved the divorce evil, a correspondent writes. At least so declares Fru Elia Anker, one of the leaders of the Norwegian women's movement and a sister-in-law of Herr Johann Castberg, minister of justice in the last Norwegian cabinet. Herr Castberg framed the law of 1910, which is believed to have accomplished the miracle. Fru Anker has come to England to tell the Englishwomen of the success of her sex in Norway, and so struck with her accounts have been many influential women's organizations that they have decided to agitate for an English divorce law modeled on the Norwegian measure.

It was with the hope that Fru Anker's knowledge would be of some assistance to you in the United States, foundering as you are in a divorce maze from which few are in agreement as to the surest way out, that I have had the following interview.

Fru Anker is a slight, pleasant faced, rosy complexioned, typical Scandinavian woman, with an engaging freshness of manner. She speaks English almost without a flaw, but is troubled, from an interviewer's point of view, with an amount of modesty and self-deprecation that is almost disconcerting.

But what she lacks in self esteem she more than makes up in her enthusiasm for the cause of women. She is, like most Norwegian women, absolutely sure that the beginning of the brighter era dawned in her country when partial adult suffrage was granted to her sex. Certainly, declares Fru Anker, the women were the deciding factor in putting through the law that is now likely to serve as a model for other countries.

"First I want to make clear," said Fru Anker, "that this law which has done so much to solve the divorce evil in my country was one of the direct results of the enfranchisement of my sex. The law was passed by a liberal government, but it had the support of all parties. It is based on the principle that mutual love between the husband and the wife is the only moral basis for marriage. When that feeling falls or is seriously shaken it is absurd to bind the two together any longer. The law ought then step in and provide the means for a divorce. Our law provides admission to separation as the preliminary to divorce when both parties request it, and similar relief when one requests it on such grounds as to make it probable that mutual good will is ruined. If there is agreement between husband and wife, the law grants a divorce without inquiring into the reasons, but as security that the step has been well thought over before action it provides that a year of separation must intervene between the application and the actual granting of the divorce. If the request is made by only one party two years of separation must precede the actual divorce.

"In my country divorce is not looked upon as a disgrace, but rather as a relief from an unfortunate state of affairs. It is kept out of the courts as much as possible, the machinery being largely in the hands of administrative officials. The proceedings are very simple and extremely cheap. The cost varies in different cases, running from a little less than \$1.25 to \$25. It is not necessary to employ lawyers. It is the duty of the administrative officials to make their own investigations and to collect the necessary information, to settle the question of money and to arrange for the care of the children.

"When a husband and wife agree that they want a divorce they appear before a magistrate and ask for 'an order.' He sends them to the conciliation board, a permanent institution for mediation in all matters of judicial conflict. If the officials of the conciliation board find it impossible to change the minds of the couple, the latter are granted a separation order. At the end of one year the ministry of justice is compelled to make the divorce final if it is demanded by either husband or wife.

"Infidelity on the part of either husband or wife has been a ground for divorce in Norway since 1680. It is well considered a crime, and the offender can be punished with penalties and imprisonment on the request of the other party. But few divorces are nowadays obtained on this ground, the couples preferring to come to an agreement and give no reason for their request for a divorce. In 1910 of the 390 divorces 237 were granted on the grounds of separation de facto, 131 by mutual consent, eleven on the ground of insanity, two for bodily unfitness and only nine for infidelity.

"After separation and divorce the common property is divided equally between the husband and the wife."

Find \$10,000 in Bustle.

Portland, Me.—Ten thousand dollars in currency so faded and worn that it will be sent to Washington for redemption has been found in a bustle that was worn for many years by Mrs. Mary Fassett, who died suddenly at her home in Houghton Mills, a few days ago. None of the bills is of a more recent issue than 1846.

PRINCE TOO HUGE FOR VAN

Special "Black Maria" Built for Rajah's Gigantic Son, Accused of Stealing Pearls.

