

COMMON LAW WIFE IS UPHELD AS LEGAL

Court of Appeals Decision Affects Thousands of Unions in the State.

AN OLD LAW IS RESTORED

Prohibition Enacted in 1907 Wiped Out in Case Brought by Widow.

ALBANY, Feb. 27.—Common law marriages, thousands of which have been contracted in this State since 1907, when the statutory prohibition against them was enacted from the domestic relations law, were validated by a decision of the Court of Appeals today. This sanction of unions entered into without formal ceremony arose from a workmen's compensation case in which \$6.92 a week was awarded a widow for the maintenance of herself and her children.

The decision legitimizes the offspring of common law marriages contracted since 1907, vowing them with property rights. It sanctions unions which otherwise would have been defective through honest mistakes of either of the contracting parties. It cures the defects in marriages performed by Aldermen since May 12 last, when a prohibition against adermanic marriages was inserted in the domestic relations law.

With respect to this latter proposition it has been estimated that at least 600 marriages have been performed by Aldermen in New York city, Yonkers and surrounding metropolitan territory since the enactment of May 12 last. At least 275 of these marriages were performed in New York city, and without the decision of the Court of Appeals the dower rights of the women and the property rights of children born out of such unions would be dubious.

The opinion in the Zeigler case, written by Chief Judge Hiscock, reviews the statutory history of marriage in New York State since 1827. For eighty-five years common law marriages, the opinion shows, were recognized in New York State until 1901, when a specific prohibition against them was inserted in the domestic relations law.

From that time until the present the general impression has been that such unions were legally taboo. The Court of Appeals found that the Legislature in 1907 by an enactment amending the domestic relations law erased the prohibition, thereby legalizing common law marriages contracted later.

A part of the decision follows: "It is undisputed that prior to 1901 common law marriages, miscontracts of marriage made per verba de presenti and evidenced by cohabitation and various other acts and not effectuated by any formal solemnization, were valid in this State.

"By the repeal of 1907 not only was wiped out the statutory enactment against common law marriages but also there was erased the provision contained in said section that marriages attempted to be solemnized should not be rendered null and void because of honest mistakes of the parties."

The opinion in justification of the court's interpretation of the various amendments to the domestic relations law points out that "the courts ought not to be asked to pronounce marriages invalid and children illegitimate under the statute unless it had plainly decreed and foretold those consequences, and that people ought not to be penalized in such matters as those by adoption of guess work and conjecture as a matter of statutory interpretation by which to accomplish such result."

The presumption among attorneys is that another effect of the decision will be to render bigamous the relations of many couples who though living in common relations have on either side husband or wife to whom they were united after proper ceremony. To remedy this situation it is believed an amendment to the domestic relations law will be necessary.

SONGS OF COLLEENS AID IRISH ORPHANS

Five Are Here in Quest of Dollars, Not American Husbands.

Is there any braver Irishman with a dash who would like the job of guarding from the onslaughts of admiring young men a company of five beautiful colleens over from the Emerald Isle? Because Lady Aberdeen must like to hire him to keep Florrie Rush, Milly Vale, Nora Loughlin and Cecilia and Mary O'Brien from being hurried into matrimony before they have completed their quest for American dollars to help Irish children orphaned by the war.

Florrie, Milly, Nora, Cecilia and Mary, who sang and played the harp and danced the Irish jig at the Riz-Carillon yesterday at an entertainment for Irish welfare work given by Lady Aberdeen, came over just before the recent Allied triumph in Boston, and it was there that Miss Louise Agnew, who has them in charge, discovered how hard it was going to be to keep impressionable youths from interfering with the serious work the colleens have cut out for them.

And those who saw them yesterday in their charming green costumes didn't wonder at the young men, for the blue of the Irish skies was in their eyes, and with their fresh young faces, soft, black hair and sweet and youthful voices they certainly were attractive.

Florrie Rush sang the "Ferry Dance," Milly Vale gave "City of Coleraine," Miss Agnew sang "The Old Side Car" and Cecilia O'Brien and Nora Loughlin played the harp, a harp just like that which hung on Tara's walls.

