

Catholic Newspaper Rips Lawyers on Divorce Bid

The Nevada Register, a Roman Catholic newspaper, attacked today a proposal for eliminating Nevada's residency requirement for divorces as "con artistry."

"Our state has a poor enough image without our tacking a sales tag on society's basic unit, the family," the newspaper said in an editorial.

"If the lawyers are that destitute that they should want to garner the fees of those '15,000 . . . Mexican divorces', they should find some other means of making money and not prostitute the marriage contract."

Members of the State Bar Association have indicated in a poll they favor eliminating Nevada's six-week residency requirement for uncontested divorces. Leaders of the movement termed the present law "hypocrisy."

The Register said this would wipe out time for couples to reconcile, further commercialize the divorce business and increase juvenile delinquency through broken homes.

It suggested instead that the State Legislature tighten marriage laws and establish courts of conciliation with counselors and clergymen "so couples are forced into the responsible working out of their problems. . ."

"Our present laws of easy, no - waiting - period marriages

cater to most of the social ills afflicting our state and our society," the Register said. "Let's dump the phony cover of our wedding chapels and admit that our state's most infectious cancer is its marriage traffic."

The Register is the official Roman Catholic publication for the Reno Diocese, covering the State of Nevada.

Fire Hits Reno Woman May Be

A fire reported at 10:45 a.m. this morning extensively damaged a ten-room home at 2423 N. Sutro Street.

At Gazette deadline, firemen were probing the still-smoking building on a report a 56-year-old woman may have been trapped inside.

The home belonged to Mr.

and Mrs. Curtis Fitch. It was occupied by five persons. A woman reportedly arrived Thursday.

The fire was reported by P. W. Wright, 414 E. 1st Street. He was in his home at the time.