

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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Bias is denied in the Ruef case. But guilt is not.

Perhaps Goldfield also needs a little application of the big stick.

Only the guilty man fears to step up to the bar of justice. Abe Ruef fears.

Evidently the billboard men thought it useless to dine and wine Mayor Harper.

Another "panic" in the brokerage offices in Wall street. More water squeezed out.

If Abe Ruef were not guilty, he wouldn't be trying half so hard to dodge his trial.

"Let all help along the Fiesta," yelps the Hearst yellow. Who tried to kill it last year?

A few good streets would be better than none; and there is time for a few before La Fiesta.

The same pressure for good streets as is exerted against the billboards would pave a lot of them.

Good roads are all right and necessary, but good streets are more important and imperative.

Wall street is having its annual flood—of water from the stocks that a "panic" is squeezing out.

A two-cent fare bill having passed in Kansas, Los Angeles in fear and trembling awaits its punishment.

The fact that the railroads are opposing state segregation is the strong argument for its consummation.

Only the railroads oppose state division. It costs more to control two legislatures than one, that's true.

J. J. Hill would sell his railroads to the government. But, of course, at Hill's own price, for water and all.

Some fifty senators are now en route to Panama, and once more a dress parade state of dirt-fying is in order.

Mr. Hill would like the government to buy his railroads, but the government is not purchasing water at present.

Mayor Schmitz denies that Delmas will be his attorney. A denial from Delmas was hardly considered necessary.

Kansas has also passed a two-cent railroad fare bill, and it is now in order for Mr. Harriman to take off the rest of his fast through trains.

But whether Mabelle Gilman will wed a steel magnate or an actor, who really cares? And why should her affections be a subject of public notice?

Some engineers have said that the Panama canal can be dug in eight years. Why not give them the job, with a death penalty if it is not done?

The giving away of \$10,000,000 of his fortune by his widow accounts for the disturbed condition of the earth above Russell Sage's grave. He turned over several times.

Even the best trained railroad legislature sometimes makes mistakes. The California body let the Cartwright anti-trust bill slip through. Now will the governor sign it?

The time is mighty short in which to pave Los Angeles streets before the Shriners come, but a good many can be made presentable if work and not talk is the method used.

The spectacle of Jerome using for a witness against Evelyn Thaw one Abe Hummel, against whom he now has a case of perjury in court, is almost odd enough to cause laughter.

The Examiner is very anxious all of a sudden to boost the Fiesta, but a year ago it did its little worst to kill it. Some more merchants must have thrown a scare into Onkel Heine.

If, as is reported, a Milwaukee man did reach the pole, it will be interesting to know which big brewery he represented, as designated by the first sign of beer to be tacked on that interesting stick.

Let the people in a block decide whether or not they want billboards. That is the gist of the mayor's requirements in the new ordinance. And his demand is eminently correct, but it does mean the doom of the atrocious billboard. For which no one mourns.

ROOSEVELT BUTTS IN

California is nominally a sovereign state, but really it is subject to the will and policy of the president of the United States. That presidential prerogative is asserted now for the first time in the state's history. It takes precedence not only of executive and legislative authority in California, but of the popular vote as well.

For confirmation of this statement note the tenor of the telegram from the president to Governor Gillet dated Monday: "Passage of a bill for submission to voters of California whether Japanese laborers shall be excluded would interfere with my plans and make it more difficult for me to accomplish through the national government what I am trying to do in the way of Japanese exclusion."

In compliance with that telegram Governor Gillet at once communicated with the legislature and caused to be stopped, in accordance with the president's instructions, all legislation bearing on the Japanese question.

As a means of avoiding dangerous complications with Japan the action of the president in this matter probably will be effective. It is not unlikely that the bumptious spirit of the Japanese would have led to extreme measures but for the meek attitude of the president in face of implied threats. And possibly the dropping of Japanese shells in some of our coast towns has been averted by the president's extraordinary method of preserving peace.

It is only the broader question of presidential dominance in the affairs of a sovereign state to which attention is called here. For the first time in the history of the United States, so far as is now recalled, the president has practically suspended the executive, legislative and electoral power of a state.

The character of the pending bills, to which the president took exception, is immaterial in considering the general question of federal executive interference. It is immaterial whether the governor would have approved the bills if they had passed and also how the electors of California might have voted on the exclusion question. The sudden stoppage of state legislation at a suggestion equivalent to a command is a subject for serious thought on the part of the American people.

It is an entirely new and a very dangerous prerogative that the president has asserted, one which the framers of the federal constitution endeavored to make impossible. It conflicts directly with the spirit of the constitution and attacks the safeguards embodied for protection against just such federal dominance as the president has exercised in California.

