

DAILY RECORD-UNION

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SPECIAL AGENCIES. This paper is for sale at the following places: L. P. Fisher's, room 21, Merchants' Exchange, California street, and the principal news stands and hotels, San Francisco. LOS ANGELES-Electic Book Store, corner Second and Main streets. SANTA BARBARA-Hastings's News Depot. FRESNO-C. T. Cearley, 113 J Street. SANTA CRUZ-Cooper Brothers' News Depot.

EASTERN BUSINESS HOUSES. The Tribune Building, New York City. Western Business Office, "The Rookery," Chicago. The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency, sole agents foreign advertising.

Weather Forecast. Northern California-Cloudy and unsettled weather Friday; probably showers in northern portion; northwesterly changing to southeasterly winds.

POSTAL SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT. The feeling favorable to a national postal savings system is rapidly growing. The chief objection now advanced against the scheme is the fear that proper investment could not be found for the funds, and that as a result a vast sum would congest in the hands of the Government upon which it could pay no reward to the depositors, and thus it would become a source of danger.

General Stone of the Road Inquiry Bureau of the Agricultural Department has, however, proposed an investment that seems feasible, and upon which we have already commented, namely, that the gathered funds be loaned to States, counties, cities and towns on their bonds for the sole purpose of good road construction according to the general plans to be devised by the Government, to insure non-waste and misapplication of the money. Thus it is urged the money will be immediately reinvested and paid out among the people, doing double service, while the interest reward would be equalled by the saving in the cost of traffic movement over good road systems.

This suggestion has been endorsed by a great number of publicists, many of the letters written by them upon the subject being now before us in synoptical form as issued by the Agricultural Department. Postmaster-General Gary has expressed himself upon this subject of investment also, and his views practically accord with those set out in the bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Mason, and in the House by Mr. Lorimer. He is warmly in favor of investing postal savings in State, city, town and county bonds after investment in national bonds shall prove insufficient. He desires, however, that in all city and town bond investments the State should stand as security.

In that plan we think he will find a serious hitch. Only a few, a very few, States will do this thing, or are by their constitutions permitted to become guarantors for any one. The plan of lending to the States direct, however, or for the purpose of distributing the loans to State political divisions, presents no such obstacles in cases where the States desire to borrow. But many of the States have no idea of contracting debt, and some are wholly independent, and not in need of any funds from the outside.

The lending to home authorities, it is true, has proved very satisfactory and successful in Europe, but the conditions there are far different from any prevailing with us. State sovereignty here interposes an obstacle not known abroad. In France a law now permits postal savings to be loaned to the communes, which are considered excellent security. In Belgium a similar system prevails, and in several other countries postal loans are now encouraged to small communities for prosecution of public works.

But there would appear to be no objection whatever to General Stone's plan. In about every State, we believe, towns incorporated, and cities as well as counties, are free to borrow on their own motion, and even where legislative sanction is required it is seldom, if ever, refused. If such loans were made, then, on the specifications as to use required there would be a dual benefit investment of the small savings safely, and great betterment in the conditions of the communities borrowing, by reason of the local disbursement of the funds, and the construction of permanent thoroughfares that will lessen cost of transportation, economize in marketing and supplying, and benefit by beautifying and bettering the country so as to make rural residence more desirable.

Chancellor McLean of the University of Nebraska, however, while favoring the road plan, says that he does so with the understanding that a stated and limited per cent. only should be invested in such property as bonds for road construction. A certain per cent. then, can be, he thinks, be safely and wisely so invested. But President Adams of the University of Wisconsin says he sees no element of danger in the plan whatever, and President Kellogg of the University of California finds much virtue in the new idea, because, says he, "better roads are much needed, and this is a way to obtain them."

