

UNHAPPY RICH COUPLES FLOCK TO MEXICO FOR EASY DIVORCES

Mexico City, February—The fastest thing in this republic is a divorce. Here where "Manana usually means anywhere from a month to six months in everything else in the matter of getting rid of an objectionable spouse, it literally means tomorrow.

By this it is meant that it is possible for one to come here, go through a few essential formalities, occupying say twenty-four or forty-eight hours, return to the States and within one month receive through registered mail a duly certified document of separation, or complete divorce.

Primarily the trick is the establishment of residence. This is done upon arrival and not after the lapse of a month, or two months as the case may be. Next comes the appointment of "a power of attorney," a celebrated institution. This person becomes you in every legal sense of the word. He may appear in court for you, just as well or better than you can appear for yourself, sign your papers, procure the decree and forward it along.

Divorces Are Legal
So far as Mexican law is concerned it is just as legal in the states of Morelos, Sonora and Yucatan as if the complaining party had actually established himself in a hotel and remained there, attending court daily taking part in the civic life of the community and otherwise becoming a resident.

As to the legality of these divorces in the United States that is a moot question. Those in Sonora and Morelos have never been passed upon by the courts, so far as is known here. Those in Yucatan have been in the state of New York and declared illegal. However, under treaties existing between Mexico and the United States there is a clause which says that decision of courts in the respective nations shall be considered legal by both.

There Are Pitfalls
As may be imagined, in this Utopian state of affairs for unhappy couples, there are many pitfalls which do not appear in the texts of the laws. For instance when a party seeking divorce in the State Yucatan arrives there by steamer from New York the port authorities require a deposit of \$500 before landing. This is quite aside from the legal fees. It is stipulated that if the divorce is granted the money goes into the treasury, if not it is refunded. In the case the complaining party is a woman the authorities require also a certificate from the deserted husband giving his permission, duly certified, that his wife has gone to Mexico with his consent. Husbands escape this penalty. Many are the sobs when pretty young women trip gayly down the

gangplank at Progreso and back up again because they have not the \$500 or a permit to be absent from home. On the other hand a young man from Texas has been divorced in Yucatan three times within the last seven months, and is now seeking another.

Will Abolish Law.
He will have to act quickly as the new governor, taking office February 15, has publicly announced that he would annul the law as his first official act, and there is every reason to believe that he will do so, as he is the foe of the party passing the act. This will probably save the courts in the states any number of appeals.

In Sonora and in Morelos the laws were drawn with more care. Both require notice to the absent party. In Sonora the courts require that a notice be published in a newspaper in the actual home city of the party, allowing a period of thirty days for the absent party to respond. In Morelos of which Cuernavaca is the capital and divorce center, due notice is considered publication in the court record of that city, which by no manner of means is likely to find its way to the attention of the absent party. Grounds for divorce in both instances are unlimited. They range anywhere from a desire of either party to separate to an elopement with the butler. Domestic intractability of any kind is quite sufficient. As may be supposed most divorces take the milder form, just an agreement to disagree and there is nothing in the court record to reflect on child or absent party, or to excite a curious public.

Records Are Secret
"Naturally many persons take advantage of this situation," said Harry Grace, who established himself as the divorce king of Mexico and presides over a large colony here, making daily excursions to Cuernavaca, three hours by automobile. "They come and go and no one is any the wiser. Many of them have tried time and again to secure divorces in New York and some of the other states where the law is strict. They find that they can not do so without besmirching the good name of a wife and innocent children. Rather than do this they endure unspeakable conditions until they can get away for a trip to Mexico. When a divorce becomes necessary, and it is always lamentable, I believe that it should be done quietly and in this way.

"The court records in Cuernavaca are closed book. Parties seeking divorce usually withhold their names and identify except in the actual filing of the papers. These come before a judge, without a jury. All declarations are written. There is no verbal testimony. There is already a large colony at Cuernavaca, a delightful resort, and as soon as hotel accom-

modations improve this colony will exceed the celebrated Reno."
Financial Settlements
There is another angle to the laws however, which his not equitable and which will prove hard to remedy. That is the question of alimony and the care of children. Parties seeking divorce have all the opportunity to employ fraud as to their incomes, the amount necessary for the support of wives and children. The sums in the law are fixed on Mexican incomes for the average person, extremely inadequate for support in the states. And, of course, the Mexican courts have no way of enforcing payment in the states.

On the other hand most of the divorce colony is made up of wealthy persons who previously have entered into financial agreements and mutually agreed upon Cuernavaca as a quick and efficient way of separation without scandal.
The North Carolina Baptist Historical Commission in session here last week decided to arrange for the compilation and publication of the history of the State Baptist Convention founded by Patrick Dowd in Greensboro ninety six years ago. It is the announced purpose of the Commission to have the date in book form by the meeting of the convention in 1930.

