LOS ANGELES HERALD

BY THE HERALD COMPANY.

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ROBT. M. YOST.....Editorial Manager
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Today and tomorrow and then you swear off. And the lid is on tomorrow!

We wonder if Paul de Longpre means to paint pretty flowers all over his new bank.

Who offered bribes to Mayor McAleer and the fire commission? It is their duty to tell.

In the matter of wresting Gore canyon from D. H. Moffatt it is to be hoped none will be shed.

Mrs. Fitzsimmons refuses to talk. She's wise; remember, her husband is a pugilist and talking is his profession.

Uncle Russ Sage closes the year pretty well, thank you. One loan he made Thursday was at 100 per cent. That's not so bad.

The Northern and Cumberland Presbyterian churches are perfecting plans to unite as one body. Score another victory for religion over sectarianism.

The council saves the city $1800 a year by cutting down its charity budget. Too much overlapping and indiscriminate giving are the excuses offered.

The entire city of Los Angeles will unite today in doing honor to the remains of the late Jonathan Slauson. The city had no better friend or more faithful citizen.

The death of Charles T. Yerkes in New York removes a powerful factor from the street railway world. Chicago and London both contain monuments to his greatness in that line.

Mrs. Siegfried Goldman, who married an ex-convict after a very brief courtship, has found him out and seeks divorce. Just another case of "marrying in haste."

Rostand the creator of "Cyrano," is out of funds. His "artistic temperament" doesn't permit him to conduct his affairs with business acumen. His "artistic temperament" is considerably overworked.

Bids on street work are too high for the board of public works. Contractors should take notice that the day of fatness in the street business is departed. Mr. Hanley, a good Democrat, is on guard now.

City Engineer Stafford reports that during the past year there have been constructed 44.76 miles of improved streets and sixteen miles of sewer, exclusive of the outfall. That's a commendable year's work.

Work is rushing on the Mt. Lowe incline road up Echo mountain and it is expected that it will be finished early in January. The fire came at a bad time for the road's business, but will enable many needed improvements to be made.

The arrest of the mayor and a member of the board of trustees of Long Beach on a charge of accepting bribes is a serious matter and should have full and vigorous investigation. Under the law these men are innocent until proven guilty, but no stone must be left unturned in either direction.

Will Governor Pardee ask the machine to name a successor to the late Judge Van Dyke? It has been the governor's custom and he will probably not deviate from it, but it is all very tiresome to the rank and file of Californians, who vainly imagine that public sentiment ought to be in some measure consulted.

The battle between experts over the probable cost of the Owens river water project does not worry the public. A few millions more or less may be expected in uch a stupendous enterprise, and inasmuch as it is supposed to pay for itself the difference is not so material. What the people demand is speedy construction at the smallest possible cost.

The San Francisco Chronicle has at last arrived at the conclusion that "honesty is the best politics," and declares that "the time has now come when the public is ready to vote for an honest man, if he is recognized, as against either a Republican or a Democrat who has not that qualification." Now watch the name of the man who will be nominated by the Republican machine for governor of California.

REAPING THE WHIRLWIND

San Francisco is now reaping what it sowed last fall, when it re-elected Fiddler E. E. Schmitz mayor. The Hon. Mr. Schmitz is announcing his appointments to the many offices the San Francisco charter puts in his power—and few if any cities give to a mayor more autocracy. In almost every single instance Schmitz has picked his men not for any qualities they may possess for the position, not because of their eminent fitness, their civic standing or their worth, but solely because they are prominent union laborites.

For instance, as superintendent of schools, a position such as James A. Foshay holds here—the head and front of the city's educational system—he names Alfred Roncovieri, like himself a good fiddler, a fair orchestra leader and a unionist. For fire commissioner—head and front of the fire department—he selects Mario Olio, a master machinist and a union labor leader. For civil service commissioner—who makes the rules governing the choice of the great horde of men under civil service—he picks Richard Cornelius, whose sole and only recommendation is that he is head of the Carmen's union, which dominates the street railway employes and delivers their votes. And—

But why continue the long list? Do not these indicate the proposition? Only labor leaders are to be put on guard; the more responsible, technical and weighty the place, the more rabid the man named for it. Schmitz ran as a laborite; San Francisco elected him; he is going to give the city a laborite administration from end to end.

