

Dr. Bruguiere Is Given His Divorce

AN absolute divorce was today granted to Dr. Peder Sather Bruguiere, the young society and club man, who came to Reno from San Francisco about a year ago. This ends the marital disturbance, in this state at least, which has disturbed a section of San Francisco society for the past eighteen months. As Mrs. Bruguiere did not appear, divorce being obtained by default, no provision was made for alimony or support for the wife.

In granting the divorce Judge Curler spoke at length upon the effect of the United States Supreme Court's decision in the celebrated New York-Connecticut divorce case, saying that if Dr. Bruguiere remarried in any other state than Nevada he could be legally classed as a bigamist in other states of the union, inasmuch as the other states are not bound to recognize the divorce just granted.

The court also said the Nevada legislature should, in his opinion, at its next session, so amend its divorce laws as to prevent divorces being granted to parties where the defendant is a non-resident unless they last lived together in Nevada, or unless service is secured upon the defendant. Such a law, he said, would harmonize divorce proceedings in Nevada with the Supreme Court's decision.

The Bruguiere case has attracted much attention in Nevada on account of the social prominence of the principals in San Francisco, their old home. The case was filed first almost a year ago, but owing to an error it was dismissed and last summer a second complaint was filed.

Dr. Bruguiere charged that he had been treated with extreme cruelty by his wife, claiming that his life was made unhappy by her unreasonable jealousy. That she suspected his patients of trying to alienate his affections; that she dogged his footsteps and on several occasions called upon and abused women who were his patients. He also claimed that she deserted him and positively refused to make her home with him.

These charges were sworn to at the trial by Dr. Bruguiere and by several witnesses whom he introduced.

Wife Supported by Bruguiere

After their separation Dr. Bruguiere stated that his wife was being cared for by his mother, who is a woman of considerable wealth. She was maintained in handsome apartments at the St. Francis and all her personal expenses were met by the Bruguiere family. When asked if this support would be continued in the future Mr. Craig, attorney for Dr. Bruguiere, stated that he was not in a position to say; that it was a matter to be determined by the parties interested.

For several weeks Mrs. Bruguiere, the divorced wife, has been staying

near Salt Lake, where she has relatives.

Could Not Refuse Divorce

The finding of the court in the noted case and his comments upon the recent Supreme Court decision attracted much attention from members of the bar.

The court said that under the laws of Nevada it was imperative that the divorce should be granted, that if the laws of the state did not make it mandatory he would have refused the plaintiff's petition.

Wife Can Sue in California

It is a peculiar fact that Mrs. Bruguiere will still be able to bring suit in California for a divorce and alimony. This is made possible by the Supreme Court's decision that divorces granted by default, unless the state wherein the case is heard was the last matrimonial domicile of the parties, do not have to be recognized in other states. As Dr. and Mrs. Bruguiere did not last live together in this state and as she was a non-resident upon whom service was not secured, she would have standing in the California courts with such a proceeding.

The district court said that Dr. Bruguiere had sustained all his allegations and that the divorce was granted upon such grounds.

Dr. Bruguiere says he will continue to reside in Reno, which he considers his permanent home.