

# The New Divorce Centre

Reno, Nevada, A Million a Year Estimated Revenue Inherits the Sioux Falls Industry By HERBERT JACKSON



JUDGE ORR, WHO DECIDES HALF OF THE DIVORCE SUITS



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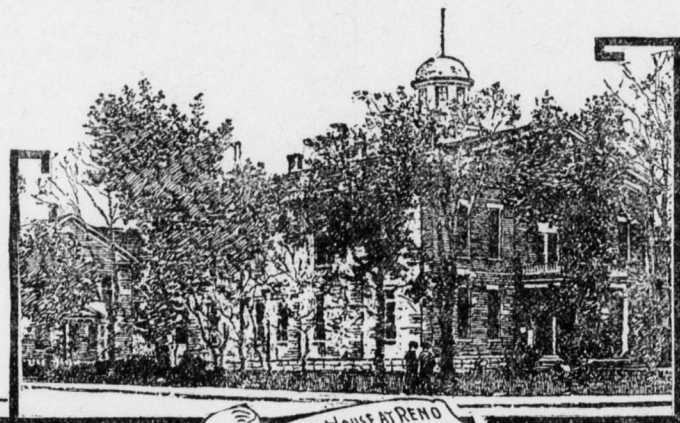
vantages of the town over any other in the state. Nevada is primarily a mining state, and nature usually hides her precious metals in difficult places. Reno is not a mining camp, and is not only centrally situated from a railroad point of view, but has scenic attractions rarely to be found in any American community.

It is located in the heart of a rich agricultural region, and through the center of the town runs a beautiful mountain stream, the Truckee river. Surrounding the town, at a brief distance, are snow-capped mountains, and the winds coming from over their summits keep the air cool on summer nights. It is never very warm in Reno. On the other hand, the winters are comparatively mild.

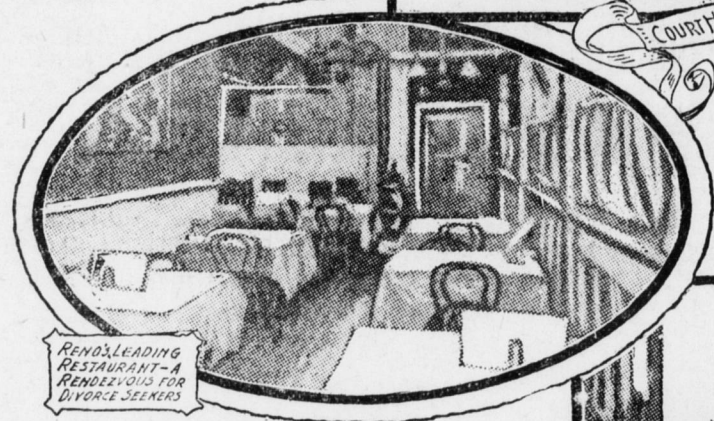
An altitude of 4,500 feet makes the atmosphere somewhat trying on nerves that are not robust to begin with, but nervous affections are the only complaints to which the climate is unfavorable.

For the cure of other ailments hot mineral water springs abound in the vicinity of Reno. Twelve miles away are the famous Steamboat Springs which Comstock millionaires were wont to patronize 40 years ago. Three miles from Reno is Moana Springs. Five miles from Reno, to the west, is another famous medicinal resort, Laughton's Springs, the road to which runs along the Truckee river, making a beautiful driving boulevard. Half way to Laughton's on this road is a magnificent edifice

**R**ENO, Nev.—The population and social life of Reno, Nev., are undergoing a great change. Where a year or so ago the optimistic mining promoter, in his corduroy or khaki and his high russet shoes, was wont to disport himself, to-day may be seen men of the east flashing by in high-powered automobiles. Where Washoe squaws would a year ago sit and play cards at the corners of the public squares may be seen to-day handsome women in Paris gowns sauntering in the afternoon sun. On the veranda of the leading hotel where a year ago were the silence and desolation that the panic of 1907 produced, idly sit and fight with ennui groups of men and women, who look forward, in mental vision, to the time when they will be able to forsake this frontier post of civilization and whirl an eager flight back to their homes in the east. But they are looking for divorces at present, and so they must stay here for at least six months from date of arrival to satisfy the requirements of the Nevada divorce laws with regard



