

AT THE COURTHOUSE.

"BARREL-OF-MONEY" MAN IS ATTACKED.

S. P. CREASINGER CHARGED WITH DEFRAUDING A WOMAN.

Baroness Gottliebson, the Last of the Picos, Asks the Court to Declare Him a Fraud—Mr. Creasinger Asserts That It's Blackmail.

S. P. Creasinger, the philanthropist with "a barrel of money to loan," was charged with fraud in a suit filed in the Superior Court yesterday. He says it is a blackmailing scheme.

The plaintiff is Mrs. Josefa Pico y Bernal de Gottliebson, one of the last of the Picos and the wife of some kind of foreign Baron. She claims that Creasinger has cheated her out of her property, and it is said that she has been forced to earn her living by telling fortunes.

She demands that Creasinger be made to pay her \$250,000 or be sent to jail. In addition to charges against his integrity, she makes him the target for stinging sarcasm and ridicule. The trouble is over a ranch in Lower California.

She claims that she borrowed \$1500 on the property from Creasinger. She had to pay 5 per cent. per month interest.

Later she wanted to borrow \$1000 more, and it was agreed between them, according to her story, that Creasinger should take an undivided half interest in the property, which consisted of 48,849 acres of the Naji Rancho.

He was to cancel the \$1500 indebtedness and throw the rancho on a dazzled public. Creasinger had a magnificent idea, according to her story. He was to put 25,000 cattle on the ranch, build a railroad from Tia Juana to the rancho, and another railroad from the rancho to Ensenada. Plaintiff claims that she was so impressed that she decided him one-half the rancho with eager haste.

She tells sarcastically how she was overawed by Creasinger's grandeur.

"Plaintiffs allege that on said day the said S. P. Creasinger represented to them that he was a man of great wealth; that he had at his command millions of dollars; that he was so well known in financial and commercial circles all over the world, that he would have no difficulty in selling said property for \$2,000,000; that there were connected with him in business transactions men who were multi-millionaires; that he would organize a corporation and build the said railroad as above alleged, and connect the outside world with said rancho, and the colony about to be established thereon by him by railroad and steamship connection.

"Plaintiffs further allege that at said time said Creasinger exhibited to them a great many maps of property in various parts of California, claimed to be owned by him, and pictures and photos of residences and dwellings and other property; and purposely laid about on his desk numerous bank books containing blank checks, and boasted in other ways of being immensely rich.

"That on said day the said Creasinger exhibited to the plaintiffs stacks of letters, and represented to them that he received at the rate of 500 to 1000 letters a day from various parts of the United States and from Europe, all concerning business transactions.

"Plaintiffs allege that said Creasinger failed, neglected and refused to pay over to them the said sum of \$1000, or any other sum exceeding about \$400, and refused to carry out any of his other promises other than to advertise the rancho for sale in a printed pamphlet entitled "Souvenir" published by the said Creasinger and adorned with a photograph of the said Creasinger with his name printed under the said photograph, and the words, "The man who handles millions." Following which are flattering comments upon the personality, wealth, business sagacity, ability and fairness of the said defendant and his great charitable and benevolent contributions, and describing the immense wealth, belonging to defendant."

THE OTHER SIDE.

Creasinger made a statement concerning the case to a Times' reporter last night.

"There's nothing in it," he said. "It is an outrage and a disgrace that such people should be allowed to blackmail business men of this city.

"This woman came to me and begged me to let her have money on the rancho. Her brother was in trouble and she wanted the money to defend him. I didn't want to make the loan.

"She kept at me all the time for more money. I simply took the rancho as security for the loan, after I had loaned her an additional \$1000. They wanted me to open a New York office for the sale of the property to tourists, but as it is covered with rocks, I re-

fused to be a party to any such scheme. The land is worth about 20 cents an acre.

"I would only be too glad to get out the money I put in it."

STUNT FOR CUPID.

MARRIED UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

After a series of sorry difficulties, two lovely Mexican brides were married in a bunch by Justice James yesterday.

One of them was a little, frightened thing named Marie Ramirez, who had a scrumptuous green jacket all embroidered with pink flowers and a gorgeous pink silk skirt. The skirt was too big, so she hit on the happy idea of just shoving it up under the belt and making it fast in wads with pins.