And Schmitz is right in doing it; that's what he was elected for. True, San Francisco may not like the bitter pill it must swallow, but San Francisco made its own medicine and should gulp it down. Gag it may; take it, it must.

Of course, there can be and is no objection to a union laborite because he is a union laborite, any more than to a Presbyterian, a Mason or a Greek, because he is any of these. But, simply because he is a laborite that he can and must hold all the offices is the height of absurdity.

Go it, Schmitz! It's your puddle; splash all the mud you like! Then let the Republican party worry over what you intend to do in state politics. It's your innings, and you are at the bat—swat 'em!

JUSTICE FOR ALASKA

It may be considered a far cry from Los Angeles to Alaska, but it should be remembered that the great northern territory is peopled with Californians. Moreover, Alaska is an essential part of the Pacific coast and the interests of the entire coast line are in a measure identical.

For these reasons, in addition to innate love of justice and fair play, all of California should join hands to insist that congress shall enact a set of laws that will be applicable to Alaska.

A few weeks ago the 60,000 American residents of the territory, represented by elected delegates in convention, appealed to the American people, to congress and the president for redress of wrongs and recognition of rights. It makes patriotic blood to stir in American veins when one reads that "a heavy tax is imposed by congress upon every character of Alaskan industry and but a fraction of it is applied to Alaska's welfare."

The Americans in Alaska demand a statute applying alone to the peculiar conditions which exist in that territory, particularly with regard to mining. They ask a direct appropriation of $1,000,000 to build wagon roads and trails; the application of government cable and telegraph earnings to betterments and extensions; the appointment of United States commissioners; increased number of judges and the creation of an appellate court; abolishment of the fee system and substitution of adequate salaries; removal of the restrictive tax of $100 a mile per annum on railroads; establishing of base lines and meridians in the fertile valleys for the benefit of homesteaders; more lighthouses along the coast; better postal facilities; the erection of suitable public buildings, and the placing of native Alaskans under the direct protection of the governor.

These are some of the demands formulated for quick reading by congress and by the American people. They appear to be reasonable, and in view of the close relationship between California and Alaska they should have the active support of the California delegation in congress, both senators and representatives.

No evidence having been presented of a sufficiently convincing character to show incompetency on the part of Fire Chief Lips, the fire commissioners promptly acquitted him. But Mayor McAleer's conduct in declaring to his appointees—the fire commission—that the mayor himself was on trial was, for that occasion, unwise. That was neither the place nor the time for an outburst of personal politics on the part of the mayor. It was a moment of judicial inquiry and determination and should not have been interfered with by the mayor's opinions. Nobody doubts the honesty of Mayor McAleer, but he has such a bad habit of "saying the wrong thing at the wrong time."

Mayor McAleer says that he and each member of the fire commission has been offered bribes. This being true, it is the mayor's solemn duty, under the law, to institute criminal proceedings against all persons guilty of such conduct. Here is where the mayor can render a conspicuous service to the public by uncovering grafters and the sources of graft.

The mayor says he has been shown where he could make $80,000 if he would approve certain purchases for the fire department. The names, Mr. Mayor. Give the public the names and let no guilty man escape.

FUNERAL PLANS ARE COMPLETED

BODY OF J. S. SLAUSON WILL LIE IN STATE

City Hall, Where Coffin Will Be Placed During Day, Is Being Adorned With Flowers From the Public Parks

Preparations are practically completed for the funeral rites over the body of Jonathan Sayre Slauson today. The city hall, where the body will lie in state from 10 o'clock this morning until 1 o'clock this afternoon, underwent elaborate decorations until a late hour last night. They will be completed early this morning.

To do honor to the memory of the departed, the city hall, which will be closed for all business, has been adorned with the rarest plants to be procured by the city park department and will present a scene of solemn grandeur. The decorations were planned by J. G. Morley, superintendent of city parks, and adopted by the committee.