COURT HOUSE IN RENO



RENO LEADING RESTAURANT—A RENDEZVOUS FOR DIVORCE SEEKERS

to residence. For Reno has succeeded to the eminence formerly occupied by Sioux Falls as the divorce center of America. Some farsighted lawyer got into the Nevada legislature several years ago, and when he got out again there was a divorce law among the statutes of Nevada that for length, breadth, height, elasticity, and all other qualities that commend themselves to the seeker after easy matrimonial freedom, could not be surpassed anywhere in the union. It was equalled by the South Dakota law, though, and so Nevada and the Nevada lawyer secured no results from it for the time being.

But everything comes to him that waits, and when the people of South Dakota arose in their wrath last November and, by a referendum vote, declared that any one who desired to get a divorce in South Dakota would have to live there a year instead of six months, as had been the requirement previously, the seeker of relief from present matrimonial ties began to take the long journey westward to Nevada, where it takes but a six months' residence to be in a position to go before the courts of the state as plaintiff in a divorce suit.

W. H. Schnitzer, a Reno divorce specialist, has written a treatise on divorce practice and procedure, in which he throws an illuminating ray on the wherefore of the popularity of Reno as a divorce center. He says:

"While the laws of the eastern and middle western states generally contain some provision for the dissolution of the marriage tie, it is obvious to the reader that in cases where extreme cruelty, desertion, and failure to provide for the basis of the grievance, the law in such states offers no substantial relief to the aggrieved party, because the requirements of proof, duration of offense, corroboration of plaintiff and procedure under court rules are so exacting and irksome that the desired relief sought by the applicant is rendered impossible of attainment. Summing up the situation as it exists in the eastern states respecting the domestic relation law, the client when consulting local counsel is almost invariably advised that upon the facts submitted he or she is without remedy. Here in Nevada the applicant, without deception or fraud, upon almost any charge from which lack of harmonious relations may be reasonably inferred, may apply to our courts and secure prompt results by decree of absolute divorce, valid and binding in law."

While there are about 54 cases now on the docket of the district court, there are in Reno to-day over 350 individuals establishing a residence for divorce purposes, a majority of whom are women.

The charms of Nevada as a divorce center have only just begun to percolate into the consciousness of the outside world.

Reno has no objection to the present status of affairs. It is estimated that the revenue of the town from the divorce colony at present is close to \$1,000,000 a year, and that it will rapidly increase from this on. To a community of but 18,000 population this is no small consideration.

Why Reno is preferred to any other community in the state as a place of residence by those seeking divorces is because of the manifold ad-

come back for several days. It might be mentioned in this connection that the divorce colony has brought to Reno over 100 motor cars.

The leading hotels are always crowded, and the rents for cottages have appreciated, on the average, to the extent of 50 per cent. in the last six months. In some instances the increase has been much greater. One cottage that rented for \$60 a month in January last, now returns its owner a rental of \$100 a month.

