Domestic Relations—Husband-Wife—Alimony Pendente Lite

Robert Manuele
Dewey Ertell Jr.

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Pending an action for divorce, annulment or separation in New York, the court at its discretion, by order, may require the husband to provide the necessary monies to support the wife and children and to enable the wife to carry on or to defend the action. Such payments, frequently referred to as alimony pendente lite, apply only while the court has jurisdiction over the parties. Enforcement of payments by the proper motion is deemed applicable only where the court has jurisdiction and is therefore lost where the action is terminated, e.g., by settlement, abandonment, discontinuance, dismissal of complaint.

In Polizotti v. Polizotti the husband was delinquent in temporary alimony payments. The wife was held unable to punish her husband for civil contempt for although the motion was made prior to dismissal of her petition for separation the finding of civil contempt was rendered after dismissal of the petition for separation. The Court of Appeals held that the Appellate Division did not have the jurisdiction or power to modify the contempt order, dating it nunc pro tunc as of date of wife’s motion.

IX. Labor Law.

Internal Union Management

In Maltese v. Dubinsky, the Court of Appeals had to determine the validity of a provision of defendant union’s constitution. Plaintiff was elected business agent of Local Union 48, International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, an unincorporated association. The constitution and by-laws of the International

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38. C. P. A. § 1169.
39. Ibid.
46. 305 N. Y. 176, 111 N. E. 2d 869 (1953).
47. Judiciary Law § 753.
48. The function of an order nunc pro tunc is to correct irregularities in the entry of judicial mandates or like procedural errors, Mohrmann v. Kob, 291 N. Y. 181, 51 N. E. 2d 921 (1943).