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## POPE'S EDICT ON MARRIAGE

RECOGNIZES CIVIL MARRIAGES. VIEWS COMES AS SURPRISE.

### FORMER LAW STRINGENT

Church Accepts Validity of Wedding Before Two Witnesses Without Priest—Ruling Will Suppress "Surprise Marriages."

Rome, Sept. 9.—The modification which has been made in the marriage laws of the Catholic church is a most interesting example of the extreme care exercised by Pius X. in matters effecting the church and religion. In all Catholic countries the laws of the church on this subject are laid down by the Council of Trent. The original decree of the council prescribed that no marriage should be valid unless celebrated before a priest. Later a most binding and important change was made in Rome. The priest in question must be the parish priest of the contracting parties.

This has not given satisfaction and has led to wide differences of opinion. Pius X has settled the matter by a new decree, which will go into effect at Easter, 1908. This new decree declares valid all marriages celebrated before a diocesan bishop or before the parish priest of one of the contracting parties or before some one delegated by him.

The most important change made by this decree is that which recognizes the validity of a marriage celebrated before two witnesses without the assistance of a priest. This concession is surrounded by very strong restrictions, but nevertheless, it is a pure and simple recognition of the civil marriage.

After all, this is merely a return to conditions which held before the Council of Trent, as such marriages, while condemned, were then recognized by the church. Italy since the fall of the temporary power of the pope has suffered very seriously because of the refusal of the church to acquiesce in civil marriages. In the hurry and confusion of making laws for new united Italy, a marriage law was passed by parliament, which, later in cooler times, would hardly have been approved. The law provided that the only legal marriage was the civil one. This the church has always refused to countenance, with the disastrous result that a second set could have two wives, one according to the state law and one according to the church law. This situation was an encouragement to bigamy on both sides, to say nothing of the equivocal position of the wife and children of the religious marriage.

In the beginning, when feeling was running high, good Catholics would have nothing to do with the civil marriages, and so they suffered, as in the eye of the law they were living in sin and their children were illegitimate. As time wore on, sensible people on both sides gave way, and it is now the custom to have the civil marriage first, followed by a religious marriage.

The new decree suppresses the curious form of matrimony, not often made use of, known as the "surprise marriage." A couple had only to take their parish priest by surprise in church and declare that it was their intention to be legally married. The last instance of this kind known among people of position was one in which a son of Prince Massimo of Rome, a firm supporter of the papacy, was concerned. The

young man fell in love with the daughter of an architect and declared his intention of marrying her. The family opposed the match, and the young people, in desperation, decided to have a "surprise marriage." They went to the church. Seeing the priest come out of the sacristy to celebrate mass, the prince declared, hurriedly:

"I take Signorina X—here present to be my lawful wife."

The priest smiled and stopped, whereupon the girl, radiant at finding it so much easier than she had expected, cried:

"I take Prince Z—here present to be my lawful husband."

There is no need to sacrifice their feelings when the priest smiled again sweetly and said:

"Very well, my children, but go and say that before your parish priest." They had made a mistake; he was a stranger. The parish priest, who made no secret of his dismay, could not be found, and the marriage did not come off.

The end of the story is romantic. The girl retired to a convent. Later she came out to go through the civil marriage, and when asked at the capitol, "Will you take this man to be your husband?" in a distinct voice answered:

"No." She would not ruin him by marrying him, she said.

The convent walls then closed upon her, while the man returned to his former life. He later married Don Carlos' daughter, who tried to drown herself in the Tiber on account of jealousy. She is now separated from the prince after a sensational scandal.

**He Didn't Advertise.**  
Cohasset, Conn., Sept. 10.—One of the most novel auction sales ever held in the country was one here today of the effects of the late John S. Wheeler, of Waterbury.

Wheeler ran a general store here during the civil war and practically all of the articles sold today had been on the shelves for over forty years. The stock was purchased at war prices, and, rather than sell at a loss, Wheeler allowed the goods to remain on the shelves. The store was closed over thirty years ago. Among the articles sold were boots, shoes, men's clothing, dress goods, cigars, tobacco, groceries, and, in fact, a complete stock of such goods as were handled by New England country stores forty years ago. Most of the articles were hopelessly shop worn and out of date, and valuable only as curiosities.