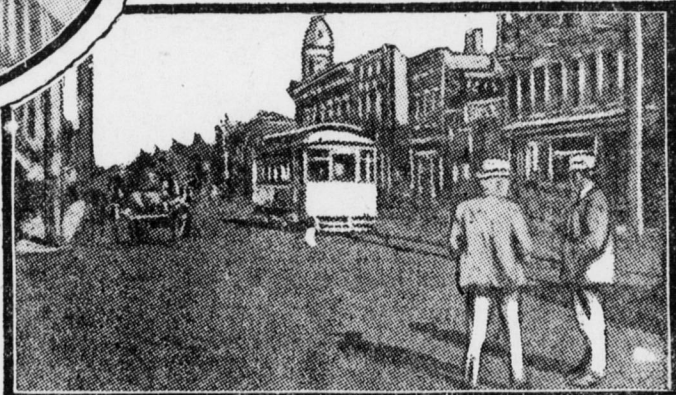
Perhaps the one thing that endears Reno to the visiting divorcee more than anything else is its proximity to San Francisco. One may board a train in Reno and be in the Pacific coast metropolis in ten hours. Despite its manifold attractions, life in Reno is likely to wear irksome upon those who have been used to existence in larger centers, and the visitors, to a great extent, sooner or later during their stay, take a trip or half a dozen trips, over the Sierras to the city by the Golden Gate.

Such visits, while affording relief from the monotony of life in Reno, do not impair the residence qualifications necessary to the obtaining of a divorce. To again quote the Nevada divorce authority already mentioned:

"Under the provisions of Section 22 of the Marriage and Divorce act, the plaintiff must reside in the state for a period of at least six months. This is not construed to mean that in order to fully comply with the statute the party must remain here continuously for said period. So, if a party comes to Nevada, and, in good faith, takes up a residence, the party may leave the state at any time after establishing residence, may go and travel when and wherever the party chooses, and may return to the state whenever inclination prompts, and yet such temporary absence would not in any wise affect the legality of the residence established, but the party would be entitled under the law to bring suit any time after the lapse of six months from the date residence was originally established, notwithstanding the party's absence from the state during said period."

Biased somewhat by the financial seductions of the situation, and yet to learn the lesson that such a state of affairs can only result in the moral degradation of the youth of the community—a lesson which caused South Dakota to reform her divorce laws—Reno appears to be perfectly contented with things as they are.

But Reno is busily engaged in cleaning house, and it is felt by the most reflective observers that the divorce laws of Nevada as now written will be a thing of the past in the near future. Not in



RENO'S MAIN BUSINESS STREET

known as "Rick's," which is the local "Monte Carlo." Rick's has all the conveniences for those who desire to make a stay, and frequently parties who go there to spend a few hours forget to

may enjoy. The royal lady of a European court no longer sits in regal splendor in her palace, surrounded by ladies in waiting ready to minister to her most languid wish, but you may meet her motoring in the country or riding horseback in the park. It is an excellent example they are setting for their countrywomen in this respect.

Queen Alexandra is a devotee of outdoor life. Indeed, she attributes keeping young and enjoying good health to this fact. When a young girl she was fond of swimming, rowing and driving, and even now she never permits a day to go by without taking some exercise. If the weather is too bad for walking she passes several hours at billiards. She is wonderfully skilled with the cue and is proud of her game. But in nice weather her favorite exercise is walking.

At Sandringham she visits all parts of her farm at least once a day. This is more of a pleasure than a task, because she usually amuses herself on the way by taking snapshots with her camera or playing with one or more dogs. Fond though the queen is of outdoor life, she avoids hard exercise. Yachting and driving she enjoys, but she never has played golf or put a ball over a tennis net.

Persistent automobilism, she believes, offers the quickest means known for getting rid of a nice complexion and gaining 10,000 wrinkles.

Queen Alexandra believes so much in fresh air and exercise out of doors that she has sometimes slept in a tent she had put up for her at Sandringham. Once, asked how she managed to keep young, she said: "Fresh air and exercise are the best elixirs of youth."

Queen Alexandra's particular hobby is photography and that takes her out of doors a great deal. She is said now to possess albums containing over 10,000 photographs, all taken by her own hands, representing royal and important personages, places and festivals in all parts of Europe. For a period of 16 years now the queen has been a devotee of the camera. She possesses five cameras.