Paris.—Paris is convulsed with laughter because an Indian prince, who attended the coronation of King George and Queen Mary of England is so bulky that he cannot enter the Paris black maria, and the city council has been compelled to build a special police conveyance for the big brown man from India. His name is Naushad Ali, and he is a member of the provincial parliament of Oudh and a nephew of Rajah Sir Mohammed Tabbadrag Raoul Kham of Jehangirabad.

The reason why this mighty man of many distinctions has been connected with the black maria is because of his fondness for jewelry. A jeweler named Meyer sent him a rope of pearls for inspection, the prince having written: "Please let my secretary select jewels to the amount of \$10,000."

The high sounding titles of Naushad Ali and of his uncle, the rajah, his presence at the British coronation, and the fact that he is invariably accompanied by a giraffe-like servant seven feet high in Indian costume, threw the usually suspicious jeweler off his guard.

The thinness of the servant and the largeness of his master have been brought out in most picturesque contrast, for so devoted is the servant that he insisted on going to jail with his master. His family has served the prince's family for 300 years.

It seems that as the prince was taking ship at Marseilles without having paid for the jewels or returning them he was arrested. Hence the black maria. He is at least three times as big as the average Frenchman, so on the request of his American lawyer, Frederick Allain, the city of Paris is forced to build a black maria of triple capacity for its pompous, princely, and most interesting prisoner.

IN FIVE LUCKLESS MISHAPS

Farmer's Day of Butchering Full of Surprising Slips—Is Scalded, Cuts Self, Nearly Chokes to Death.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—The limit in a tale of hard luck came today from Forkville, Sullivan county, north of here, where Albert Hughes, a farmer living near that town, suffered five separate and distinct accidents during the day.

The accidents were as follows: Having lighted a fire under a boiler preparatory to killing three hogs, he forgot he had laid his new gloves on the fireplace, and they were burned up. In adjusting a plank over a barrel filled with hot water in which the hogs were to be scalded, Hughes slipped, his legs splashed in the water and he was severely scalded below the knees.

An hour later the butcherknife he was using slipped and cut a deep gash four inches long in his arm. Four hours later, in adjusting a rendering kettle filled with boiling lard, he accidentally tilted it, spilled the lard on the fire and was scorched when it blazed up.

At supper, while eating with his uninjured arm, a bone stuck in his throat and a physician had to be called to remove it. Then Hughes went to bed.

ALLIGATORS ON THE BRAIN

Attack of Saurian Freight on Southern Pacific Train Crew in Charge of Gators.

Los Angeles.—The entire crew of a Southern Pacific train stampeded into the office of the trainmaster and tried to resign.

"I tell you I have got 'em," said a burly brakeman, "and I haven't taken a drop in six months."

"I saw them myself," said the conductor, "and here's where I quit."

"Never again for mine," said the engineer. "Once is enough for any man. I am not superstitious, but when a thing like that sticks its head out of a cabbage crate and lears at you, it is time to quit."

Alligators, alligator eggs and happy singing, jumping bullfrogs were the animated sources of the train crew's perturbations. They came in crates, like cabbages, 500 wriggling gators, 1,500 alligator eggs and 200 healthy bullfrogs in good working order.

The uncanny shipment was delivered in good condition to E. V. Earnest, proprietor of the Los Angeles alligator farm at Eastlake Park.

MILLER'S HOME FOR SICK

Carnegie's Late Associate Willis Pittsburg a Hospital in Memory of His Wife.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The beautiful home of Thomas M. Miller, a partner in the Carnegie Steel company, who died recently, is to be converted into a hospital. The name provided in the will of Mr. Miller is understood to be Woman's Hospital of Pittsburg. The bequest was made out of deference to the wishes of Mrs. Miller, who died two years ago.

The Miller homestead stands amid a great grove of oaks and occupies two city blocks. The property is valued at a million and a half. A committee is named in the will to handle the affairs of the hospital, including one other partner of the old Carnegie company, Thomas Morrison, and former City Recorder A. M. Brown.

The Miller funeral was attended by Andrew Carnegie and Mrs. Carnegie.

