

CATALINA ISLE IS NOT SOLD

BANNINGS HAVE NOT PARTED WITH THE TREASURE

Huntington Will Extend His Seventh Street Line Through to Boyle Heights—Cemeteries Soon Will Be Reached

For many months the realty air has been filled with rumors of all kinds that big things are doing, are promised and are about to be concluded. If space were devoted to the "talk" that goes with the vain-glorious exploitation plans of much that is said in support of all of these "diddings," you busy good fellows who have scarce enough time to eat would have to take special vacation days to imbibe the details. Just drop into the office where each 5x6 feet is filled with a real estate sign, two chairs, one man and a desk by the rail, and you will hear the chatter of big things that work and rack the mighty brain. Indeed, the rail is the best part of some of the offices, as the good-natured wooden affair supports cocked-up weary feet, and serves to separate the surging masses from the gigantic and ponderous classes, that are exacting in the brand of toothpick they wear, but very exclusive from whom they borrow the two-bit piece for the long coveted meal. Talk, Windboy & Co. are capitalized at \$1,000,000, but assets and ability would not realize one mill on the dollar.

Among the big things that have been chased around every block, and the further the thing ran the bigger the thing got, is the reported sale of Catalina Island by the Banning Brothers to Henry E. Huntington. There may have been a time when Henry E. Huntington wished to possess the chunk of beautiful land in the sea, but I can tell you with full emphasis that Henry E. Huntington does not own Catalina Island, and I can also add that the Banning interest will not part with the jewel on the bosom of old Ocean.

I presume this story originated from the fact that a New York syndicate, backed by some German and French capital, did offer the Bannings, through a well-known local broker, a flat \$3,000,000 in cash—gold coin, too—but the tempting offer was declined. To decline \$3,000,000 staggered the eastern people, and the party who came here to negotiate said this was a puzzle that he could not unravel.

"Why," said this eastern duck, "we thought the westerner would sell anything he had, as it cost him nothing practically because the bloomin' country has grown up around him to make him rich. You are an aggressive lot, but to turn down \$3,000,000 gold for a blasted island that you can't see and that was acquired and not bought is the puzzle I shall try to unravel after I get home."