Otto Dorney, Chairman of the National Committee on Highways of the League of American Wheelmen, has no hesitation in approving the road plan, saying: "Apart from all question as to the wisdom of establishing a postal savings system, it seems to me that the possibility of furnishing road improvement funds at a low rate of interest alone justifies the establishment of such a system." Here the ends are clearly advanced as justifying the means. The most emphatic expression comes, however, from Judge A. B. Choate of Minnesota, who says: "The plan solves two important but entirely distinct problems which have been before the people for some time. First—One of the chief objections to the postal savings bank is that the theory of a Government debt, as in the case of some European countries. This plan practically removes this objection, and makes the Government merely an agent of small money lenders to invest their united savings in a manner safe for both them and the principal owners to do alone. Second—The other question which the plan solves is the one of government aid for building wagon roads. To all plans heretofore proposed for this there have been serious objections, either to their principle or to the difficulty of securing their adoption, but the popularity of State aid is creating a demand upon the part of the country districts for money to put with the State funds. This plan provides a safe and simple means for furnishing the money to the country districts at a low rate of interest. The legislature of Minnesota has proposed an amendment to our Constitution providing for State aid, which, if adopted, will immediately put Minnesota in line as an absorber of postal savings funds. The details can be worked out by Government authorities, I am sure, in an entirely satisfactory and practical manner, and I sincerely hope the matter will be taken up in earnest. So far as we have been able to follow Eastern press expression on the question, it seems to be favorable to the plan. Objections are raised and doubts suggested, however, but this is better by far than that there should be perfect concurrence of thought upon the subject, since it insures caution, care and thoughtful consideration. On the whole, then, the two schemes grow rapidly in favor, namely, the one for establishment of postal savings stations, and the other for investment of the savings, or a large percentage of them, in State, county, town and municipal securities, for the purpose of promoting internal improvement by construction of better country highways.

Mr. Senator White pays the people of California the poorest of compliments when he declares, as he did in the Senate on Tuesday, that the sugar interests, combines and manipulators are back of annexation. He insults the intelligence of Californians, every one of whom knows that the sugar interests are fighting annexation of Hawaii, that the origin of the sugar kings on this coast is the persistent, able and hysterical opponent of annexation. Not long ago our own desk was flooded with circulars, letters and pamphlets from the sugar trust headquarters, urging the sugar trust and capitalists, against annexation, and setting forth a long catalogue of reasons why the islands should not be annexed. Yet in the face of facts so patent as to blister the sight, Senator White from his place on the floor of the Senate exclaims: "The whole scheme for the annexation of Hawaii is based on sentimentalism. The sugar people who were netting eight or nine millions a year under the reciprocity treaty were back of the annexation project, with the hope of making the benefits now derived from reciprocity perpetual. If it were not, he said, for this condition of affairs, the treaty would never have been heard of, and, hence, he charged that the patriotism of Senators was being imposed upon to consummate a most disgraceful proposition. Does Mr. White take the people to be fools? He ought to know that they are capable of distinguishing the wolf skulking beneath the pelt of the lamb. This about about the sugar interests being favorable to annexation is a mere pretext, an attempted blind. As we said in the outset, it is a poor compliment to intelligence to assume that any one with a tittle full of brains cannot see through the thin device. The friends of the Teller bond payment resolution were very busy saying that the resolution never contemplated free coinage of silver at all; that it meant no repudiation because silver dollars are to-day as good as gold dollars in the United States. But they should explain whether they would be as good as gold under free coinage at 16 to 1. That is the pivot of the matter, for it is not any longer successfully concealed that the resolution was intended to be the entering wedge that is to make room for free coinage at that fixed ratio. The boycott on American fruit by Germany is creating some alarm in California. If continued it certainly will affect the market for fruits from this State. But this is to be a game of wits, and we are of the belief that the United States can play it more briskly and scientifically than can the Government of Emperor William. Notwithstanding the fact that Herr Von Bulow has officially and distinctly declared that Germany had no designs directly or indirectly with Captain Dreyfus, the French Government refused to relent. Having declared the Captain guilty, "The honor of France" demands that he shall remain under that stigma.

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

EXTRACTS FROM EDITORIAL EXPRESSION. State and Coast Opinions on Subjects of Living News Interest.