In the vestibule an avenue of ferns and exotic palms has been arranged on tiers on either side, reaching nearly to the ceiling. The pillars are draped with American flags, while the banisters are festooned with purple and black. At the head of the stairways, with the large windows as backgrounds, ferns and palms are banked.

On the second floor, where the body will lie in state, the avenue of palms is again carried out, extending the length of the halls. In each corner, formed by the angles of the building, banks of palms and ferns have been arranged. The two central pillars opposite to where the body will lie are entirely draped in black, while the corner pillars will be draped with American flags. The stairs leading to the library department are banked with tall and graceful palms. Nearly 1000 plants are used in the decorations.

Services at Church

In accordance with the wishes of the family, the services at St. Paul's pro-cathedral will be the simple church burial, Bishop Johnson officiating, assisted by Dr. J. J. Wilkins, dean and rector. The church will be simply decorated for the funeral, which will be public.

Immediately following the public funeral service a private service will be held at the family residence, 2345 South Figueroa street, for the immediate family only. Bishop Johnson will officiate, and also at Rosedale cemetery, where the interment will be made, which will also be private.

In accordance with the plans already published the funeral cortege will be met at Seventh and Broadway by a platoon of police and members of the chamber of commerce, who will form an honorary guard with a company of the Seventh regiment.

During the time the body lies in state, guards from the Seventh regiment will patrol the hall. Officers of the local Salvation Army will also act as a guard of honor for the remains.

List of Pallbearers

Following is a revised list of the active and honorary pallbearers:

Active pallbearers from Los Angeles: Charles Silent, John E. Plater, J. W. McKinley, R. W. Burnham, H. E. Huntington, W. J. Washburn, John D. Bicknell, J. Otto Koepfli.

Active pallbearers from Azusa and Ontario: J. T. Lindley, M. F. Durrell, W. H. Lindley, W. R. Powell, C. H. Lee, R. F. Thaxter, P. C. Daniels, Joseph Streeton.

Honorary pallbearers from Los Angeles: Judge M. T. Allen, Fred Alles, Morris Albee, Dr. W. J. Barlow, Horace L. Bettis, N. B. Blackstone, J. J. Byrne, Horce Boynton, W. G. Barnwell, L. W. Blinn, George H. Bixby, Jotham Bixby, Fred L. Baker, Dr. Norman Bridge, W. M. Caswell, J. Ross Clark, Kasper Cohn, E. P. Clark, A. B. Cass, J. S. Chapman, S. T. Clover, R. H. Hay Chapman, Charles Cassat Davis, J. C. Drake, W. E. Dunn, J. M. Elliott, Charles Forman, James A. Foshay, Motley H. Flint, Dan Freeman, Henry T. Gage, H. W. Hellman, William M. Garland, Lee C. Gates, Dr. John R. Haynes, L. T. Garnsey, T. A. Graham, Burt Estes Howard, Godfrey Holterhoff, Fred A. Hines, R. H. Ingram, O. T. Johnson, E. W. Jones, H. Jevne, E. F. C. Klokke, Enoch Knight, Oscar Lawler, C. F. Lummis, H. T. Lee, Arthur Letts, Homer Laughlin, Dr. Walter Lindley, S. B. Lewis, Mayor Owen McAleer, R. H. Miner, D. A. Macneil, Major Percy Morton, J. G. Mossin, John T. Mott, William Mullholland, H. S. McKee, Walter S. Newhall, J. R. Newberry, M. J. Newmark, John H. Norton, Gen. Harrison Gray Otis, Henry W. O'Melveny, H. Z. Osborne, W. C. Patterson, W. H. Perry, Walter F. Parker, Niles Pease, Judge E. M. Ross, Ferd K. Rule, Alfred Solano, J. F. Sartori, M. H. Sherman, Otheman Stevens, A. D. Schindler, M. P. Snyder, F. Q. Story, George H. Stewart, Frank J. Thomas, J. N. Teague, Walter J. Trask, J. F. Towell, Dr. J. H. Utley, Jaro Von Schmidt, Louis Vetter, I. N. Van Nuys, Russell J. Waters, A. G. Wells, Charles H. White, Percy R. Wilson, R. E. Wells, Frank Wiggins, C. D. Willard, Gen. Robert Wankowski, Dr. W. Le Moyne Wills, R. M. Widney, Judge Waldo M. York, W. B. Cline, Dr. W. G. Cochran.

