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Judge Sullivan

Practicing lawyers know, even if the laymen do not, that for brevity and clearness of expression the opinions written by Chief Justice Sullivan are excelled by none. Judge Sullivan has the happy faculty of getting right at the meat of a legal controversy and expressing himself in terse, crisp sentences. In this respect his style is much like that of the late Judge Mason, who always knew what to say, how to say it, and when to stop. Judge Sullivan believes that nothing is gained by reiteration, but prefers to state his points clearly in the first instance—and but once.

Comparatively few of the cases which come before the supreme court can be said to be of general public importance. Of course, every case is important to the contending litigants and their counsel; and in like manner to lawyers generally, who use the decision as a guide to future litigation. Out of the hundreds of opinions written by Judge Sullivan during the almost six years of his incumbency, the following may be mentioned as of public interest:

- State v Omaha National Bank, 93 Northwestern Reporter, 334.
- C. B. & Q. v Martelle, 91 N. W. 367.
- State v Meserve, 58 Neb. 453.
- State v Frank, 60 Neb. 355.
- U. P. v Roesser, 95 N. W. 71.
- Blaco v State, 91 N. W. 878.
- Neb. Telephone Co. v Cornell, 50 Neb. 483.
- State v Omaha National Bank, 60 Neb. 232.
- Cornell v Irvin, 56 Neb. 669.
- State v Standard Oil, 61 Neb. 29.
- State v C. R. I. & P. R. Co., 61 Neb. 545.
- State v Porter, 95 N. W. 769.
- Paxton v State, 59 Neb. 460.

In addition to these, the following will be found, in part, to contain matters of public concern:

- Barber v Crowell, 55 Neb. 573.
- Ashland v May, 59 Neb. 735.
- Chapman v State, 61 Neb. 892.
- State v Kennedy, 60 Neb. 369.
- M. K. & T. R. Co. v Clark, 60 Neb. 410.
- Richards v State, 91 N. W. 879.
- Reed v State, 92 N. W. 323.
- Hare v Winterer, 90 N. W. 545.

The Independent respectfully submits this list for the consideration of thoughtful men. An investigation of the opinions therein written by Chief Justice Sullivan, will show him to be a man actuated by a high sense of justice. There is no straining after ef-

fect, but an earnest endeavor to ascertain the truth and decide accordingly. Next week and later The Independent expects to take up some of these cases more in detail, but in the meantime, readers of The Independent can consult the reports themselves in the library of any reputable lawyer.

Judge E. O. Kretsinger

Harvey E. Newbranch has been making a tour of the First judicial district as staff correspondent of the World-Herald and gives an interesting review of the situation in Gage, under a Beatrice date line of the 21st. Relative to one of the fusion candidates, Judge E. O. Kretsinger, Newbranch says:

"Kretsinger has been a practicing attorney in Beatrice for twenty years, and is in the prime of his physical and mental manhood. He has perhaps as large and lucrative a practice as any member of the Gage county bar, and makes a heavy sacrifice to accept the nomination to the bench. He is a highly educated man, holding two college degrees, and is a learned, able and incorruptible lawyer. His reputation in this regard is state wide. His standing in the city and county is perhaps best attested by citing the positions of responsibility he has been called on to fill. From 1882 to 1886 he served as county judge; from 1893 to 1894 as city attorney, and from 1896 to 1900 as mayor, being elected to this latter position as the result of a general, non-partisan movement to draft the best brains and ability to be had to further the interests of the city. He is the only man Beatrice ever re-elected mayor—and, by common consent, by far the best and most successful mayor the city has had.

"Kretsinger has enemies in Beatrice and Gage county—and glories in them. He refuses to be retained by the year by railroad corporations, to decline to be retained in damage suits against them. On the contrary, he has fought many such suits and has won most of them for his clients. A man absolutely fearless, no opposition appals him, however great. So he has appeared as attorney in other suits, of a public nature, that other attorneys, for policy's sake, would hesitate to accept. Kretsinger has accepted them and fought to the last ditch. In doing so, of course, he has made enemies. Some of them are in his own party and are opposing him this fall. But of them all, not one can be found who will question his absolute and un-

swerving honesty. And in return for their loss he has multitudes of republican friends that make him, admittedly, one of the most formidable vote-getters in the district. It is said that every minister in Gage county is for Kretsinger and this, notwithstanding that he is not affiliated with any church. And of the enemies he has made, many are supporting him. Said one of them, a man of high standing and a state reputation:

"Kretsinger and I are not friends, but I will say for him he's an honest man and an able lawyer, and I would trust him on the bench to decide any

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Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

and every case that came before him, on its merits, and without prejudice. Frankly, I don't like to vote for him, but it's Hobson's choice. Even to me he's much preferable to senility or rascality.

"And it is said that every man who was ever a client of Kretsinger's is for him, regardless of politics.

"Perhaps no attorney has appeared against Kretsinger ottomer in a lawsuit, or had more hard fights with him, in law and in politics, than R. S. Bibb. Yet Mr. Bibb frankly gives Kretsinger his support in this campaign. 'As a county judge,' said Mr. Bibb, 'Kretsinger was absolutely upright, fair and impartial. Nobody had a pull in his court, or stood better than anybody else. He walloped me a good many times, but I never failed to recognize his integrity and knowledge of the law. As a man, a citizen or a lawyer, I give him a high rating.'

Socialist theories grow more puzzling every day. From a lot of literature published by them, both in this country and Europe, lying on the editorial desk, the following is taken: "Revolution, not reform." "Socialism is the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God." "Socialists must first establish class consciousness." "Egoism and economic determinism cannot be eliminated from the socialistic propaganda." "The ethics of socialism is identical with the ethics of Christianity." "Socialism does not advocate revolution; it is rather a fervent endeavor to prevent it," etc.

No new indictments have been returned against George W. Beavers during the last twenty-four hours. The postmaster general must have struck a snag. For six months whenever a new rascality was discovered among the Washington officeholders, a new indictment has been found against Beavers, to allay the public rage.

A prominent New Jersey democrat writes The Independent: "Time will justify your cutting away from the democrats. Bryan will not be able to control them next year. The only man here in the east that can disturb the plans of Cleveland & Co. is William R. Hearst. If Bryan and Hearst should work together, they might make a platform and nominate whom they please. Hearst represents taxation reform; Bryan, money reform. These two reforms are but one and the same thing. They will have to go together in order to be successful."