FOE OF BUG PESTS

Biological Survey Would Foster Insect Eating Birds.

National Herd of Bison on Montana Range is Thriving—Government Also Saving Elk and Antelope—Killing Ground Squirrels.

Washington.—Immigration and bird protection are distant problems that touch closed at one point, according to the report of the biological survey submitted to the secretary of agriculture by Henry Henshaw, chief of the survey. The report calls attention to the fact that insect-eating birds are one of the great needs of the country, and that newly-arrived immigrants are the greatest single foe that the birds at large have to face in this country.

The report says that few of the insect pests imported to this country bring with them their natural enemies which keep them in check in the countries from which they come. This is true of the cotton boll weevil, the alfalfa weevil, the brown tail and gypsy moths, the green fly of the wheat fields and the white fly of the orange groves and many other imported pests. When they get into a region where their natural enemies no longer exist they multiply immensely and become a serious menace.

Insect-eating birds do more to hold these pests in check than any one agency, and the biological survey is therefore interested in the protection of the birds from a purely practical standpoint. Foreign immigrants have been found on investigation all over the country to be relentless bird killers. They have been used in their native countries to killing all sorts of birds at all seasons for food, and they continue this practice here. The report says that the number of insectivorous birds is diminishing rather than increasing, and there is need for an active propaganda in their favor. One of the foremost means of conservation is a strict enforcement of the local laws against the slaughter of protected birds and a rigid supervision of the foreign element.

Another thing the report says can be done to encourage the birds is to furnish them with nesting places. This work has been tried on a large scale in Germany, where it is very successful. Farmers are urged to put out as many boxes as possible, and are assured that the increase of birds about their homes will much more than repay the outlay, both from an artistic and a crop-raising standpoint. There is need also of making bird refuges on the farms. The survey has printed a list of wild berries and fruits suited to all sections of the country that will make desirable bird food. It is urged that the cultivation of these seed and berry bearing vines and bushes along roads and fence rows shall be encouraged.

Aside from the insectivorous bird problem the survey has been greatly interested in the protection of shore birds and water fowl throughout the country. The official bird refuges now number 52 and have proved of great use in attracting and protecting the birds for which they were intended. The national bison range in Montana has proved a practical success, and by a few additions and a number of births, the herd now numbers 70 animals. There have been some importations of antelope to the range, and some elk have been sent there from the large herds, thousands of which starved in the Jackson Hole country last winter.

The survey has been interested in extermination as well as in preservation. New methods of poison have been investigated in connection with ground squirrels that carry the bubonic plague and the many small rodents that destroy crops and have hampered the forest service in the reforestation of devastated areas by eating the tree seed that were planted.

Protection also has been afforded to plumage birds by helping to enforce the law against the sale of bird plumage wherever it has been prohibited by local laws.

LISTS ODD CAMPAIGN ITEMS

New Bay State Mayor Mentions Shoe Repairing in \$10.70 Expenditure.

Springfield, Mass.—Such unusual items of campaign expenditure as shoe repairing and cost of canvas gloves are included in the statement filed with the county clerk by Councilman John J. Walsh of this city, who squeezed into office a few days ago by a plurality of 32 votes. His total expenditure was \$10.70, and the items are dignified by a big letter caption: "How I Did It." He began with a contribution of \$5 to the Republican city committee, and later spent \$4.75 for advertising. The remainder is accounted for as follows:

"Paid 10 cents for canvas gloves to protect my hands while knocking on doors, seeking votes.

"Paid 35 cents for repairs to footwear used in gumshoe campaign."

Petrified Ham Recalls Battle. Rapid City, S. D.—The finding of a petrified ham imbedded in the soil of Big Foot trail, near where it crosses White river, recalls the battle of Wounded Knee, fought 20 years ago.

It is supposed the ham dropped out of a wagon of the Seventh cavalry when Gen. Carr was pursuing Big Foot, the Cheyenne chief, just before the battle.

PRAYER BOOK 181 YEARS OLD

Heirloom of Jacobson Family of Kansas City Only One of Its Kind in Existence.