Honorary pallbearers from San Francisco: D. W. Earl, H. T. Scott, R. P. Schwerin, W. R. Herrin, John Garber, J. F. Merrill, Hon. W. A. Beatty, D. M. Lilenthal.

Municipal League Pays Tribute

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Municipal league yesterday afternoon the following regarding the death of J. S. Slauson was passed:

"Speaking for the civic interests of Los Angeles, the Municipal league today mourns the loss of Jonathan Sayre Slauson. More than any other one man he was the founder of this organization, for he came to it at a time when it was languishing and about to pass out of existence, and gave freely of time and money to put it on a substantial and permanent foundation; and before the founding of this league he had identified himself with every genuine movement for the bettering of the city, because he loved Los Angeles and because he believed in the people. His view of public issues was invariably clear, broad and based upon a generous conception of the motives of others. Ready always with money, if money was needed, he was prepared also to give what was of greater value—his counsel and his enthusiasm to the people's cause.

"Therefore let him be remembered, not alone for his philanthropy, which was bountiful and sincere; not alone for his private character, which will be a guide to the youth of our city; not alone for his capacity as a man of affairs, and not alone for the loving heart that made him beloved by all who knew him; but not the least of all let him be remembered as a good citizen who labored faithfully at all times and seasons for the welfare of the community in which he lived.

Members of the Municipal league who will attend the funeral will meet with other citizens at the Lankershim hotel at 9 o'clock.

To Hold Memorial Service

The local Salvation Army will hold a memorial service for Mr. Slauson, who was a generous benefactor, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Armory hall. Rev. Burt Este Howard will speak on "The Home Life"; Judge York on "The Public Life," and Francis Murphy on "The Benevolent Life." The two divisions will meet at Corps No. 2 and will march to the armory.

Officers of the army who will act as a guard of honor today while the body lies in state will be Major Morton, Ensign Schwedler, Adjutant Layrer and Ensign Davis.

LOS ANGELES FRUITS

Assortment From California Made Wise Ones Guess

From the Kansas City Star

"One of the bunch" who was spending his Christmas in Los Angeles had sent a large, well-filled box of fruits to his friends in Kansas City. It arrived at the office this morning. "Mighty thoughtful," was the comment of one in the interested group that stood around the janitor while he took off the cover, "mighty fine stuff, too; but what under the sun's this?" He held up a hard, round object. "I thought I'd eaten most fruits, but this gets me. Send for Bill, he'll know."

The man who had lived in California came in. "That?" he exclaimed, condescendingly, "why, that's a quince; anyone'll know that. Now, on the ranch where I lived——"

"I've eaten canned quince," said the office boy, who had cut open one of the mysterious products, "and it didn't have these in it, and it wasn't red."

"Funny," said the man from California; "it's years since I've seen one. That's a pomegranate, all right. Now these tangarines Jim has sent——"

"They're 'simmons," said the janitor. "I—have—saw—them——." Between each word he sank his teeth into the pinkish red fruit. His face became contorted. The corners of his mouth seemed trying to touch his ears. His lips were wrinkled. He looked as if he had bitten into a particularly sour lemon. "Shades of the Golden Gate!" he exclaimed, "what'd he send them for?"

"Peculiar how we forget these things," said the wise one. "Why, years ago—these grape fruit, now——"

"Why're they called grape fruit?" inquired the office boy.

"Because they make you think of grapes—they're so different," was the reply, delivered a trifle warmly. "Of course, a man might live on a big ranch out there and still not learn all the fruits. We did have these rough-skinned cantaloupes, though, and let me tell you——"

"Cantaloupes your eye," put in the scrub-lady, contemptuously; "them's winter squash; you put 'em in pies."