Fresno Enterprise: Rev. C. O. Brown has made an open confession. An open confession is a good thing for one's soul, but we do not think it is sufficient to expiate the sins of the wayward preacher. Dr. Brown's original sin was bad enough, but when he attacked the characters of good men and women of his congregation because they refused to believe his lying statements it was dwarfed in comparison.

THE BIG ENGLISH STRIKE. Alameda Enquirer: The big strike in England, which lasted nearly eight months and cost doubtless millions of dollars in actual expense, lost wages and product, has come to an end by the unconditional surrender of the strikers. According to the dispatches they have gone back to work on the employers' own terms, and have made not a single point by their long content. It illustrates the folly of such movements when not backed up by popular sentiment and when continued for months.

THEY SAY NOTHING. Sonoma News: Democratic free-traders who claimed that the enactment of the Dingley law would ruin our market broad are not saying anything about the official figures showing the increase in the tariff on the largest in the history of the country. A PECULIARITY. Oakland Enquirer: One of the peculiarities of a country where a great deal of money is being made easily is that interest rates are higher there than anywhere else in the world. In California the rate of interest is now worth ten per cent. a month, and the same conditions prevail now on the Klondike. The most servicable thing which one can take to that land of gold (after food necessities have been provided for) is gold.

WEL DONE. Humboldt Standard: The election of Judge McComas to the United States Senate by the Maryland Legislature yesterday retires A. P. Gorman from the Senate, it is devoutly hoped for all time. Gorman at one time held the State of Maryland in his hand, and locally and distantly he should hold office and who should take back seats. But the mills of the gods grind slowly, and though they grind exceedingly fine, and the people through their representatives have given him a back seat.

NO REPROACH. St. Helena Star: The editor who wrote that St. Helena should be wiped off the map of California because of the Clark murder case is a fool, and should be carefully watched by the people of the community in which he lives, lest he harm them. There is hardly a man in the State who has not in the course of time had occasion to deeply regret some occurrence. St. Helena regrets the murder of W. A. Clark and the circumstances that led to it, but the town should not be condemned for the doings of unfortunate residents. SUGAR TRUST AND ANNEXATION. Calaveras Chronicle: Our Washington correspondent says that the secret work of the sugar trust against the treaty for the annexation of Hawaii is even more disgraceful than the open work of its paid lobby. "The American Sugar Cane Society" is the alias that the sugar trust has taken in this secret work, which consists of sending thousands of circular letters to individuals of influence in States where the sugar beet industry has obtained a foothold, requesting them in the name of "Citizens of the United States" to write to their Senators protesting against the annexation of Hawaii, and requesting them to hold meetings and get anti-annexation resolutions adopted and forwarded to their Senators.

OHIO REPUBLICANS. Ukiah Republican Press: The Republicans of Ohio are to be congratulated that they are at last rid of the gang of traitors that has for years been betraying them into the hands of their avowed enemies and making it exceedingly difficult to hold the State. For the venomous Grover, the traitor right hand of the despicable McKisson, and the other Judases who have followed their lead, there will henceforth be no place in the Republican party of Ohio. Senator Hanna spoke by authority, when, as Chairman of the National Committee, he wanted in our camp, and Congressman Grosvenor voiced the sentiment of the party when in returning a retainer offered him to appear before Bushnell and argue a pardon case he wrote that he would have no intercourse with any man who was connected with the office of Governor. The sounder have been drummed out of camp and will be kept out. A NEW DEPARTMENT. Visalia Delta: The proposition to create a new department and add to the President's Cabinet a Secretary of Mines and Geology, and to the President and there is said to be a fair prospect of such addition being made soon. Mining is one of our most important industries and deserves representation and encouragement. The mining of gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal, lime, marble, granite, marl, salt, etc., employs hundreds of thousands of people, and provides employment to many people who thus become consumers of the products of American agriculturists and manufacturers. Such an appointment, naturally, should come to the West. THE TELLER RESOLUTION. Alameda Argus: We do not see any intelligent discussion in the press of the Senate vote adopting Teller's silver resolution. The discussion of the measure was not of the character generally had over vitally important measures. Perhaps it is generally recognized that the bill will not pass the lower House. But, anyhow, the public is not interested, and the measure may be nothing more than campaign thunder stored up against the campaign to come on later in the year, there to be let off with increased detonation. CRIES OF "NO!" Los Angeles Express: At the banquet tables of the National Association of Manufacturers in New York on Thursday night the banqueters were of one mind on the subjects of the tariff and the currency, but one other subject was introduced by one of the speakers as to which there was disagreement. Senator Frye of Maine alluded to Hawaii and restated some of

TRAINING OF FIREMEN.