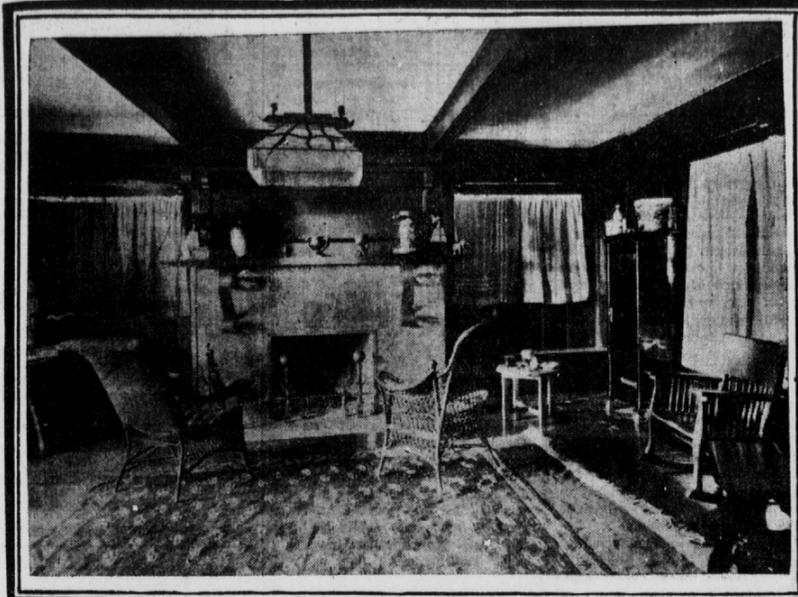
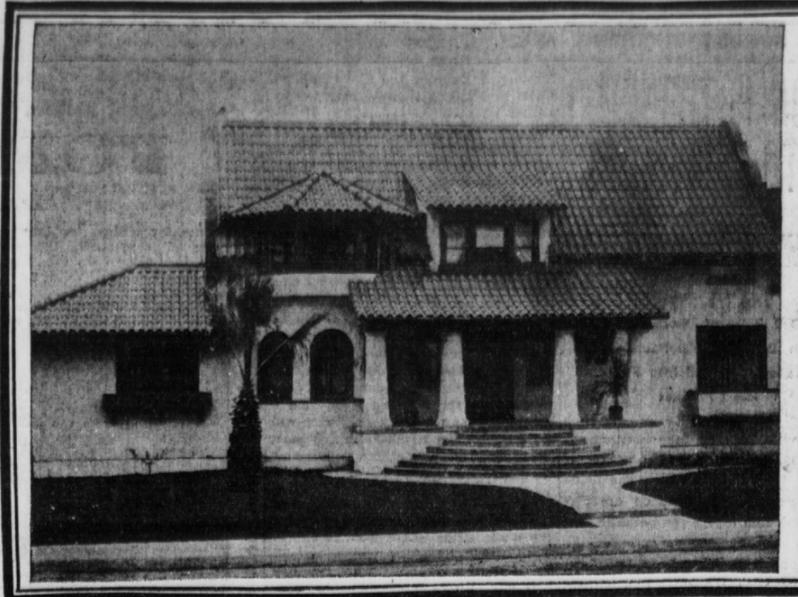
Just why the Bannings will not sell is plain. The island yields them \$250,000 a year, by their boat line, their hotels, their privileges and the general income. The buyer would have to hustle like old Ned to find as easy a spot to make such returns. Just think of earning 1 per cent a month, and that, too, while riding on your own steamer, dining at your own hotel and having the dear people do all the work! Some people are in for it, no matter where they light.

I understand the main reason for not selling is that the little Bannings that are coming up are being trained in this business and that they are to take the places, as some one must, of the grand army of the present hustlers, when the last bugle call takes us hence. The wiser ones hold fast to that which is good, and the younger ones frequently watch and pray that the old ones will be sound, and if half soled, that the stitching has been so darned well done that the moth of time will not destroy the original handwork.

Whether Henry E. Huntington wanted Catalina Island or not makes no difference, for he has just gone ahead in his plans to develop Los Angeles. For a time it looked as if he intended to devote all his energies to the southeast and west sides of the town, but later developments show that he has Boyle Heights in his fertile mind. Somehow Huntington not alone grasps the situation, but he grabs them, and usually gets all that goes with the package. I mean this in its broadest sense, and not specifically, as Henry never got a prize package in his life.

The latest Huntington plan is the development of one of the largest street car lines in Los Angeles. This line will begin on Seventh and Broadway and will strike the Los Angeles river, that will be crossed by a steel bridge. One-half of the expense for the bridge will be borne by Huntington, for the right of way, and a foot path and wagon road will also be created for city traffic. The road will turn eastward at Boyle avenue and will connect with the Cummings street line, and crossing Euclid avenue, where the present terminus of the southern branch of the First street car line is, the line will go out on Stephenson avenue from Boyle, until passengers are landed at the Catholic and Masonic and other cemeteries that lie east of the city limits. If this is not working Boyle Heights up, I mistake the meaning, and such an improvement will certainly add to the popularity of that part of Los Angeles, that is renowned not alone as the home of Uncle "Billy"

CALIFORNIA MISSION HOME FOR JOHN POSEY



Characteristic Features of Pacific Coast Architecture Shown

Among the beautiful homes in Los Angeles attention is directed to the residence of John Posey on the south side of West Twenty-third street, between Estrella avenue and Figueroa street, the plans for which were designed by J. Cather Newsom. The accompanying illustrations show the exterior and living room. The residence is of the California mission style of architecture and when completed will cost \$5000.