"My good woman," said the one-time rancher, "I was speaking metaphorically. Of course they're squash. Now, here we have the latest Burbank product, the grape-plum. You have to read up on these things to——"

He ate one. "Ah, another slight error. These, my dear [illegible], are the celebrated guavas, from which we get our guava jelly. In 1882——"

"Don't believe you," said the office boy, derisively. "It's just some squashy thing that you don't know. Here's one you remember, I betcher." The boy held up a fine bunch of crisp, yellow-white celery. "That——," began the man who had lived in California. But the office force was eating oranges and things they knew not and paying no attention to him.

"Don't think that guy was ever west of Iola," said the office boy.

WU'S MOTHER-IN-LAW STORY

From an Exchange.

A Washington man recalls how Minister Wu once talked at a mothers' congress. He told how mothers-in-law were reverenced in China. Then he said that all the mothers before him would be mothers-in-law some day, and therefore he would tell them something that they might remember and profit by. "A parlor maid," he began, "answered a ring at the doorbell one morning, and a few minutes later ascended to her mistress. 'If you please, ma'am,' she said, 'the strangest lady is downstairs. She won't give her name and she has taken off her coat and hat; and she opened two closets and rummaged through them, and then she looked at the windows and shook her head, and she rubbed her finger over the mantel and the piano and then she held it up to see the dust on it, and now she is——' But the mistress interrupted calmly. 'Dear me!' she said. 'My husband's mother wasn't expected back from Texas until December.'"

JUST PERJURY

From the New York News.

What is the explanation of the fact that the books of the great life insurance companies do not bear out the statements made by their officers under oath before the insurance investigating committee? The explanation is simple. Some of these high financiers have been stealing and some of them are lying on the stand.

Lying on the stand, under oath, is called perjury, and in the case of men who have not successfully stolen millions from trust funds is punishable with imprisonment in state prison.

GUARD THE TREES

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—(Editor Herald): Out in Highland Park along Pasadena avenue in front of Sycamore grove there are several places where giant sycamores grow right in the middle of the sidewalk, or where the sidewalk would be if they had not carefully laid the sidewalk around the trees, making a detour of several feet; and there are several noble trees growing right in the road. These should be carefully guarded or the vandals in the public works department will discover them some day and proceed to hack them down.

HERALD ADVERTISING RATES ADVANCED

On and after the first day of January next the advertising rates of The Herald will be advanced 25 per cent.

This advance is occasioned and justified by the fact that during the past six months there has been a large and substantial increase in The Herald's circulation, perhaps the largest increase in the history of the paper. A permanent growth in circulation, together with the publication of a larger and greatly improved newspaper, gives to advertisers advancing benefits, at the same time increasing the cost of production. Hence the small advance in advertising rates.

FIRE COMMISSIONERS EXONERATE CHIEF LIPS

Attorney Rogers Declares Grafters Seek Control of Department—Mayor McAleer Says He and Members of Board Are Offered Bribes

I offer a resolution that the charges against Fire Chief Lips are not sustained."

Less than a minute after the attorneys in the investigation of Fire Chief Lips had concluded their summary of the evidence introduced during the day and a half of the trial, Fire Commissioner Clarence Miller offered this resolution. Commissioner Robinson promptly seconded the resolution and the commission unanimously acquitted the fire chief without taking the case under advisement as the mayor suggested or retiring to consider the evidence.

Attorney Rogers, who defended Chief Lips, made no attempt to put on witnesses for the defense, declaring he was perfectly satisfied with the evidence given by the witnesses for Miss Mathewson.

When he had examined the last witness yesterday morning Attorney Herbert Cutler Brown, who appeared for Miss Mathewson, the proprietor of the burned Hotel Coronado, and on whose account the investigation was held, figuratively held up both hands and declared the charges of the fire department not responding promptly to the alarm were not sustained.

Censures Fire Department

As most of the charges in the count were based on this, he was forced to admit that in that direction he had lost his case, but he severely censured the department for not making greater efforts to put out the fire of the burning hotel, instead of turning their attention to the saving of the annex and other buildings in the vicinity.

