

Monday, 10 August 1959

Judge Maestretti left Friday for a vacation, but told me he expects to be gone only one week instead of two - so now, for one week, I will have all the divorces, all the probate and all the "Trash" of three Courts to take care of. This a.m. we had 19 divorce cases, and due to the stuttering and stammering of some lawyers, who have no business being lawyers, we did not finish them until 11:00.

We were one hour late starting the trial of Lois Andersen v Silver State Broadcasting Co. - a suit to collect various sums of money - as wages - loans - unpaid balances on equipment, etc., all assigned by a number of claimants to a sect. in Stewart's office so all could be combined in one action. Richard Horton represents the plaintiff - Peter Echeverria the defendant. The trial barely got underway today, as we began at 11:00 and then after lunch did not begin again until almost 3:30.

This afternoon I had 22 divorce cases and all the slowest lawyers in Washoe County. Several of them are real "droans." If you eliminated all the wella aha, now aha - andas, some cases would take half the time they do. Some of them say "Reno - Washoe County, Nevada" about 10 times while putting in evidence of residence. The county became immaterial about 16 years ago. Since then a freedom seeker can live any place in the state and get a divorce in any other county. So - Reno, Nev. is enough - or if they want the record to show the county - put it in the record once.

Judge Bowen was in town - so this evening Bowen, Commissioner Ben Winn and I met in my Chambers and picked a Grand Jury Panel of 24 people. We each had a prepared list - and agreed we will select only persons agreeable to all three of us. It took us from 5 to 7:00 to complete the task. Bowen will leave tomorrow for parts unknown.