

LAW IN ACTION

INTESTATE SUCCESSION AND YOUR WILL

California, in effect, has already written your will. Unless you leave a will, your heirs will inherit under the law of "intestate succession." To die "intestate" means to die without a will.

Perhaps special provision for an aged or ailing parent. In this state a man or wife who dies intestate leaves all "community" property to the survivor. But "separate" property—that acquired before the marriage or by gift or inheritance—goes in part to children, to the wife (or husband), and then to other kin in a given order.

To have your property go to those you want, you should leave a will. Without such a statement of your desires, the court must follow the law of intestate succession, and name someone—perhaps a husband, wife, near relative—to administer your estate under bond. Under a will an executor—if you say so—may serve without bond.

NOTE: The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.

Emily and Mabel . . . by Angelo

"She wouldn't marry him until he invested his money in Savings Bonds."

CHINESE LIBERATED

Game farms under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Fish and Game have liberated a total of 48,000 Chinese pheasants during the 10-month period ending Nov. 1.

Looking at WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — In the last few months consumer credit has increased at a slower pace than it did in the corresponding months of 1952, and this indicates that warnings to banks and finance companies, about the growing volume of consumer credit, are perhaps not necessary after all.

The average American consumer appears to apply his own brakes to the steady build-up of consumer credit totals, which includes installment purchases of things like refrigerators and automobiles. As a result of the slowdown, the future for lending agencies seems pretty sound.

In fact, there are those who argue, that installment purchases and consumer credit are the safest form of investment in the ordinary lending field. They point out that such debts were paid off at a good rate even in the worst years of the 1929-33 depression. Most people keep their payments on goods bought on the installment plan even if they must make major sacrifices in other things.

The consumer credit total reached its pre-war level in the past sixty days. That is, the total consumer credit total reached eleven per cent of the disposal income. That is where it was just before World War II, and few people were worrying about the economic picture at that time. Though it's true that since World War II credit buying had not pushed this figure up to eleven per cent before, there is disagreement as to whether a further percentage would constitute an unsound condition.

At any rate, the increase in the total consumer debt has slowed in recent months and it may be that the average American buyer will take care of the budget problem all by himself, by keeping his own family budget in a sound condition. Meanwhile it is good to keep in mind that the consumer debt-disposable income ratio today is no higher than it was at the outbreak of World War II.

The Supreme Court will get into a political issue when it hears the Justice Department's arguments on segregation in the public schools December 7th, 8th and 9th (presuming that much time). The Republican Administration has to deal with this potato because the high court refused to dispose of the cases during the term of the recent Democratic Administration.

The Supreme Court actually handed the ball very neatly to the new administration when it posed the Justice Department with these questions: 1. What evidence is there that those bodies ratifying the Fourteenth Amendment thought it abolished segregation? 2. If Congress and ratifying bodies did not think the amendment immediately abolished segregation, was it the thought of the amendment's authors that Congress would later abolish it or that the Justices would? 3. If Congress and ratifying bodies did not think the amendment immediately abolished segregation, was it the thought of the amendment's authors that Congress would later abolish it or that the Justices would?

3. Is it within the judiciary's power to abolish segregation? 4. If so, must the court strike down all segregation immediately or can it set up a system of gradual abolition? 5. If the court decides segregation is unconstitutional, should it hand down a degree for correction or appoint a special master to handle the transition?

This question, put to the Justice Department by the high court, accomplished two things. First, it threatens the Republican administration with a loss of political support from either minority groups or Southern states which supported President Eisenhower in 1952. Second, it really shifts to the Justice Department the burden of deciding many of the questions the court itself would normally decide which is highly unusual.

The indications are that the President will go along with Herbert Brownell of the Justice Department, who fought both anti-segregation and FEPC fights for the Negro race in New York state under Governor Thomas E. Dewey. This risks the loss of support in the South which Eisenhower has been steadily building, but another course would risk the loss of votes from Negro and other minority groups, so it is a close question from the political viewpoint.

It's possible that the President doesn't wish to consider it at all from a political viewpoint, and that he is content to let the court decide the case on its merits alone.

STATE TAXES

The largest single source of tax revenue for states during fiscal 1953, were the sales and gross receipts taxes, which total \$2,400,000. Corporation net and state property taxes produced less state revenue in 1953 than in 1952.