"I am satisfied the fire department arrived with all due diligence and I believe that charge should be stricken from the count," said Mr. Brown. "But I think the preponderance of the evidence here has shown that when the department arrived the fire was chiefly confined to the southwest corner of the building and I do believe it might have been handled better.

"I expected to have other witnesses here, but they were very reluctant to testify at a public hearing of this kind. If you really want to know the truth about your department you will have to get out among the men and watch them. Get your ears to the ground. You can learn nothing by these public investigations.

Firemen Afraid to Appear

"I have been told things by members of this department that show the real state it is in, but they have said they would lose their jobs if they gave public testimony and for that reason I could not put them on the stand. We want better fire protection out in our part of the city and if we can get it no other way we propose to help out the mayor and the fire commission by securing some additional apparatus.

"It has been stated that I appear here at the instigation of former Chief Strohm, but I wish to take this occasion to deny any such thing. I am not representing any one but Miss Mathewson."

In his summary of the evidence for the defense Attorney Rogers made the startling statement that the entire investigation was nothing but an opening gun in a campaign to be waged by grafters to regain control of the fire commission.

Says Grafters Seek Control

"This is a systematic campaign, not for the purpose of effecting anything at this time; not in the hope that this commission will at all displace Chief Lips," said Mr. Rogers. "It is a studied effort which will be followed by a campaign of some length and some bitterness to regain control on behalf of corruption that obtained in this department for a good many administrations.

"This department buys hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of goods every year. We all know that there were times when there was graft in this department, and lots of it. Since Chief Lips got in there has been neither graft nor a suspicion of graft. This is the fight they are making. I make no charges against any one man, but I can recall commissions who have sat in your place who were absolutely dishonest and through whom a hose contract never went that there was not only suspicion but absolute certainty of graft; and this is nothing but the commencement, the opening battle, of a fight for the control of this department again to be regained on behalf of the grafters at some future time.

"I will acquit Attorney Brown of conscious participation in this. He is not that kind of a man. That is why they chose him, because he could come in here without anybody suspecting that he was in on this play. But that is all it is."

"I may be the political tool of some political party, but I am not aware of the fact, and I think I know about where I stand," answered Mr. Brown.

"That is possibly so. At any rate, they are getting behind that beautiful Brown stone front that you present," responded Mr. Rogers.

The mayor held a different opinion. "I think this investigation was directed solely at myself," said Mayor McAleer.

Mayor Talks of Bribes

"There are just a few things I would like to say to the citizens of Los Angeles. We are all here as city officials to do our duty, first, last and all the time, to the best of our ability, for the entire city and its inhabitants. We have not at all times had the assistance and the encouragement that we should have had from every paper in this city. I want to go on record at this time as saying, for the benefit of some of our critics, that this fire commission is the first that I have ever known of in this city that is above reproach from any faction, affiliations political or otherwise. There is not a man at this table today who has not been aproached, directly or indirectly, with offers of money bribes in buying supplies.

"I myself, as the mayor of this city, have been shown $80,000 a year if I would do certain things; and because this commission and the mayor are trying to give an honest business administration we are criticised. Why? Because we will not allow ourselves to be used.

Wants Support of Papers

"After all these facts which I have stated, and which can be proven, the papers, some of them, are not sustaining us in an honest, conscientious, business administration. It is not right. It is a shame. When you get honest men in office to administer the affairs of this city they should have the assistance of the papers that the public support. Now, let us be fair. If you have not the respect for the mayor that you ought to have, treat the fire commission with all due respect and we will have a better administration; our firemen will strain every nerve to do more than their duty. They are not paid enough at the present time, and upon every fire alarm that they respond to they take their lives in their hands. What is the result? They are criticised for their endeavors to do their whole duty, while but half paid men."

HOTEL GOSSIP

Munro's Plimsell Mark

Wallace Munro, "promoter of publicity" for Louis James, who appears at the Mason next week, is an odd sort of chap, who has an odd way of doing many things, and a still more odd way of saying things.