Kansas City, Mo.—Highly treasured as a priceless heirloom in the Jacobson family is a copy of the "Yom Kippur Koton" or ancient Hebrew prayer book. This particular copy is the only one of its kind in existence and is in the temporary possession of Albert Jacobson, 1231 Walnut street. The volume is the work of a craftsman named Aaron Wolf, a "Torah" writer of the city of Presburg, probably a town of Germany, and bears the date 1730 on the frontispiece, making it 181 years old. A Hebrew book like a scroll—the usual way of compiling their religious records, reads "backwards." The frontispiece is at the last of the book and the pages are taken in the same order, reading from right to left instead of left to right. In other words, the beginning of a Hebrew Bible is always at the end.

The interesting feature of the Jacobson copy is the fact that text, illuminations and illustrations are handwork. Even the covers are hand-tooled in gold. The delicate intricate characters of the Hebrew script are marveled of penmanship and the same ink is used in the execution of both script and illustrations as is used on the ancient Torah or scroll writing and the pages are of the same genuine parchment and are indestructible. The book contains excerpts from the five books of Moses upon which the prayer service of the Hebrew religion is based and is in use to this day in the orthodox Hebrew families in special worship the first day of each month. The production of this particular copy probably took years of the craftsman's time.

"Just how our family came into the possession of this treasure is not exactly known," said Mr. Jacobson. "It has been handed down from father to son for generations, but only the records of two generations have been written in the book. The ancient custom of the precedence of the eldest son in the possession of heirlooms still prevails in most Hebrew families and is so here. The book belongs to my older brother, Bernhard Jacobson, formerly of Leipzig, now a resident of Berlin, Germany. He sent it to me more as a matter of sentiment than anything, and when I was notified here to appear before the customs to claim the package there was much argument as to the value. Finally because it was adjudged as books no duty could be exacted and I was given possession."

The family has been offered large sums for this "keepsake," but for traditional reasons it is likely to remain in the family permanently.

FIGHTING THE BUBONIC FLEA

Ten Thousand Squirrels Found Infected With Plague in California.

Washington.—Former Speaker Cannon is trying to find out how much it costs "per squirrel or per flea" to drive the threatened bubonic plague out of California. In a hearing before the house appropriations committee Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Robert C. Bailey said \$23,000 a month is now being spent in California in an effort to eradicate ground squirrels, which carry the flea that carries bubonic plague. Including the fight begun in 1907 against the rats in San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley, the government has spent more than \$1,000,000.

"How much does it cost per squirrel or flea?" asked Mr. Cannon.

"A million dollars has been spent and 10,000 infected squirrels have been found," replied Assistant Secretary Bailey.

Mr. Bailey added that the state of California is doing practically nothing to aid the government, although some of the counties of the state are giving assistance.

MASSACRE OF INDIA LEPERS

Victims Were Assembled by Chinese Governor and Shot Down by Soldiers.

Calcutta.—The mission to lepers in India and the east is responsible for a tragic story of the massacre of a number of lepers in a district near the French frontier in China. According to this story, a military commander of a district induced the lepers to assemble by the announcement that a distribution of rice would be made. A large number gathered, bringing with them many children.

Arrived at the rendezvous, the lepers were surrounded by soldiers and shot down. Dead and wounded were then shovelled into a deep pit already prepared and kerosene oil poured over them, the whole mass then being set on fire.

A few who escaped were hunted down on the hills and killed.

Tongue Removed, Patient Speaks. Pittsburgh, Mass.—Dr. Charles H. Richardson and William L. Tracy at Hill Crest hospital removed the tongue of Charles W. Quoon, which had a cancerous growth on it. After he came out of the ether he was able to tell the doctors how he felt. Mr. Quoon is sixty-four years old.

Cow Killed by a Nail. New London, Conn.—A cow, one of a herd of prize winners owned by E. J. Hampstead, died from illness that refused to respond to treatment. An autopsy showed that an eight penny nail had pierced the wall of the stomach and lodged in the heart.

