

REFUSE TO TAKE OATH, LICENSE TO WED DENIED

Couple Are Rejected at City Bureau—Their Pastor Defends Their Stand.

Because of their refusal to swear that the statements in their application for a marriage license were true, Thomas L. Thomassen and Amalia Sorenson, Norwegians, were denied a marriage license in the City Clerk's office in the Municipal Building yesterday.

Thomassen is 31 years old and lives at 844 Fifty-sixth Street, Brooklyn. His prospective bride is 38, a waitress, living at 830 Park Avenue. They filled out the form of application, but balked when they were asked to swear that the statements were true. Since the difficulty was quite unusual, Julius Brosen, clerk in the bureau, referred them to Assistant Corporation Counsel George Cowie for a ruling. Upon his decision that the statements must be sworn to the couple was turned away without the license.

Thomassen and Miss Sorenson said they were members of the Pentecostal Church and gave this as a reason for not taking the oath. The Church holds services evenings at a business school at 5,111 Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn.

The Rev. Arne Dahl of 816 Sixty-second Street, Brooklyn, pastor of the Pentecostal Church, said last night that the couple had done right in refusing to take an oath.

"This is one of the tenets of our religion," the minister said. "We take it from Matthew V, wherein our Lord inveighs against the taking of oaths. We believe that every Christian should obey the word of Jesus."

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