

COURT VERDICT OUTLAWS SHRINERS

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U. S. JUDGES WILL GET CASE

Austin, Tex., July 9.—With two decisions against them in state courts, the Ancient Egyptian Order of the Nobles of Mystic Shriners in this jurisdiction now look for redress in the United States supreme court. The national organization through, its attorneys, are said to be drafting plans to carry the question of their rights to exist under the same ritual, emblems, paraphernalia, and password as the white order to the highest tribunal for final settlement.

This action became necessary following the recent decision of the supreme court of Texas, which affirmed the judgment of the lower court, sustaining an injunction to white Shriners, the Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine, against the Egyptian order, thereby prohibiting the latter organization from using the same paraphernalia, rules and regulations characteristic of the white body.

The case was appealed from Harris county in the case of Burrell vs. Micheaux. It followed the granting of the injunction. The national organization of both bodies intervened and the contest waxed hot in legal debate by high-priced counsel on both sides. The supreme court heard the final argument Feb. 5.

Prejudice on the part of the white order began in Texas shortly after the Ku Klux came into power, and Klansmen noted with a marked degree the rise of the Shrine organization among our people. Parades in which the Egyptian order participated, wearing paraphernalia similar to the white body, stimulated further the opposition on the part of the whites.

The case came to court when D. W. Micheaux and other officers of the Arabic temple of the Masonic Shrine of Houston instituted proceedings against the Doric temple, Ancient Egyptian order, for an injunction restraining them from operating under the same ritual and password.

The trial court granted the injunction and the first court of civil appeals at Galveston affirmed the decision and the state supreme court affirmed both judgments.