Parade System Works
There is to be no pardon board so far as Governor McLean is concerned. The Executive finds that the State's pardon and parole system, handled through the Commissioner of pardons, with the governor as final authority, is working admirably and should not be changed. The Governor reached this conclusion along about the time he issued a statement declining clemency to fifteen men convicted several months ago for attempting to forcibly take a prisoner from the Buncombe county jail after a thorough investigation by Pardon Commissioner Sink. Following this declaration His Excellency requested Mayor Cathey of Asheville to inaugurate some measure of relief for the families of the offenders who are now or may hereafter be in distress. The Governor would not have the innocent punished with the guilty in

Radio Plan Endorsed
Governor McLean's radio plan, designed with the intention of making rural schools community centers, was enthusiastically endorsed by the heads of twenty-one divisions of the state government during the week and plans for effective action are soon to be worked out. It is expected that not less than 500 schools will arrange to install radio sets if accorded the privilege of connecting with the State broadcasting station.

The subject of working Saturdays it is said, will come before the Salary and Wage Commission on March 15. There is little probability that the departure from present practice will be taken. While the ruling of the Commission on holidays has aroused considerable opposition among those affected, it is not be-

lieved among officials there will be any further revisions of working conditions.

Forest Fires
The forests of North Carolina are second to none in the opinion of W. C. McCormack, assistant state forester, who came here from a similar position in Idaho the first of the year. Mr. McCormack believes the forests in Eastern North Carolina are constantly subject to fire damage because of brush. He is making a tour of the state to become thoroughly acquainted with conditions.

Governor McLean says a man's color will be no bar to his obtaining justice from the Executive office. Referring to Alvin Mansel, sentenced to die for an attack, the Governor said if he were convinced Mansel were innocent he would pardon him as quickly as the "most outstanding white men in North Carolina." Mansel's case is on appeal to the Supreme Court but it is expected that in the course of time it will be taken to the Governor.

Lower School Fire Rate.
The fight for lower insurance rates on North Carolina school houses was taken to New York this week before the Southeastern Underwriters by Stacey W. Wade, insurance commissioner. The rates were increased some time ago without Mr. Wade's sanction.

The proposed national park in the western section of North Carolina was the subject of addresses Saturday night at a dinner to the State Park Commission. The commission travelled over North Carolina last week presenting the idea to the people, especially those of the East who are not as familiar with the proposition as those nearer the proposed park.

A Double-Barreled Business
A man got stalled with his automobile in a mudhole near Bass Lake last week. While making a vain attempt to get out a small boy appeared with a team of horses.

"Want me to haul you out, mister?"
"How much do you want?"
"Three dollars."

After the work had been done and the money paid the tourist asked:
"Do you pull out many cars here?"
"About twelve a day on the average," replied the boy.

"Do you work nights, too?" inquired the tourist.

"Yes, I haul water for the mudhole."

FRESH GARDEN SEED
In Bulk and Packages

Now is the time to select your seed. So when you prepare your garden, you will have the seed at hand.

Our seed are all tested before they are shipped, so you can feel sure you are buying seed that will germinate.

Package seed 5c.
Headquarters for Garden Seed.

SUTTLE'S DRUG STORE
—PHONE 370—

TRUSTEES SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

By virtue of the power of sale contained in second deed of trust executed to me December 9th, 1924, by A. Leventis for balance of purchase money and default having been made in the payment of said balance of money, and being called upon to execute said trust by H. F. Harrill, I as trustee will sell for Cash at public auction, to the highest bidder at the court house door in the town of Shelby, N. C., on Saturday, March 27th, 1926

within legal hours the following real estate, situated in No. 6 township, Cleveland county, N. C., and bounded as follows: Situated in the eastern part of the town of Shelby, N. C., on the north side of the Cleveland Springs road, joining the property of the G. M. D. Jetton property, the said described property being on the east side of the Jetton old residence, the metes and bounds of said lot being as follows: Beginning at a stake on the north edge of the Cleveland Springs road, said stake being 106 feet of the southwest corner of the Jetton residence property, now the property of J. W. Spangler, and run thence with the East line of the said residence lot north 4 degrees, west 231 feet to a stake in south line of the Gidney heirs line, thence with the south line of the Gidney property S. 87 degrees E. 52 feet to a stake, northwest corner of the Eugene Gamble lot, now John Honeycutt's; thence with the west line of the Gamble or Honeycutt lot, south 4 degrees E 215 feet to a stake on the north edge of the Cleveland Springs road, the Gamble or Honeycutt southwest corner, thence with the north edge of the Cleveland Springs road westward 53 feet to the point of beginning, the same being a part of the H. F. Harrill, Wm. Lineberger, et al property.