RARE SILVER DOLLAR

Pattern of 1776 Made in Birmingham, England.

Only Two of These Coins Are Known to Exist—One Shown at the Numismatic Convention in Chicago Valued at \$5,000.

New York.—A United States silver pattern dollar dated 1776 and valued at \$5,000, which was exhibited at Chicago at the convention of the American Numismatic association, is a silver piece which for rarity, value and historical worth completely eclipses the celebrated 1804 dollar, or indeed any other coin in the United States series. Even in some respects. It is more interesting than the excessively rare and valuable silver pattern dollar or "mark" of 1783, proposed by Robert Morris, the "Financier of the Revolution."

This coin, which is known as the continental currency dollar, is owned by H. O. Granberg of Oshkosh, Wis., and represents unquestionably the very first metallic issue to bear the stamp of the United States, or United Colonies, as the confederation was originally known. The continental dollar preceded by nine years the issue of the first regularly authorized cent of 1787—the Fugio or Franklin cent—and the issue of the latter coin no doubt was largely influenced by this first dollar, for it bore its principal features of design.

The continental currency dollar is about the size of an ordinary silver dollar and contains 375 grains of silver. On the obverse the principal design is a sun shining on a sun dial, with the word "Fugio" to the left. Below the dial is the motto "Mind Your Business," a saying attributed to Franklin. This central design is enclosed by two large circles, while around the border in large letters is the inscription "Continental Currency, 1776." On the reverse is a circle of thirteen links, each of which bears the name of one of the thirteen colonies. In the center is a radiation, which incloses a double circle, in which are words "American Congress. We are One."

No definite information as to where the continental currency dollar was made can now be obtained. But it is thought to have been produced in Birmingham, England, in which city were made many of the coins that were circulated in this country during colonial days and the most of which are now highly valued by collectors.

The design of the dollar was evidently suggested by the devices of the first continental currency paper issues. On the obverse side of one of these notes was a representation of a sun as a human face shining upon a dial, with the word "Fugio." Just above was a representation of the moon, also a face. (The latter, however, found no place in the design of the silver dollar.) Underneath the dial was the motto "Mind Your Business." The reverse design of the note showed almost the identical design borne by the continental dollar and seems to have been embodied in fact.

Several varieties of these continental dollars are now known, and not only were there various designs showing trifling differences, but they occur in different metals—silver, brass and white metal. The rarest of all series, the one owned by Mr. Granberg, shows marked differences from some of the others. Underneath the dial and above the motto is inscribed in small letters "E G Fecit." "E G" are supposed to have been the initials of the engraver of the dies.

From what can be learned there are only two specimens of the above dollar known in silver—the one owned by Mr. Granberg and another said to be in the collection of an eastern historical society. The variety is also known in brass and white metal. The specimens in the latter two metals are also rare and held at a premium. The one in brass is much rarer than that in white metal.

The next rarest variety of the continental currency dollar is of similar design to that mentioned above, but the engraver in cutting the dies made an error in spelling "currency" with one "r." A similar specimen, showing this error, and the only one known in the metal, was formerly in the collection of John G. Mills of Albany, whose collection was sold in 1904. The coin at that time brought \$500. Since that time the values of colonial coins particularly have risen enormously and that dollar would now bring a very much higher figure if offered for sale.

The design showing the error was also struck in brass and white metal. It has been stated by experts that only five are known in brass. One of these, also offered at the Mills sale, brought \$27, which would be largely advanced if sold today. The same variety in white metal brought \$18 at the Mills sale.

There must have been a considerable issue of coins of this design in white metal, judging by the number of dies that were made, as evidenced by the known specimens. One design, with the error in the spelling of "currency," shows a comma under the letter "n." It was struck in brass from recut dies. But two such specimens are known, and the last record of sale of one, the Parmelee sale of 1890, held in this city, was \$22. Even the commonest of the white metal specimens are held at a premium of several dollars.