The exterior is finished with metal lath covered with cement, the roof being of Spanish metal tile and painted in deep terra cotta. There are numerous balconies, bay windows and flower shelves, a broad portico with a pergola

Workman, but for its scenic attractions and climatic superiorities.

I am told that the stuff I wrote about Ninth street two Sundays ago caused 1101 buggies and autos to cross a given point between Grand avenue and Central. These went on the run, too, because they wanted to see what is doing. Whether notoriety and attention caused this visitation, is not in the deposition, but it is still true that if you call a fellow's attention to a certain thing he will pause to think, and the condition of Ninth street is no exception. During the past sixty days thirty-five actual sales of good frontages have been made on the street, and these involve \$306,300. And the end is not in sight, as energy is displayed by the property owners.

On this bright, beautiful and crisp morning don't you give thanks that you live in Los Angeles?

And, don't you love the man with the roses on his tongue, who is quick to praise and slow to blame?

That man who comes to your office and distributes sunshine, no matter the weight on his own shoulders, and whose hand-shake is a "God bless you"?

Also, the man whose smile will light up the dreariness in the gloom of every day toil?

Don't you love the man whose voice is full of music, and whose eye speaks as if his soul reached the tenor of your heart?

Today forget your troubles, lay aside care, drink in fresh air, go to the woods, mountains or sea, shake off the grasp of thought, and the dismal croak of memory will sink as you hear the cadence of the wood thrush's notes.

Don't die ahead of time. Don't dry up here. Too much is in store before the end. We'll all be a long time dead, and there is a lot of dying done ahead of schedule time. E. J. R.

VALUABLE LOTS ARE PURCHASED

Activity Shown in McCarthy Company's Additions—Free Trees
The McCarthy company reports continued sales in their three tracts on Main street and Moneta avenue and Figueroa streets, and report three new homes started on Fifth street during the past week. Plans are out for a row of five houses on Forty-ninth street between Moneta and Main. Work to be started at once.
The street work on the McCarthy company's tract No. 1, Main and Moneta for Forty-ninth, Fifth and Fifty-first streets is progressing rapidly, and work on their second tract, the Slauson property, called the Moneta and Figueroa street tract, is to be commenced on Fifty-seventh street Monday. This company with other property owners in that district also signed contracts for the street work on Moneta and from Vernon street clear through Fifty-first street, and immediately upon completion of this work the Moneta avenue car line will be completed.
Tract No. 3 of this company, through which Fifty-third street runs, from

BISHOP ADDS TO HOLDINGS OF CATHOLIC CHURCH

Southwest Corner of Washington and Figueroa Streets, Held for One Year, Commands Substantial Advance
Of interest to the realty market is the sale negotiated by P. J. McGarry & Co. of a frontage on the southwest corner of Figueroa street of 176 feet and of 352 feet on Washington street. The purchase is in the name of Bishop Thomas J. Conaty of the Roman Catholic diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles. The grantor was W. J. Huntington, who has held the property one year. The purchase price is reported to be about \$76,000.
The purchase includes four lots—1 and 2 of the McArthur subdivision and lots 108 and 109 of the Park Villa tract, and is unimproved except for a small cottage of slight value on one of the lots.
Bishop Conaty has not made public the exact plans for the use of the property, but it is thought the extension of the church influence is embraced in the purchase.
While the property is in the vicinity of the St. Vincent college and church, it does not adjoin it, being on the opposite side of the same street on which the church fronts and on another corner entirely.

IMPROVEMENT IN NEW TRACTS

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THERE is so much inquiry for the "Colonel" and the "Jedge" we wish to reply that the "Jedge" is nearly recovered and will be out next week. The Colonel has been out of town, but is expected home Tuesday next. Nearly \$18,000 of lots and acres have been sold in Ocean Park Heights. We shall run another excursion to the Heights in the near future, personally conducted by the Colonel himself.
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