Wherever the queen goes—be it a cruise in the royal yacht, to her home in Denmark, or a ride across country in the Highlands—she is never without her camera. That she uses it well is evident when it is stated that during one of her Mediterranean cruises she secured 1,400 photographs in six weeks. Then it is very seldom, too, that the queen throws out a picture or destroys a negative because the subject is not up to the mark.

In her way of going to work she is most methodical. Her photographs fill many albums and under each photograph her majesty has written a description of the picture and the date when taken. They include a great variety of subjects, from the king's stud horses taken in the old days at the annual sale at Wolferton to portraits of her grandchildren on the lawn at Sandringham and the ruins of the Parthenon. The photographs of her grandchildren fill three albums alone and now amount to several thousand. They depict them at their games, romping with each other, and one, that made the king roar with laughter when he saw it, has caught two of the younger sons of the Princess of Wales, each endeavoring to exert his right to a certain toy by the free use of his fists.

What she regards as one of her best photographs of the king is that which depicts him talking to Lord Suffield in the grounds of Marlborough house.

## SIX PEOPLE DROWNED

STEAMER OHIO SINKS OFF STEEP POINT, ALASKA.

All the Passengers but One on Board the Boat Were Saved, the Victims Being Employes.

Seattle, Wash.—Six lives were lost in the sinking of the Alaska Steamship Co. steamer Ohio off Steep Point, Alaska. There were 123 passengers on board, but all these but one escaped, the victims being employes. The loss of the steamer and the cargo is total. The drowned are Purser F. J. Stephen of Seattle, Wireless Operator George E. Eccles of Winnipeg, two seamen and the quartermaster, names not given, and one passenger.

A wireless dispatch says the Ohio sank in three minutes. This probably means that she was on the reef a considerable time and that the passengers were all off before the ship slid into deep water which she did so speedily as to carry down five of the crew.

It is 320 miles from Seattle to Steep Point. The rocks where the Ohio sank shelve off rapidly into unusually deep water. The Ohio was insured for \$220,000. Capt. John Johnson, her navigator, was regarded as one of the most skillful on the Pacific coast.

## BULLETS FLEW AT SOPER, GA.

One Negro Shot and Burned, Another Lynched and a Prominent White Planter Killed.

Soper, Ga.—Following the shooting and burning of Ben Clark, an escaped negro convict, by a posse, the killing of James Durden, a prominent planter who was a member of the posse in the fight with Clark, John Sweeney, another negro who had harbored Clark, was taken from a passenger train near Tarrytown and lynched by the posse.

Four others of the posse were injured in the battle with Clark and Sheriff James Lester of Montgomery county, probably will die. The posse found Clark, an escaped convict from the Bibb county chain gang, in Sweeney's house. Sweeney's wife was at home, but Sweeney was absent. The sheriff called on Clark to surrender. For answer he received a 44 calibre bullet fired from a rapid fire gun. Durden was shot and other members of the posse fell before the torrent of lead dealt out by the negro. He continued to fire until his ammunition was exhausted. He was then overpowered and his body riddled with bullets.

## THE WEEKLY PULSE OF TRADE

Industrial Tendencies Are Still in the Direction of Improvement, Says Bradstreet's.

New York City.—Bradstreet's says: Trade and industrial tendencies are still in the direction of improvement. Impetus is given these movements by the beginning of the cotton harvest at the south, by the completion of the spring wheat harvest in the northwest and on the Pacific coast and by the gathering of other products of agricultural interests in various sections of the country. In commercial lines jobbing trade still has the center of the stage, and reports are practically unanimous that buyers' excursions are stimulating fall demand as the close of the vacation period approaches. Retail trade still largely deals with the disposal of summer goods, mainly at concessions.

Industry is becoming increasingly active, iron and steel leading despite some further price advances and mills are reported behind on deliveries. Demand for coal is expanding east and west. The building trades are quite active.

## BREAKS THE WORLD'S RECORD

English Aviator Travels 111.78 Miles in the Air in Three Hours, Four Minutes, 56.25 Seconds.