Fluoridation Facts Studied

(Continued from Page 1)

water and the fluoridation of water. Chlorine is added to drinking water to destroy harmful bacteria in the water, whereas fluorides are added for the purpose of effecting a physiological change in the body which results in a reduction in the incidence of dental decay. It may be noted, in this connection, that chlorine may be gotten rid of readily by a slight heating of the water, whereas fluorides cannot be driven off by heating or boiling.

AMA Not For It

Contrary to popular opinion, the American Medical Association has not given its unqualified approval of the use of fluorides in water. The Association has stated: "The councils purposely refrained from making any recommendations that communities support or oppose projects for the fluoridation of water supplies. It was the opinion of the councils that this question should be answered by the dental profession."

The United States Public Health Service, which has urged the use of fluorides in drinking water, was quoted as saying, as late as 1950: "The evaluation of the effects of fluorides in water has not been established and must wait until the experiments now in progress are completed."

The experiments referred to are these: In 1945, sodium fluoride was added to the water supply of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Newburgh, N. Y., according to the report to Congress. In 1946, similar projects were started in Evanston, Ill., Sheboygan, Wis., Marshall, Tex., and Lewiston, Idaho.

None Completed

None of these pilot experiments has been completed, the report continues. It is estimated that a minimum of 10 years is required to assess the advantages and disadvantages, if any, of these programs. The Newburgh study, for example, is designed as a 10 to 12 year study, in order to allow for the calcification of the crowns of most of the permanent teeth.

HURT IN 5-FOOT FALL

Great Falls, Mont.—Tim Lynch, steeplejack of Youngstown, O., had just finished painting the Statue of Justice atop the Cascade County Court House when he fell from a 5-foot ladder, on a piece of glass, cutting a leg deeply. Undaunted, he went back to painting the Court House flagpole, explaining: "It keeps my leg from getting stiff."

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FR 2-2616 — FR 4-2616

Christmas Drama To Be Held at Wayfarer Chapel

The story of "Mary, Mother of Jesus," will be presented in a special Christmas program by Dorothy Carter Haven, nationally-known dramatist, in the Wayfarer Chapel, Portuguese Bend at Abalone Cove, Palos Verdes, on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12 and 13.

Performances are scheduled for 4 and 7:30 p.m. on both days.

Mary Haven, known as the "One Woman Theatre," will dramatize the life of Jesus' mother in five scenes extending from the family circle in Nazareth to the temple in Jerusalem. The drama was drawn from historical records and scriptures.

Although Miss Haven will portray only one character, Mary, she is so effective with pantomime that she gives the illusion that all the characters in the Holy Family are on stage, according to Kenneth W. Knox, pastor of the church.

Free reserved seat tickets for any of four performances can be obtained by writing to the Wayfarer Chapel, Portuguese Bend. Since the church seats only 110 persons, only 440 tickets are available and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Coming Events

DEC.

- 2 Pacific Bowl Assn. Founders Dinner
- 3 WSCS Bazaar
- 4 THE Variety Show
- 11 All Nations Xmas Family Festival
- 12 White Christmas Ball
- 17 "Youth for Cancer"

Hermosa Biltmore, 7 p.m. Methodist Church, all day. Starts 10 a.m. School Auditorium Civic Aud., 9 p.m. YWCA, 7:30 p.m. Club Alondra, 9 p.m. Civic Aud., 8 p.m.

Public Notices

TORRANCE HERALD 7820 NOTICE OF HEARING OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL No. 347203

In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles.

In the Matter of the Estate of MARY ISABELLE THORNHURST, also known as MRS. W. THORNHURST, and ISABELLE EVELYN THORNHURST, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the petition of Chas. T. Rippey for the Probate of the Will of the above-named decedent and for the issuance of Letters Testamentary thereon to the petitioner will be heard at 9:15 o'clock A.M. on December 14, 1953, at the court room of Department 4 of the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles.

Dated November 23, 1953.

HAROLD J. OSTLY County Clerk and Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles.

By S. R. ABBOTT, Deputy

Chas. T. Rippey, in pro-prio 1331 Post Avenue Torrance, Calif. FA 87828 Attorney for Petitioner. SW-Nov. 29; Dec. 3, 6, 10, 1953

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