

held that when an applicant for membership in any fraternal organization agrees to be governed by the rules of the Order which provides that the applicant shall submit to its rites, the lodge is not responsible for personal injuries inflicted upon him during the initiation. But in the present case the Court held that the injured man might maintain his action notwithstanding a by-law permitting the childish and barbarous form of initiation prescribed; presumably for the purpose of impressing upon members the importance of the position which the initiation entitled them to. It is a good rule for people to wash their dirty linen at home.

The veracious press has told recently of a party of St. Louis lawyers who are touring England to study its judicial methods and machinery. One of these learned brothers is reported to have announced the result of his researches as follows: "The judges were too advanced in age and were apparently not men of the world. They seemed insufficiently experienced in every-day life and every-day business. They simply sit in judgment and lay down the law just as it was administered hundreds of years ago. A judge elected to the Bench in America is invariably a man of the world, with wide human knowledge, a man of modern life. Altogether, British legal machinery impressed one as insufficiently up to date." The *New York Nation* took the story seriously enough to be inspired to this sarcastic editorial: "It is obvious that these criticisms are well founded. English judges are still under the impression that a prisoner brought up for trial should be either condemned, or acquitted, instead of being allowed to die of the gout in jail while awaiting his fifth trial. The judges across the water are hundreds of years behind in their attitude towards triumphant science, for it is on record that they will actually interrupt an expert in the witness-chair even while he is engaged in making an ass of himself. With an utter lack of worldiness, English judges do not take a leading part in gigantic clambakes, beefsteak dinners, or potato races for fat men. And, worse than all, they are not up even on the rudiments of the Law of the Previous Fist, sometimes known as the unwritten law."—*Green Bag*.