Rheims, France.—Henry Farman, the English aviator, a hitherto unknown quantity in the aviation contests, in a biplane of his own design, broke the world's record for duration of flight and distance in a heavier-than-the-air machine and won the grand prix de la champagne—the endurance test—by a remarkable flight officially recorded as 180 kilometres (111.78 miles) in three hours, four minutes, 56.25 seconds. He actually covered an extra ten kilometres and remained in the air ten minutes after 7:30 o'clock, the hour that the time keepers, under the rules, ceased to keep a record of the flight.

Although Farman's brilliant record as an aviator should have warned the sharps that he was a dangerous competitor, his victory was a complete surprise. He had been preparing his machine secretly and had not appeared upon the field before except for a few practice flights and had been almost forgotten.

## Gunner's Mate Killed.

Escanaba, Mich.—By the premature firing of a cannon here by the naval reserves during a farmers' celebration Paul Paulsen, 19, a gunner's mate, was instantly killed and Fred Winchester was seriously burned.

## Bank President Arrested.

Chicago, Ill.—Elvert W. Shirk, president of the First National Bank of Tipton, Ind., was arrested at the Calumet club here, charged with misapplying \$24,252 of the bank's money.

Resinol Produces Immediate Results and is the Surest Remedy Known for Itching Piles.

Resinol Ointment is the best thing ever produced for the relief and cure of itching piles, as can be proven by a single trial test. An occasional application will prevent the return of this annoying affection. It is an excellent healing remedy and we keep it in the house all the time.

J. R. Herzog, D. D. S., New York City.

**Within Her Means.**  
A pretty little girl of three years was in a drug store with her mother. Being attracted by something in the showcase, she asked what it was. The clerk replied: "That is a scent bag." "How cheap!" replied the little girl. "I'll take two!"—Lippincott's Magazine.

**Important to Mothers.**  
Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

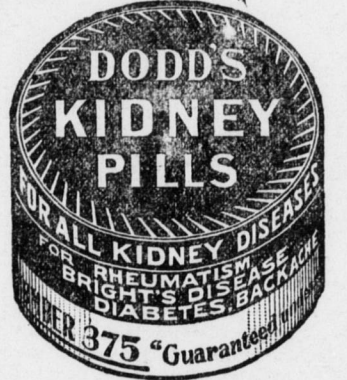
**Appropriate Terms.**  
"Are Jake's rates for his aeroplane high?"  
"You bet. Sky high."

Don't dope yourself for every little pain. It only hurts your stomach. Such pain comes usually from local inflammation. A little rubbing with Hamlin's Wizard Oil will stop it immediately.

Instead of making a fool of a man a woman furnishes the opportunity—and lets him do the rest.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

The world sprinkled \$1,000,000 worth of pepper on its food in 1908.



**An Effective Remedy for Cramps, Dysentery, Diarrhea, Cholera Morbus, Cholera Infantum and Colic, should be always kept handy, for when such a medicine is needed, it is needed in a hurry.**

**Dr. D. Jayne's Carminative Balsam**

has been successfully employed for seventy-eight years in relieving and curing all complaints of this nature. Stops pain immediately. It is a household necessity in homes where there are children. Your druggist will supply you. Per bottle, 25c.

Dr. D. Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge is a reliable building-up tonic for both adults and children. Splendid to take after a weakening attack of dysentery. Also a safe worm medicine.

## SICK HEADACHE

**CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.** Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

**CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.** Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature. *Brewster* REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

**A \$—Dollar for a Dime**

Why spend a dollar when 10c buys a box of CASCARETS at any drug store? Use as directed—get the natural, easy result. Saves many dollars wasted on medicines that do not cure. Millions regularly use CASCARETS. Buy a box now—10c week's treatment—proof in the morning. CASCARETS 10c a box for a week's treatment, all druggists. Biggest seller in the world. Million boxes a month.