This the 23rd day of February 1926.
O. S. ANTHONY, Trustee.

NORTH CAROLINA BOOSTED ABROAD

National Geographic Magazine and World's Work Advertising It

Letters received by Major Wade H. Phillips director of the Department of Conservation and Development, show a wide-spread interest in the State and indicate several plans in the making which will be invaluable from the point of view of National publicity.

Among magazines and agencies of county-wide importance which are soon to feature North Carolina may be mentioned the National Geographic Magazine, which is planning to devote one of its issues to North Carolina; The World's Work, the magazine formerly edited by Walter Hines Page and now under the editorial management of his son, Arthur W. Page. The Review of Reviews and N. Y. Ayer and Son, nationally known advertising agency.

Plans for the North Carolina number of the National Geographic Magazine perhaps the most sumptuously illustrated periodical in the world, have been in preparation for nearly a year and its staff men have been in the State on the assignment.

In a letter to Director Phillips, Mr. Page says that his magazine is soon to publish an illustrated article on the Great Smokies now in the public eye on account of the proposal to make them part of a National Park. "There is," says Mr. Page, "as much romance in the Appalachian Mountains as anywhere in this country, from George Washington to Daniel Boone, the mountaineers, moonshine, etc. But," he continues, "I do not see any advertising campaign that capitalizes this."

The N. W. Ayer agency writes that it is gathering information concerning the recreational facilities available in the Western section of North Carolina, the material to be used in publicity designed to further the use of the district by vacationists, and that it is particularly interested in the opportunities offered to campers: "It is our desire to tell a comprehensive story of the attractive features of the district in question, touching upon the natural features of the country, the multiplicity of good camping sites, the good fishing, and such items."

A Farmer Boy's Success

From hard work on a farm to the study of medicine was the course Dr. Pierce pursued. Finally he determined to put up in ready-to-use form his "Golden Medical Discovery" so the public could easily procure it. This "Discovery" is a tonic in its effects on the stomach and digestive apparatus; an alternative in its action on the blood, liver and skin. It increases the appetite, stimulates the digestion, enriches the blood, and makes both men and women feel as they did when they were young.

All dealers. Large bottles, liquid, \$1.35; tablets, \$1.35 and 65c. Send 10c to Dr. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., for a trial package tablets.

FOR GOODNESS SAKE TRY—
Colonel Shelby
— CIGARS —
— 5c — 8c — 10c —

SHELBY OFFICE SUPPLY & BOOK COMPANY, INC.
OFFICE AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES
Union Trust Building.

Stock Clearance Sale

We are holding a special Stock Clearance Sale Next Week, Beginning March 8th, and Running Through Saturday the 13th.


Material reductions on all items of stock.
It is seldom reductions are offered on this class of merchandise. This is an opportunity for all those in need of office supplies.

Special reductions announced as follows:
1-4 off on all blank books, stenographers note books, ledgers, journals, cash books, day books, loose leaf ledger leaves, binders and indexes
1-4 off on all carbon paper.
1-4 off on all typewriter paper.
Typewriter ribbons (\$1.00 value) 80 cents.
Chicago Pencil Sharpener (\$1.25 value) \$1.00 each.

Special reductions on all grades of pencils, playing cards, tally cards and place cards.
ALSO ON—
Desks, filing cabinets, filing equipments.
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1 Ton Truck (Chassis Only)	550

I. O. B. Flint, Mich.

Think how low the recent reduction of Chevrolet prices brings the cost of a fully equipped automobile. Compare what you get for Chevrolet's new low prices with any other car in the world.

Remember that Chevrolet equipment includes speedometer, Fisher body and balloon tires on closed models, Duco finish, Alemite lubrication system and scores of other features essential on a modern motor car.

Now more than ever before, check price for price and value for value—and you will buy a Chevrolet. Come in. Get a demonstration!

ARFY BROTHERS, Shelby, N. C.
QUALITY AT LOW COST

More Profit From Your Crops

The profit from your farm depends largely on the kind and amount of fertilizer you use.


For many years Swift's Red Steer Fertilizers have been helping farmers in your community make more profit by raising larger crops of higher quality.

Red Steer Fertilizers are made right. Only carefully selected materials are used. They are so processed, mixed and cured as to give your crops the full benefit of every pound of plantfood they contain.

We recommend Red Steer 12-4-4 for cotton and corn. It is the best brand for those crops. Many progressive farmers in your community have increased their profits by using it.

The A. S. A. will be glad to talk over your fertilizer problems with you. If you fail to locate him readily, write us.

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(FERTILIZER WORKS)



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