

Dempsey to File Divorce Action Here at Request Of Actress Wife, He Says

FORMER CHAMPION SAYS ESTELLE SENT HIM HERE

She Put Her Career First And He Wanted Home So They Have Parted

Jack Dempsey did not come to Reno for a divorce—he was sent here to get a decree by Estelle Taylor, his actress wife.

This in substance was the statement made last night by Dempsey and confirmed this morning by his manager Leonard Sachs who issued a statement replying to a purported statement given out in Los Angeles today by the ex-champion's wife.

Completely re-examining his former statements in which he asserted that he and Estelle were still very much in love with each other and that he contemplated no divorce proceedings, his statement came more or less as a surprise. In a radio interview Saturday night both Dempsey and his manager asserted the former champion was here for a six weeks rest.

In Hollywood a statement was said to have been made this morning by Mrs. Dempsey to the effect that she did not believe her husband had said he was in Reno for a divorce, but that if he was she would fight his suit.

Replying to this reported statement, Dempsey said:

"I have no reason to go into any cross-fire controversy. My statement speaks for itself and I have nothing further to say. My plans are definitely set and whatever Estelle cares to do is her affair."

"It is my wish to get this thing over with in the most peaceful way. I am not vindictive and bear no malice. What the trend of Estelle's mind is I do not know."

Dempsey concluded negotiations today for a lease of the Dr. G. C. Steinmiller home on California avenue at a proposed rental of \$1000 a month.

In a previous statement Dempsey said he came to Reno at the behest of the film actress to secure a divorce and that he had hoped to dodge publicity for the sake of her cinematic and operatic career.

Dempsey said his wife had put her career above home life and her desire had wrecked their marital happiness.

"I have not heard from her since I left our Los Angeles home on March 11," Dempsey said. "I took my clothes and personal belongings and my farewell at her request. It was she who said 'Go her through!'"

Dempsey said he still loved her but that he wanted a home, a family and family life and declared it was against his personal wishes that he sought the divorce. He declared that he had never been a "squawker" and would not be now. He said that his income was not what it had been when he was active in the ring and that he had to watch his various investments. He said that when they married it was agreed that wife should continue acting as long as he was actively engaged in fighting. When he quit the ring she was to quit the films. He says Estelle refuses to do this and that for the last two years they had practically been apart.

Dempsey intimated that his divorce complaint would probably charge incompatibility, such a charge being suggested by his secretary, Leonard Sachs. He said there would be no sensational charges and no bitterness on his part.

He said he wanted it clearly understood that he was to seek a divorce at the request of his wife, that she regarded married life with him as a hindrance to her ambitions as an opera singer. He said they had agreed on a property settlement more than a year ago, and that he had given her a fair share of his property. He then explained that he was no longer getting the big purses of his fighting days and had to keep busy at other pursuits.

He Still Loves Her, Says Jack



MR. AND MRS. JACK DEMPSEY
This picture was taken "more than two years ago" when Mr. and Mrs. Dempsey were the best of friends.

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