But in these days of "higher law," "brain storm" and other innovations on old-fashioned notions perhaps it is not so strange that our impetuous president is inclined to ignore precedents and blaze a new path outside the constitutional limits.

THANKS TO THE LEGISLATURE

The Herald hereby recognizes the good work done by the legislature in the session just terminated and expresses thankfulness therefor.

That statement does not relate wholly to the act of adjournment. It relates to the firm stand taken by the legislature on the side of Los Angeles in all the important measures introduced on behalf of the city concerning the Owens river water project.

Like the mantle of charity, that feature of the legislative record "covers a multitude of sins," in the estimation of this community. As it is said that we should "forget the faults and remember only the virtues of the dead," so The Herald speaks approvingly and thankfully of the good work done at Sacramento.

In view of the strenuous opposition to all Los Angeles bills bearing on the water project, it is really astonishing that such general success attended them. Certain measures of great moment were persistently and pluckily fought by parties opposing the city's interests, but in the lining up on votes the fighters invariably went down to defeat.

By reason of the legislation thus created, the way to construction of the great water plant is made as smooth as a ballroom floor. The last impediment has been brushed away. All the requirements of a legal nature are placed at the service of Los Angeles and the word now passes along the line to let the dirt fly everlastingly.

The city now has a clear right of way over all state lands for the construction of the great aqueduct. In addition thereto it has the right to build a railway line along the entire route, together with telegraph and telephone lines, power houses and whatever else may be needful for the main purpose.

The legislature not only granted all that was asked in the way of state aid to the water project, but it contributed materially to the favor the great bond issue will receive in the eastern money markets. The special acts involving important points leave no question in the minds of bond buyers concerning the glitter of those gilt-edged securities.

For this gratifying outcome of legislation on behalf of Los Angeles heart-felt thanks are due to the city's representatives in the legislature and also to the earnest champions who steered the measures and followed the admonition of "eternal vigilance" from beginning to the end.

As the desert traveler forgets for a time the dreary sand journey, when he steps wearily into a beautiful oasis, so the people of Los Angeles may forget many shortcomings of the late legislature when their minds dwell upon the satisfactory results of the work done in furtherance of the city's stupendous water enterprise.

Mayor Harper will veto the present billboard ordinance. Perhaps if the council is not so prone to accept dinner invitations from the billboard owners, it can pass a more equitable one.

CITY MILK OR GAS

The municipal gas project seems to have disappeared under a cloud, but another public utility scheme is showing up instead. The board of health has been favored with a suggestion that municipal ownership and operation of the Los Angeles dairies would solve the question of pure and clean dairy products.

As compared with the public gas making project the scheme for a municipal dairy system appears to be commendable. A leading ground for opposition to the gas scheme is the intricacy of the business, calling for expert knowledge and long practice in every branch of it. Such a business, subject to the changes of management dependent on partisan ascendancy, would be likely to suffer in efficient control.

But there could be no such objection to the handling of a dairy business, particularly by politicians with a well recognized "pull." There is a material difference, of course, between a political pull and the kind necessary in lactical extraction, but the professional politician is an adept in fitting the pull to circumstances.

A municipal dairy might obviate all such causes of complaint as are heard about the present dairies, according to the rosetate view of the suggestion made to the board of health. The promise is given that none but pure milk from the municipal udders would be delivered to families.

We are told that "there would be no object in diluting the milk; there would be no object in using preservatives; there would not be the waste there is now with forty or fifty dairies fighting for supremacy; the dairy would belong to the people and the men in charge would be working for wages and subject to dismissal whenever they failed to perform their duties satisfactorily."

As between municipal gas making and municipal milking The Herald decidedly prefers the latter for experimental purposes. This for the reason intimated before, that politicians are not familiar with the intricacies of the gas business, but that they perfectly understand anything operated on the "pull" principle.

A collision, with serious results, between a switch engine and a street car, Tuesday night, recalls the warning given by The Herald several days ago with respect to the carelessness shown by some conductors and motormen at grade crossings. All street railway employees should again be cautioned as to the grade-crossing danger. One Ontario disaster ought to be enough.

The opera season has at last aroused sufficient interest in Los Angeles to pack the big Auditorium, but it is feared the rush comes too late to make it a financial success, or to assure the company's return a year hence, which is still more important.

If Mme. Nordica has been captured by a New York operative magnate for next year, condoleances are due Impresario Russell, but not half to the degree that would be due him were Nielsen the one he must lose.

Perhaps there was some mistake about the man who was sentenced to a year in prison for stealing a piece of grametaria pie. Many persons think he should have been sent to Patton.