WHY SHE CHANGED HER MIND

Where Wifely Ignorance is Husband's Bliss 'Twere Folly to Put Her Wise.

Mrs. Blithers had not always found herself in an approving mood in respect to the so-called sports of the sterner sex, and her opinions concerning golfers who spend Sunday on the links, or sportsmen who shoot pigeons, were so very decided that Blithers invariably looked around for cotton to stuff in his ears when she began to deliver them. One can imagine his surprise, the other night, when the good lady suggested the idea of his taking her to a horse race some time. The notion that she could bring herself to approve of such a diversion had never occurred to Blithers, and he gazed at her in simple amazement.

"You don't mean to say that you approve of horse-racing?" he demanded.

"Well, I didn't use to," Mrs. Blithers replied, "but now that I am coming to know more about it I think I do. I've been taking the trouble to read about the races that are allowed to be run latterly and I have made up my mind that there's more good in those race-track men than we've given them credit for."

"Well, well, well!" laughed Blithers. "Wonder of wonders! What has brought about this remarkable change?"

"Well, I've discovered how kind those men are to their horses," said Mrs. Blithers. "I noticed last week that every time a horse wasn't feeling well enough to run, his owner, instead of going out and beating him with a whip, has in every case gone out and scratched the poor animal!"

—Lippincott's Magazine.

SHE WAS DESPERATE WOMAN

Indignation and Anger Allied With Keen Despondency in Tragedy of Separation.

Her locks were in wild disorder. Her face was flushed, and her eyes flashing. She clenched and unclenched her fingers in an agony of despair. Unless her looks belied her, she was a deeply injured and desperate woman. Her indignation and anger were allied with keen despondency.

"Cruel one—oh, cruel one!" she cried, in anguished tones. "I have borne with you too long! You have injured me; you have tortured me, and yet I could not bear to give you up!"

"When first we met, how your ease and polish attracted me!" she continued. "When you became my very own, how my friends envied me! But your understanding is too small for my large soul! You have ruined my standing in society? If we had never met I might have walked in peace! So now begone! We part forever!"

There came a moment's convulsive breathing, a gritting of teeth, and a sharp sigh. It was all over. The tragedy was ended. By an almost superhuman effort she had pulled off her new shoe.

Wild Silk Worms. The world is indebted to the Chinese for the discovery of the virtues of the silk worm. Its product was unknown in Rome until the time of Julius Caesar, and so costly was the material that even the Emperor Augustus refused a dress of this lustrous fabric to his empress. Now it is cultured in almost every country, and its products are within the reach of all.

Besides the several domesticated species there is a wild silk worm found in Central America, which weaves a haglike structure two feet in depth, that hangs from the trees. At a distance the nest resembles a huge matted cobweb. The insect makes no cocoon, but weaves the silk in layers and skins around the inside of the nest. From Tegucigalpa there were sent to England some years ago six pounds of this silk. There it was made into handkerchiefs not easily detected from common silk of equal strength and delicate texture.

There is a curious silk-producing spider in Central America, the arana de seda, which may be seen hurrying along with a load of fine silk on its back, from which trail numerous delicate filaments.—Harper's Weekly.

Bucking Horses. A touch of the spur or a flick of the quirt signals the start, says the American Magazine, in an article on our western horses. His knowledge of what to do must be a heritage from his ancestors, for all horses do it, and all American wild horses are sprung from horses that once carried men.

He pops down his head and levitates straight heavenward. While he and you are high in the air he arches his back and stiffens his body to iron rigidity. Thus he comes back to earth. The sensation to the rider is as if his spinal column had been struck by a piledriver. The impression is not analyzed at the time, for the horse goes into the air again immediately. He swings to right or left, or he "changes ends" completely while in the air, and you come down facing southward, whereas you were facing northward when you ascended.

An Injunction Wanted. "Do you favor limiting the powers of the courts?"

"Just now," replied the statesman. "I'm in favor of extending them. What I want is some way to get an injunction that'll prevent publications from putting all the funny stories into print before I get a chance to tell 'em to my constituents."