The young girls came to this country in response to a call sent by Lady Aberdeen as president of the Women's National Health Association of Ireland for a company of colleens to earn money by singing the songs of Ireland to relieve the unusual distress in Ireland caused by the war. The five are going to appear in vaudeville on the Keith circuit, beginning probably the week of St. Patrick's Day. Whatever they earn, barring their expenses, will be sent home to the fatherless little ones of the Emerald Isle.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM? The highest type of investment is a first mortgage on New York City real estate guaranteed by this Company. Our First Mortgage Participation Certificates yielding 4 1/2% free of personal tax in this State, place this security at the disposal of all investors who have \$200 or upwards to put out. They are parts of a guaranteed first mortgage.

3 SLAYERS LOSE ON APPEAL. Ferrara, Von den Corput and Impulzino Must Die. ALBANY, Feb. 27.—Frank Ferrara, one of the gangsters convicted of the slaying of Albert Hoff, a New York poultry dealer, in November, 1914, was one of three murderers who lost their legal fight for life by decision of the Court of Appeals today.

Southern Pacific Lines. Away to the Southland. Leave the winter's snow and cold. Enjoy the balmy climate of the South. Quaint New Orleans with its care-free life and picturesque by-ways welcomes you at the end of a delightful voyage on Southern Pacific Steamships "Morgan Line" New York—New Orleans.

Q. What excuse will the bridegroom give? A. Late for his wedding! There's really no excuse. Q. What will he offer as a reason for his tardiness? A. It's all too apparent—poor inner tubes and a succession of flat tires.

Lee Standard Tires. Give more tire comfort and mileage than ever before claimed for any standard make of tires. Lee Tubes. Always fit and are of rare thickness and ruggedness. They are extremely supple, tough, resilient and long wearing.

LEE Puncture Proof Tires. 5,000 miles guaranteed. Lee Tire & Rubber Co., Conshohocken, Pa. Manufacturers of Rubber Goods since 1893.

1% Per Month ON PLEDGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. THE PROVIDENT LOAN SOCIETY OF NEW YORK. Applications for loans of large amounts will be considered at the office at Fourth Avenue and 25th Street.

BIRDS OF AMERICA \$3,500 AT AUCTION. Audubon's Work Feature of Huntington-Bixby Sale—Total Now \$17,884. The principal buyer in yesterday's sale of selections from the Huntington and Bixby libraries at the Anderson Galleries was George D. Smith. The original edition of Audubon's "Birds of America," printed in London 1827-38, and "Ornithological Biography," printed in Edinburgh 1831-39, was sold to him for \$3,500.

CHINESE ROBES ON VIEW. Gorgeous Garments in the Collection of Frederick Moore. Frederick Moore, who lived in Peking prior to the fall of the Manchu dynasty and during the early days of the Chinese Republic, took advantage of the occasion to invest heavily in the gorgeous robes that were discarded by the nobles and officials of the court at that time.

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Stevenson's "New Arabian Nights," and \$110 for No. 482, Byron's "Recluse in Italy." W. M. Hill gave \$250 for No. 578, William Cullen Bryant's manuscript of his poem "Mumfords." The total for the session was \$11,941.10, making the grand total \$17,884.25. The sale continues this afternoon.

public view in the Anderson Galleries preparatory to a sale which begins Friday. It is brilliant with colors that are sometimes placed in startling combinations upon the individual garments, but it cannot be denied that the effects are artistic.