**Are You From Missouri?**  
One of the specially attractive features of the Oklahoma State Fair, which opens October 5th and closes October 18th, will be the "Reunion Days" which have been designated as "Old State Days." It is a well known fact that all Oklahomans are from some other state and the fair management purpose to set aside certain days for the reunion of all Kansans, Texans, Missourians, Illinoisans, etc., at which time they can meet friends, neighbors and acquaintances from their "Old State." A reunion booth will be provided where registry books for each state will be kept, in which visitors will write their name and address in order that their old friends may be able to find them. The names of those registered in these books will be used for the formation of an association or club having for its purpose, mutual assistance and the advertising of the wonderful resources and opportunities in every line in our great state. Advertising matter setting forth the advantages of location in the new state will be furnished each member, free of charge, to be enclosed in letters to friends in the old states.

The concerted efforts of our progressive people, along this line will result in bringing many new residents to our new state.

**Their Last Stomp Dance.**  
Ardmoreite Special.  
Tulsa, I. T., Sept. 10.—Indian braves and squaws, clad in the garments of their savage ancestors, dancing wildly to the monotonous "music" of tom-toms, while paleface political orators circulate among them, seeking votes—this is the strange sight to be witnessed this week at the old Indian camping grounds on Bird creek ten miles north of this city.

There the Shawnee Indians today commenced their last great stomp dance, which will continue three days. In addition to the hundreds of Shawnees from all over the new state, a great host of redskins of other tribes are taking part in the festivities. Nearly all are garbed in aboriginal costumes. The Indians realize that with the coming of statehood and the responsibilities of citizenship the old free life must be abandoned and the present stomp dance thus assumes an unusual and pathetic significance. Candidates for offices of both political parties are on hand and will use their utmost endeavor to secure the support of the Indians in the election to be held next Tuesday.

Sometimes after a girl has fished for a man and landed him she doesn't know how to get off the hook.

W. F. Richardson of Galveston, Tex., is in the city on a brief visit with J. G. Meek and family.

## TAFT OFF ON TRIP

THE SECRETARY, HIS WIFE, SON AND PARTY SAIL ON ROUND-THE-GLOBE TRIP.

Ardmoreite Special.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 10.—With the cheers of thousands of enthusiastic admirers ringing in his ears, Secretary Taft today boarded the steamship Minnesota for a journey that, when completed, will have taken him entirely around the world. With the "secretary of peace" goes Mrs. Taft, his son, Charles, Brigadier General Clarence Edwards, chief of the insular bureau; Fred W. Carpenter, private secretary, and a negro attendant. The party will be accompanied on the world tour by a number of prominent newspaper correspondents, among them Robert L. Dunn, war correspondent of Collier's Weekly, who covered the Russo-Japanese war, and Robert H. Murray, the veteran correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, who will send dispatches to a syndicate of leading papers throughout the country.

According to the itinerary, the secretary and his party will arrive in Yokohama, Japan, September 25. At that port they will disembark and spend eight days in the Flowery Kingdom, where Mr. Taft is well known by reason of a previous visit. While the secretary declares that his Japanese visit possesses no diplomatic bearing, it is believed he will use his influence to bring about an amicable agreement in regard to the exclusion of Japanese from this country. While in Japan Mr. Taft will visit Tokio, Kobe, Nagasaki, and one or two other cities. The party will sail from Nagasaki October 4 for Shanghai, arriving there two days later, and after a short stay will proceed to Hong Kong. There the party will board the army transport McClellan on October 11, and arrive at Manila on October 14. At Manila he will preside at the opening of the first national assembly. Twenty-two days will be spent in the Philippines and most of the time in Manila and vicinity, but a few inter-island visits will likely be made.