Picking up his hat yesterday at the Hollenbeck, he remarked to a newspaper man who stood by, "Do you see that odd hieroglyphic on my hatband? That circle with a straight line drawn through? Well, that has a most significant meaning, and a most peculiar origin. When I was a boy, it was a common occurrence to heavily insure rotten and unseaworthy ships, load them in excess of their capacity and cast them to the mercies of the ocean. Many and many a vessel went to the bottom and many a noble sailor perished at what he thought was his post of duty. Then arose public protest, championed by Samuel L. Plimsell, an Englishman, who introduced and succeeded in passing a bill in the British parliament making it compulsory for every ship flying the British jack to have a mark painted upon the hull indicating the safety line to load to. I carry my Plimsell mark in my hat."

Girardy Has Smile

There are many people who are famous for their smiles, but it is said that few people give expression to their merrier thoughts through genuine laughter. Some never laugh aloud while others are so noisy that the sound which they give forth jars upon the sensitive ears of the listeners. All of the gentler and genuine qualities seem to have been combined in the laugh of A. L. Girardy of Paducah, Ky., who arrived in Los Angeles a few days ago and is a guest at the Van Nuys hotel. Mr. Girardy is a typical southerner and speaks with mellow tones. When he laughs it seems to fairly bubble forth from his heart, so merry are its peals.

Mr. Girardy has been "through the mill," as he expresses it, as a newspaper man and has held various positions from that of printer's devil to editorial writer. At present he is engaged in the manufacturing business.

In his genial way he told a reporter last evening that he was "Girardy from Jayville, eidtor of the Jayville Times." He pulled a paper from his pocket and after indulging in a few minutes' laughter exhibited a marked paragraph. The article states that "Col. Partridge," who is an old friend of Mr. Girardy, "is better in St. Louis with his stroke of paralysis."

"Old Man Girardy," as he says he likes to be called, is very favorably impressed with what he has seen of Los Angeles since his arrival, and says he is "sure" going to live here if he can influence his family to leave their home in Kentucky.

Joy Morton Out of Danger

By Associated Press

OMAHA, Dec. 29.—Reports are that Joy Morton, who was badly hurt last Wednesday by a fall from a horse, is now practically out of danger, his condition having greatly improved within the past twenty-four hours.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE

DIRECTOR CALLOWAY MAKES HIS ANNUAL REPORT

Much Has Been Accomplished to Improve Conditions—Many Samples of Seeds Obtained in Markets Either Adulterated or Misbranded

By Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The activity of the bureau of plant industry of the department of agriculture in its efforts to improve agricultural conditions through the United States is set forth in the annual report of the director of the bureau, Dr. B. T. Galloway.

Co-operative work with the agricultural experiment stations of the several states and territories has been extended. School garden work has been assisted in many ways, and 175,000 packets of seeds have been supplied to schools. The work on cotton has included the conducting of experiments to secure only weevil-resistant types. Single germ beet sugar seed will soon be produced in quantities sufficient for field demonstrations. New varieties of hardy oranges, new pineapples and new races of corn and cotton have been developed in the laboratory of plant breeding. Valuable strains of tobacco have been obtained by hybridization. It has been shown that heavy seed produces better plants than light seed.

At the seed laboratory 9364 germination tests and 1415 tests for mechanical purity have been made. Of 1220 samples of seeds obtained in the open market 230 were found to be either adulterated or misbranded.

The foreign explorations have resulted in the securing of many valuable varieties of dates for the government date gardens in Arizona and California and also many important dry land fodder plants.

The results achieved in combating diseases of orchard fruits have been especially gratifying. Remedies for the disease of orange trees known as "die back" have been discovered, and the proportion affected in a region where ten years ago fifty per cent of the trees were diseased has been reduced to less than one-tenth of one per cent. Disease resistant grapevines are being propagated.

In the congressional seed distribution nearly 36,000,000 packets and packages of seeds and more than 230,000 grapevines, strawberry plants and bulbs have been sent out.