All Are Athletes and No Cowards Get Into the Department. Firemen are athletes as a matter of course. They have to be, or they could not hold their places for a week, even if they could get into them at all. The more handling of the scaling ladders, which, light though they seem, weigh from sixteen to forty pounds, requires unusual strength. No particular skill is needed. A man need only have steady nerve, and the strength to raise the long pole by its narrow end and jam the foot into a window or ledge, and he cannot see but knows it there. On through, the teeth in the hook and the man's weight upon the ladder hold it safe, and there is no real danger unless he loses his head. Against that possibility the severe drill in the school of instruction is the best barrier. Any one to whom climbing at dark lights, or doing the hundred and one things of peril to ordinary men which firemen are constantly called upon to do, causes the least discomfort, is rejected as unfit. About 5 per cent. of all applicants are eliminated by the scaling ladder, and never get beyond their probationary service. A certain smaller percentage takes itself out through loss of "nerve," generally. The first experience of a room full of smothering smoke, with the fire roaring overhead, is generally sufficient to convince the timid that the service is not for him. No cowards are dismissed from the department, for the reason that none get into it. The notion that there is a life saving corps apart from the general body of firemen rests upon a mistake. They are one. Every fireman nowadays must pass muster at life saving drill, must climb to the top of any building on his scaling ladder, slide down with a rescued comrade, or jump without hesitation from the third story into the life saving net below. By such training the men are fitted for their work, and the occasion comes soon that puts them to the test. It came to Daniel J. Meagher, foreman of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, when in the midnight hour, a woman lung from the fifth story window of a burning building, and a longest ladder at hand fell short by a dozen feet of reaching her. The oldest man in the crew vainly attempted to reach her, and in the effort had sprained his foot. There were no scaling ladders then. Meagher ordered the men to plant the ladder on the stoop and hold it out from the building so that he might reach the very topmost step. Balanced thus where the slightest tremor might have caused ladder and all to crash to the ground, he bade the woman drop, and receiving her in his arms, carried her down safe.—Century.

WASHINGTON IN THE MINUET. The Stately President Danced at the First Inaugural Ball. Mrs. Burton Harrison shows, in an article on "With Washington in the Minuet," that the "father of his country" was fond of dancing, not giving up the pastime until some time after he had retired to private life. Describing the first inaugural ball at New York, in May, 1789, Mrs. Harrison pictures the suspense awaiting Washington's selection of a partner for the minuet, each belle earnestly hoping that the honor should come to her. The chief, however, made his choice without a second's hesitation, and appeared "leading up to the disk of shining parquetry, a sweet and ingenious young matron—the bride of a year, Mrs. Maxwell, born a Van Zandt, daughter of Jacobus Van Zandt, chairman of the so-called Revolutionary Committee of Patriots in New York. And now, under the gaze of dowagers and belles, envious in spite of themselves of young Mistress Maxwell's luck, Washington, laying his right hand on his heart, executes a profound bow to his partner, she blushing like a very rose of spring. Mrs. Maxwell, in return, dips low till satin skirts form a portentous 'cheese'; then, recovering her balance, places her little gloved hand in the capacious one of the chief, who, raising it above her head, takes the first step in the prim but graceful old dance. From long practice, and through the continual use of his muscles, the hero's great frame is surprisingly pliant in the repeated bows and changes of posture demanded by the minuet. His feet retain something of the arch of youth, as he directs them with precision through the figures that allow no deviation of a dancer's fancy, but must be carried out to the end like a mathematical problem in order to insure success. A murmur of applause runs around the circle of 'elegant females,' who follow him rather than his partner, in the slow windings and stepplings of this intricate evolution."