On November 4 the Taft party will leave Manila on one of the naval cruisers, probably the Chattanooga, or a vessel of that type, for Vladivostok, the eastern terminus of the Trans-Siberian railroad. Mrs. Taft is said to be responsible for inducing her husband to undertake the trip by rail across the wilds of frozen Siberia, but the Taft political managers believe it will prove to be of great value to the press agents of the Taft presidential boom. Arriving in Vladivostok on November 11, the party will leave that city the following day on a special car, and will reach Irkutsk, the Siberian metropolis, on November 16. Almost without stop the party will proceed to Moscow, where it is due November 23, and remain two days. The capital of the great white czar will be reached November 26. Two days will be spent in St. Petersburg, when the party will depart for Berlin. November 29 is the date set for the arrival of the Taft party in the German capital, where two days will be spent. From Bremen or Hamburg the party will then sail for New York, arriving there between December 10 and 15. Newspaper correspondents acquainted with the trend of events, and the possibilities of foreign travel is arousing interest in a candidate, believe that the secretary's return to America will be marked by the greatest political demonstration in the history of the country.

**Lightning Flashes.**  
Peculiar Effects Where Instant Death Follows Their Strokes.  
A peculiar feature about lightning when it strikes to kill, is the incredibly short time in which the body decomposes. In many notable instances where persons were killed by lightning the funeral was being conducted with all the haste possible, owing to the rapid disorganization of the body. Whether it be animal or human, the same effect is always noticeable. In most cases on record where persons have been struck by lightning and instantly killed their features show no visible pain, and death is so instantaneous that there is not the slightest change in the muscles, and in many cases the blood is entirely deoxygenated and becomes an adhesive black liquid, which in a few seconds has taken on a putrid odor.

In one case some reapers were eating their dinner under an oak tree during a thunderstorm, and all were struck by lightning, the explosion of which was heard far away.

When such some people passed the tree the reapers were in the act of eating dinner to all appearances. One held a glass in his hand, another was putting a piece of bread in his mouth, while a third had his hand in a dish. Death had come upon them when the thunderbolt fell while they were in these positions. One might have taken them for statues carved out of black marble, for their bodies were perfectly black.

Another case was where a man had taken refuge under a tree and was eating a lunch. He had a small dog in his lap and was caressing him with one hand while he offered him a piece of bread with the other. Both the man and dog were petrified while in this position, and the paralyzed hand still held the piece of bread, while the expression on the animal's face seemed to say, "Give me some more, please give me some more."

In one case where a woman was struck by lightning the bones and all were melted in a gelatinous mass, and her frame had so fluidified that they were unable to discern the outlines of her limbs.

Several instances have occurred where persons struck by lightning have, upon being touched, immediately fallen to cinders, the whole interior of the body being burned out so that only the skin remained.

In many other cases the decomposing gases so extend the abdomen as to cause the body to explode within a very few minutes after life has passed out, and the body resembles that of a person dead for weeks.

It is indeed terrifying to see a person cease moving who just a second before was in the full enjoyment of life, and what is a still greater mystery is to see them stand in apparent life and action, but to find them to be a petrified, inert piece of decomposing matter.

## LIGHTNING FLASHES.

**The Uncertainty of Things.**  
This is the great misfortune of life—that it is changeable and never remains in the same state. "Man," says Job, "that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down. He fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not."

What is more changeable? We are told that the chameleon assumes in an hour many colors. The sea of the Euripus has an evil name for its many changes, and the moon takes every day its own peculiar form. But what is all this compared to the changes of man? What Proteus ever assumed so many different forms as man does every hour? Now sick, now in health; now content, now discontent; now sad, now joyous; now timid, now hopeful; now suspicious, now credulous; now peaceful, now recalcitrant; now he wishes, now he wishes not, and many times he knows not what he wants. In short, the changes are as numerous as the accidents in an hour, so that every one of them turns him upside down. The past gives him pain, the present disturbs him, and the future causes him agony.—Luis de Granada.

**Bathless Rural England.**  
Actual facts upset many a scientific theory. Theoretically, nine-tenths of the rural population ought not to be fully clothed; as in fact, they are the longest lived community in the empire. We ought to vary our diet, and, if not even vegetarians, take so much meat to so much vegetables and the rest. But the countryman does not take meat—nor hardly ever. He cannot afford it. His wages are higher than his father's were, but then, meat is proportionately costlier than was formerly the case. He is for the most part a vegetable feeder. He should frequently bathe, but he does not bathe at all. "How is it, then, that these men live so long and so rarely experience illness?" one of the kind was asked the other day. "Well, you see, sir," was the answer, "we don't need no baths. In the summer we sweat so at our work that that serves for all the year round." Rural England does not bathe. Colliery England and chimney sweeping England do.—St. James' Gazette.