She was married to a big paisano named Miguel Pina, who had a new collar, but no necktie, and was doubtful about the whole situation. They were chaperoned by a splendid creature all in pink, who did the interpreting.

"You want to marry this girl?" asked the judge.

Miguel cast an unenthusiastic glance down at the vision by his side, but nodded.

"Are they any relation?"

"Yep," said Miss Pinky.

"Well they can't marry if they are relatives," said the court severely.

"What relation are they?"

"Good," hazarded Miss Pinky.

"You don't understand what I mean," said the judge.

Miss Pinky looked confused and rattled, but finally smiled a rapturous smile, and said "Huh, huh."

"Have they ever been divorced?"

"Huh, huh," said Miss Pinky.

"Say, do you know what divorce is?" asked the court.

"Nope," said Miss Pinky.

Finally, they got them through.

The other pair were both timid and small and every time they reached an impressive part of the ceremony, a party of tourists would come butting through between them on the way to the Courthouse tower.

Little Cuca Nunes had a dreadful time getting her license to marry her beloved Librardo Hernandez.

She is only 17 years old. The law requires consent of a parent in such cases.

Cuca went home in disappointment the first time and brought up a pompous old individual, who turned out to be her husband-to-be's stepfather. He was sent back as unavailable.

She next brought up her own father. He didn't seem to be very animated when the clerk spoke to him.

"He's dumb; he can't hear," explained the girl.

"Can't you make some signs to him? Can't he talk on his fingers?"

No, he cannot talk any way at all, she said.

"Does he give consent to the marriage?"

"Si," said the blushing bride.

"Well, I'd like to know how he does it, then," said the clerk in amazement.

Finally they fell back on some one else in her family, who got mixed up and had the license made out in his own name instead of to Librardo.

At last they got before the judge. A man friend, who scowled like a pirate, turned the judge's words into Spanish for them.

He didn't think it worth while to consult them.

"Does this woman take this man to be her wedded husband?" asked the judge, solemnly.

"Sure," said the friend.

LOVE-ON \$50.

DRESSMAKER'S DIVORCE.

Wedded life on \$50 per month was not a success in the case of Mrs. Louise Springer, a young dressmaker from San Diego. She secured a divorce from her husband, Charles E. Springer, in Judge Conrey's court yesterday.

She claimed that Springer did not properly support her. On \$50 a month which he drew from an upholstery house, he only provided her with two rooms, and when she went away on a trip he only sent her \$50 in a year and a half. One of her lady friends said she did not have nice things in her house at all. Mrs. Springer said she had to help support the family by sewing all during her married life.

Her husband offered to send her to his mother's to stay, but she did not care for her mother-in-law's society.

COURT NOTES.

BREVITIES MISCELLANEOUS!

CUCCO'S CASE. Michael Cucco wanted \$299 from Pasquale Ghighe in the Township Justice Court because Pasquale cracked him over the head with a loaded cane. The two had quarreled over a board bill owing to Pasquale. Cucco claimed that he had to use the cane in self-defense. Each of the two Italians had a desire to make a practical illustration of the incident on the nearest lawyer in sight. The case was not finished.

HORSE CASE. The proprietors of the Tallyho Livery Stable sued Lewis Gower yesterday in the Township Justice Court for \$299, claiming that he drove a team of their horses so cruelly that one of them died.

RIVERSIDE HEIGHTS. Riverside Heights Company has incorporated with a capital stock of \$600,000, of which \$420 has been subscribed. Directors, William Stevenson, James A. Rust, J. B. Merrill, O. Lewis, M. D. Merrill.

REFINING COMPANY. Coombs Refining Company has incorporated

with a capital stock of \$30,000, of which all has been subscribed. Directors, John C. Coombs, H. E. Packard, S. R. Roseberg, F. M. Coombs, C. E. Barnes.

HOLLYWOOD BANK. Bank of Hollywood has incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000, of which all has been subscribed. Directors, G. W. Hoover, H. J. Whitley, L. J. Bynon, James C. Kays, William Mead, G. J. Griffith, P. B. Chase, Win Wyley, Alan Gardner, Henry Goodwin, H. C. Harris.