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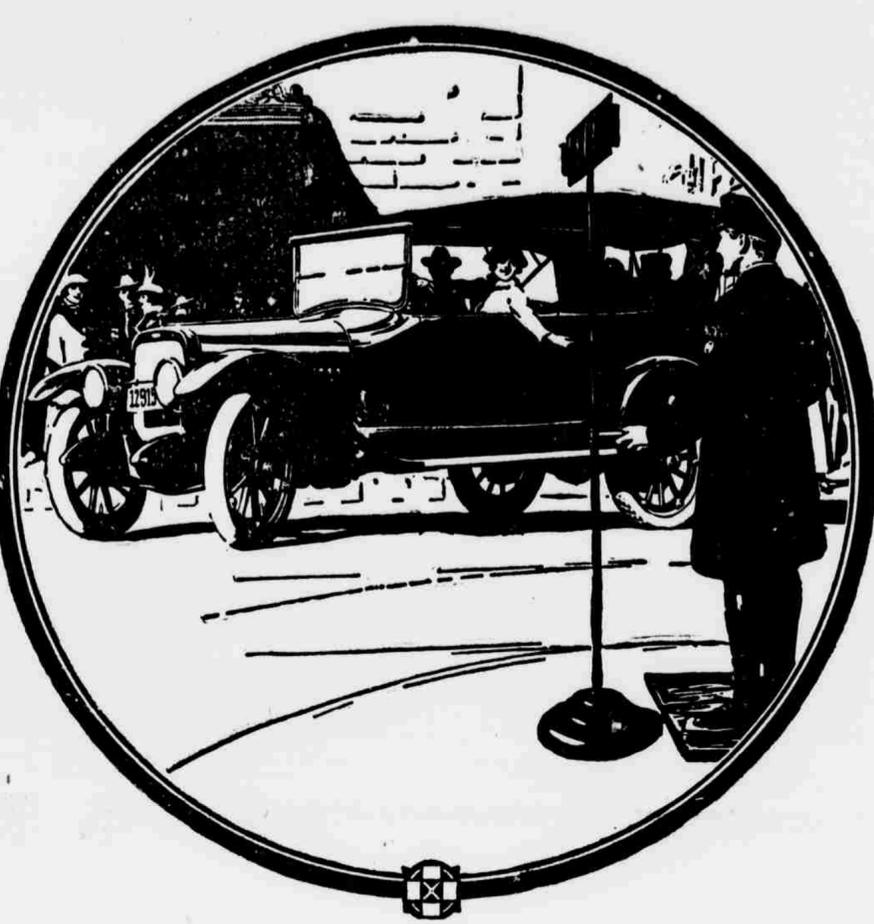
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MRS. WHITNEY HOSTESS. Will Entertain Art Students in Her Studio. Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney will give a tea this afternoon in her studio at a West Eighth street for the art students of the City College of New York.

CHANDLER SIX \$1395



There Is No Other Six Like This For Anything Like This Price

THE Chandler offers intrinsic value greater than other cars for which you are asked to pay much more. Greater value in materials, design, equipment, and, above all else, in the dependable and enduring service of its marvelous motor.

facture and not subjected to radical changes or experimental devices? None. What other make of car, at anything like the Chandler price, offers you such a proven mechanism as the whole Chandler chassis? None.

You may say it is easy to make such a claim for the Chandler. It is. And IT IS EASY TO PROVE SUCH A CLAIM FOR THE CHANDLER.

What other make of car, at anything like the Chandler price, offers you all those features characteristic of the highest priced, high-grade cars—Bosch high tension magneto; solid cast aluminum motor base, extending from frame to frame; big silent chains instead of noisy gears for driving the motor shafts; full floating and silent spiral bevel gear rear axle and light running annular ball bearings in transmission; differential and rear wheels? None.

Year-old Chandlers command as high or higher price in the used car market than year-old cars of other makes selling, when new, for two or three hundred dollars more.

What other make of car at anything like the Chandler price offers you more beautiful and comfortable bodies than the Chandler? None. Chandler policy has always kept the Chandler price low. Relatively it is lower today, when so many prices have been inflated, than ever before.

Could any further evidence be asked, to prove Chandler leadership in value? It wouldn't seem so, but let's make thorough inquiry.

What other make of car, at anything like the Chandler price, offers you a motor which has been developed, refined and perfected throughout four years of conscientious manu-

These are Facts, and to you they mean a Better Car for Less Money

- Seven-Passenger Touring Car, \$1395
Four-Passenger Roadster, \$1395
Seven-Passenger Convertible Sedan, \$2095
Four-Passenger Convertible Coupe, \$1995
Limousine, \$2695
All prices f. o. b. Cleveland

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