**Chicken, Creole Style.**  
Doesn't this suggestion in the Ladies' World for chicken, creole style, sound good?  
Wash one-half pint of rice in cold water until no more of the flour discolors the water; then place the rice in a quart of boiling chicken or veal stock and cook until it is tender; season with salt and white pepper. Drain out the rice and pack it into a buttered ring mold; then invert on a hot dish and let the ring slip out. In the meantime have cooked chicken cut into small pieces and reheated in a tomato puree, seasoned with browned onion, to which add one green pepper cut into small pieces after the seeds are removed. Season with pepper if liked quite hot, salt and butter and fill the center of the rice ring. For a company meal the green pepper can be omitted, and two canned red Spanish peppers can be put through the mincer and after heating disposed on top of the chicken when it is placed in the ring. A sprig of parsley should decorate the side of the dish.

**Medical Treatment at Night.**  
Medical treatment almost wholly confined to the daytime is thought by Dr. Lander, a French physician, to be a serious mistake. Disease is most active at night—asthma, epilepsy and other attacks coming then almost entirely—and observations have shown that medicine administered in the night hours, or both night and day, acts better and with greater effect than an equal dose all given in the daytime. It is explained that in the nocturnal fasting state the body absorbs remedies with greater energy, while they are eliminated less quickly. In many instances disease has resisted medication by day, but has yielded to night treatment.

**Same Kind of Cat.**  
Ethel, aged eight, had succeeded in making her dog stand up on his hind legs, but her efforts to make the cat do likewise resulted in the little girl getting a bad scratch, whereupon she exclaimed, "You'd—d cat!" Her horrified mother, who overheard her, punished her severely, but, not disheartened, Ethel the next morning endeavored to induce puss to emulate the dog, and again she felt the force of the feline claws. "You're the nasty child begone, when her mother said warningly: "Ethel!"

"Well," she continued, "you are just the same kind of a cat you were yesterday."—Judge.

**Willing to Compromise.**  
During a match at St. Andrew's, Scotland, a rustic was struck in the eye accidentally by a golf ball. Running up to his assailant, he yelled, "This'll cost ye £5-£5!" "But I called out 'fore' as loudly as I could," explained the golfer. "Did ye, sir?" replied the troubled one, much appeased. "Weel, I didna hear. I'll take fower."

**He Knew.**  
Pedagogue (severely)—Now, sir, for the last time, what's the square of the hypotenuse of a right angled triangle equivalent to? Boy (desperately)—It's equivalent to a kickin' for me, sir. Go ahead.—London Express.

**Avoiding Suicide.**  
Waiter—What is your order, sir? Restaurant Patron—Oh, I don't know; give me something that will not invalidate my life insurance.—New York Press.

On the choice of friends our good or evil name depends.—Gray.

## CAMPAIGN NEARS CLOSE

EVERY AVAILABLE SPEAKER AND WORKER IN THE FIELD.

### WILL BE WHIRLWIND FINISH

Excitement and Swift Work Will Be the Procedure for the Next Few Days That Remain—All Parties at Hard Work.

Oklahoma City, Sept. 9.—The last week of the Oklahoma campaign will see much activity on the part of both the democratic and republican parties, and every available speaker and worker will take the field. The finish, on Monday of next week, the day before the election, will be somewhat of the whirlwind order, candidates and helpers ending their tours near home so as to reach it within voting time. Gov. Frantz, republican nominee for governor, will spend this week in the northern portion of Oklahoma Territory, finishing next Monday night in Enid, his home.

Mr. Haskell, the democratic nominee, will work east from Oklahoma City and conclude with a speech in Muskogee, his home; also on Wednesday night, Sept. 16. Plans of the socialist party have not been made public.