Grocer—You butchers have a soft snap. You weigh the bones with the meat and charge meat prices. Butcher—I don't see as you have any call to talk. When you sell Swiss cheese, don't you weigh the holes and charge cheese prices for them?—Boston Transcript.

THE MAN WHO LIES WOUNDED ON THE BATTLE-FIELD IS AN OBJECT OF PITY. The first thought of a tender-hearted comrade is to offer succor and sympathy. There are many wounded men and women on the battle-field of life. Shattered in body and mind, and suffering tortures before which the brief suffering of the wounded hero on the battle-field of war, pales into insignificance. They make no outcry, and their friends are reluctant to pass them by without offering help. Their sufferings are known only to themselves. These are the thousands of sufferers from ill-health. Their names legion. The pity of it is that if they but knew their condition they would be glad to have their suffering relieved.

THE PEOPLE'S COMMON SENSE ADVISER explains symptoms of ailments common to every family, and suggests remedies. It has several chapters on women's diseases and weaknesses. An edition in heavy paper cover will be distributed absolutely free. Send the World's Necessary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., 21-cent stamps, to pay the cost of mailing only. Cloth binding may be had for 10 cents extra—25 cents in all.

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MAISON FAURE. RESTAURANT DE FRANCE, 427 K Street (formerly near Golden Eagle Hotel). Family Orders, Banquets and Wedding Parties a specialty. L. FAURE, Proprietor. WHOLESALE LIQUORS. CRONAN & WISSEMAN, 230 K Street and 1108-1110 Third Street, Sacramento, Cal. IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS in Fine Whiskies, Brandy and Champagnes. EBNER BROS. COMPANY, 116-118 K Street, Front and Second, Sacramento. IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS in Wines and Liquors. Tel. 364. HUGH CASEY, Importer and Wholesale Dealer in Wines and Liquors. Proprietor of Golden Eagle Hotel, 427 K Street, Sacramento. WATERHOUSE & LESTER. (Incorporated.) WAGON AND CARRIAGE MATERIALS. Hardware, Lumber, Iron, Steel and Coal, Horseshoes and Blacksmith's Supplies. 708, 710, 712 J Street, Sacramento.

ESLA COAL \$6 a Ton. Good heat; absolutely no soot. YARD, TWENTY-THIRD AND R STS. THE SAN FRANCISCO & SAN JOAQUIN COAL CO. M. N. WINANS, Agent. Down Town Office, 704 K Street.

SALE OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY BONDS. NOTICE TO BIDDERS. SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY at their office, 111 K Street, between Sixth and Seventh Streets, of Sacramento City, State of California, up to Saturday, February 12, 1898, at 3 o'clock P. M., for the purchase of bonds of Sacramento County, California, of the amount of \$1,000,000, being bonds No. 1 to 5 of \$100 each, running twenty years from their date and to be payable after the expiration of ten years from their date, at the pleasure of Sacramento County, said bonds being dated February 1, 1898, and bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, payable annually on the first day of January, which bonds are issued pursuant to law and the special election held December 4, 1897, and are issued for the purpose of improving and macadamizing the public wagon road, to wit, highway in Sacramento County, between the City of Sacramento and the town of Folsom. Said bonds are issued under Section 25, Subdivision 3, County Government Act, 1850. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, cash deposit or bond in an amount equivalent to 10 per cent. of the aggregate amount of the bid submitted, and to be forfeited to Sacramento County on the failure of the bidder to purchase said bonds in conformity with the terms of his bid, if accepted, and to pay the cash therefor upon their delivery. The board reserves the right in its discretion to receive bids for said bonds without said certified check, cash deposit or bond and reserves the right to reject any or all bids as the public good may require. Said bonds are to be sold to the highest and best bidder for cash in United States gold coin, to be paid to the County Treasurer on delivery of the bonds. By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sacramento, State of California. Attest: (Seal) WM. B. HAMILTON, Clerk of said Board.

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