Fatal Fire in Minneapolis

By Associated Press.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 29.—One dead, two badly burned and fifteen or more injured or overcome by smoke is the result of the gutting of the Higgins tenements this morning. Twenty-seven families were rescued from their beds and sent shivering and half smothered into the outer air, where the thermometer indicated 10 above zero.

Pi-Lines and Pick-Ups

The Honest View

R-E-S-O-L-V-E-!
That is what confronteth me!
To swear off my habits bad,
Surely I ought to be glad;
To squit smoking of the weed,
Oh, I should rejoice indeed;
To pass up the cuss word tart,
Should inspire a thankful heart;
To turn down the flowing bowl,
Ought to breed a joyous soul.
But to idols I am wed—
Swearing off makes my tears shed!
And instead of gladsomeness,
New Year's brings me but unrest.
May it all confounded be:
R-E-S-O-L-V-E-!

A Pennsylvania limited train ran 10 miles an hour into Chicago this week. Now, if it had been going away from Chicago, such speed would have been justified, but why such haste in arriving there?

Another steel trust is forming. Let us hope it is not a "steal" trust also.

Mean Thing, So There!

Everything is all right up in this part of the country, but Miss Birt Smith; she is as mad as an old wet hen because somebody found out she had a "new dress."—Hurley Cor. Center (Ala.) Harmonizer.

Scotty seems to have as many lives as a cat—and they are about as useful.

New York has a pugilistic crow that is a great talker. Which latter fact is self evident, of course.

Orange—Would you like to live your life over again?
Lemon—Why should I make a fool of myself twice?

As a menagerie, while playing in her circus tent, Bernhardt might take along the theatrical syndicate.

Vice President Fairbanks has been asked to introduce a bill to pension lonely men. On the score of fellow feeling?

A woman may not be able to point a pencil, but how she can sharpen her husband's wits!

Poppy—Is she man-crazy?
Poinsettia — Rather! Why, her favorite instrument is a man-dolin.

Let the chorus girls perk up; that new steel trust will also have a president.

New York has a skunk club. Even a powerful smell has to combine in New York to get a showing.

Does This Fool the Baby!

The wife of one of our gentlemen friends makes him wear tucks in his night gown, trimmed with pink ribbon, so that the baby won't know the difference when he walks the floor with it at night.—Cavalier (N. D.) Republican.

However direful the news, yet let us rejoice that Russia no longer makes it in Eydtkuhnen. That name is worse that a massacre.

Few diamonds will be found in that hotel fire. Only real ones stand heat.

Olive—Why did she never marry?
Palm—She has such scruples against divorce.

Whitewash is a great purifier, but what the insurance magnates need is "fire."

Clothes-Post

Edward B. Close of New York was recently married to Miss Marjorie Post, a $2,000,000 heiress.

According to reports, Wright seems to be the wrong man for Wright's place, over in the Philippines.

Dr. Osler is coming home. Here's hoping he'll prove his theory on New York's senators.

A West Virginia woman shot her husband because he wouldn't kiss her. The photograph of the woman will constitute "Exhibit A" before the jury.

Pine—She wants to be painted, badly.
Pepper—You're the artist to do it.

They don't have trials by jury in Russia yet—often none at all—merely plain funerals.

A Dream

(The Pullman porters have formed a union to secure living wages. They now depend on tips, which are shrinking all the time.—News item.)

We were gathered in the Pullman,
'Twas the ending of the trip,
An obsequious minion
Dusted briskly—for a tip.
Gleaming ivories his face filled,
As his whisk he fiercely plied;
So we all prepared to shell out
As a premium on our ride.

But the dusky hand refused it!
Not a cent the negro took,
As he cleaned and brushed our baggage,
Tho' right grateful was his look.
"No, sah!" was the peaceful answer,
"We'se a union, dese hyah days—
An' no moah we frisks de trab'ler;
Fer de Pullman comp'ny pays!"
—W. H. C.

Merely a Suggestion

Scribbles—It costs me an awful lot for postage on the manuscripts I send to the different newspapers and magazines.

Dribbles—Why don't you call the postmaster's attention to the fact that it is second-class matter? Chicago News.

Progressive Women

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