The Anti-Saloon League, which has been pushing a campaign for adoption of the prohibition amendment being separately submitted with the constitution, will have its quota of speakers in the field. Added to this, it is announced from many pulpits in both Territories Sunday next the prohibition cause will be advocated.

The Oklahoma campaign has not been participated in by as much visiting talent as was tendered when arrangements for the campaign were being made. Democrats had several congressmen early in the period, but have reserved the last week for local talent and members of the constitution convention. Republicans had Secretary of War Taft for one speech, to rebut which democrats toured the state with W. J. Bryan. The Nebraskan made eight speeches, devoted largely to answering Taft's criticism upon the constitution.

As a finish, the republicans have enlisted W. H. Atwell, United States district attorney of Dallas and H. M. Perryman, an attorney of Greenville, Tex., for their ticket. Mr. Atwell will be in Chickasha, Sept. 12, Duncan, Sept. 13, Cornish Sept. 14, and Oklahoma City Sept. 16, under auspices of the Young Men's Republican Club. Mr. Perryman will be in Tulsa county Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Osage county Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Senator C. I. Lane of Kansas will be in Sapulpa and Tulsa Sept. 9, Chandler Sept. 10 and Alva Sept. 11, the latter date being with Governor Frantz. J. M. Sheets of Columbus, O., former attorney general of the state, will talk for the republican ticket this week on the Oklahoma side of the line. His trip may include Ardmore.

For the democratic ticket and the

constitution Congressman Champ Clark of Missouri will spend the great part of the week. He speaks in Oklahoma City Monday. He is in Pauls Valley 11 a. m., and Ardmore 8 p. m., Wednesday; Muskogee 3 p. m., Thursday and Friday in Sallisaw and Stillwell.

Congressman Oscar Gillisple of Fort Worth has recently completed a week's tour in the southern part of the state for the democratic ticket. Dates for other visiting campaigners have not been arranged by the party's speakers' bureau, but will be early in the week.

Each party will make a determined effort to get the full vote on election day.

**Fairbanks Meets Methodists.**  
Ardmoreite Special.  
Aldon, Mich., Sept. 10.—Vice president Fairbanks will be the guest of honor at the seventy-second session of the Michigan conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. The meeting will close Saturday with a celebration of the semi-centennial of the separation of the Detroit conference from the Michigan body. In addition to a speech by the vice president, addresses will be made by prominent divines and college presidents.

**Bureau Shows Cotton Late.**  
By Associated Press.  
Washington, Sept. 9.—The census bureau bulletin issued this morning from the ginners shows total cotton baled up to Sept. 1st, is 191,416 bales, compared with 407,551 bales up to the same period last year. The falling off is attributed to the lateness of the crop. The condition of cotton is 72.7.

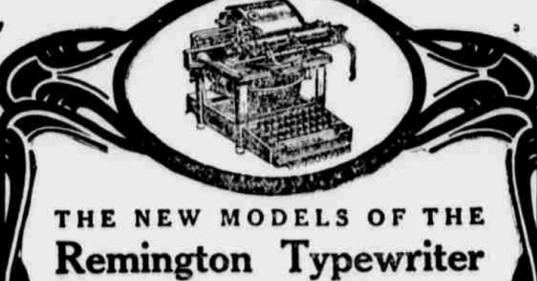
**TAKING NO SIDES**  
PRESIDENT OF NEW STATE BREWING CO. DENIES RUMOR TO CONTRARY.  
H. Y. Thompson, president of the New State Brewing Co., of Oklahoma City, was in Ardmore last night and this morning for a short time on business.

Mr. Thompson denies the report that the brewery and liquor elements are fighting the adoption of the constitution but on the other hand are favoring its adoption so as to have the question settled now and for always, instead of having to wrestle with it hereafter when the investments of the whiskey and brewery people would be materially injured.

Mr. Thompson also denies the report that the Citizens' Alliance element is taking any hand in the fight of either political party but that the officers of the alliance are advising the people in the alliance to stand by their tickets and vote for the regular nominees of both tickets.

The alliance wants a stable government so as the breweries may know what to do as the investments made by the various brewery elements in the new proposed state are increasing in value and they do not desire that they have to fight the question over and over again for years to come.

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