The Lessons of the Day

"Tommy, how did you spend your holiday yesterday?"

"Had a bully time—went out skating."

"But I thought your mother had forbidden you to go skating."

"She didn't know it. Told her I was going to grandma's to spend the day and have grandma tell me about how George Washington when he was a boy couldn't tell a lie."

PERIL LURKS IN KISSES

From the Chicago Chronicle.

WILL kissing be indicted? Are laws really to be passed prohibiting the practice as insanitary?

The suggestion would once have seemed like a joke, but more than once official movement has been made in this ominous direction. Health Officer Somers of Atlantic City is not the only public guardian who has raised a warning hand and science has again sent out a loud note of warning. Dr. Nalpassee of the medical faculty of Paris is and physician to the Persian legation; Constantinople, charges the kiss with responsibility for spreading the grip, scarlet fever, measles, mumps, scarlatina, whooping cough, typhoid, or, erysipelas, meningitis, tuberculosis diphtheria and the many infectious lesions of the skin, such as boils and carbuncles.

Fearsome and terrific indictment this! But the learned physicians confess the hopelessness of securing a conviction. They might as well try to abolish love as kisses, even though "this evildoer of justice commends the ingredients of our poison'd chalice to our own lips."

It is not so much the "I, g, long kiss, a kiss of youth and love," or the "kiss snatched hastily from the sidelong maid," of which poets have immemorially sung, that these men denounce, for they say that adults are generally strong enough to resist successfully the baneful assaults of the myriads of bacteria that lurk in the kiss; but it is the mother's kiss, the caress given to the baby, that comes in for their most bitter denunciation.

"Who kissed the place to make it well?" My mother. "No! they cry, she kissed the place to make it fester; to bring gangrene, blood poisoning, death. Hear Dr. Nalpassee on this: Adults may escape the evil consequences of the kiss. They are strong and able to repel disease. But the delicate organism of an infant is helpless. The culture of microbes is rapid when the victim is weak. A malady may be at work, yet it may give no sign until fully developed, and even when developed the cause may be hidden for a time. The victim may appear to be in good health even while the internal evil is making ravages to end in death. The germs of scarlet fever, measles, whooping cough, the typhoid fevers, meningitis, erysipelas, tuberculosis—in a word, many diseases due to microbes—are transmitted by the supposedly inoffensive kiss."

Babies don't like to be kissed; any good nurse will tell you that. They don't know what kissing means and no one can wonder at their not liking it. As a rule savages don't kiss, either; but they have similar methods of expressing love, such as rubbing noses, which are open to about the same objections as kisses.

Health Officer Somers of Atlantic City has recently warned the kissing club in a gripping go, like lovers, hand in hand. La grippe has been unusually prevalent this winter and most of us have believed it to be due to the unseasonable weather. Dr. Somers, however, blames it on the prevalence of kissing and has issued a solemn warning in the following words: "In view of the rapid spread of grip throughout the city and in view of the known fact that osculation, commonly described as kissing, is the most fruitful agent of the propagation of the grip germ, it is advised that temperance and moderation in respect to said practice be more generally observed."

Chief Inspector Beck and the board of health are to ask the city council for special appropriation, not for sterilizing kisses, but for printing and warning and posting it in railway stations, trolley cars and other public places. They realize the uselessness of posting it in cozy corners, on verandas and in porches, where most of the kissing is done, for the youths and maidens of Atlantic City are so reckless that they would "kiss till the cow comes home" right under the eyes of the mayor's own anti-kissing proclamation.

Dr. Nalpassee writes of "the scourge consecrated by the ill-advised acceptance of the weak mimicry of custom called the kiss, but we can take precaution and do our best to counteract its undeniable dangers." True lovers will ask: Kisses this man red blood in his veins? Has he ever known what it was to cry, with Tennyson: O love! O fire! Once he drew With one long kiss my whole soul through My lips the sunlight drinketh dew!

Instead of poetry—to which kisses belong—he deals in secretions, telling

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PI LINES AND PICK UPS

FALLS
"Did you ever hear of Adam's fall?" She asked, Wasn't it shocking? "I never did," the girl replied "But—" this she whispered soft, aside—"I have heard of Eavesdropping!"

WRONG.
What we would like to know is why the most beautiful woman lives in Chicago.—Toledo Blade. She doesn't.

"Honesty is the best politics," says the Ohio State Journal. They've tried every other kind in Ohio.

"There is poetry in machinery," says a mechanical expert. We have read some stuff that convinced us that there is considerable machinery in poets.

A man named Rich is a fugitive from justice with a reward on his head in California. All the officers are trying to get Rich.

RUBBERNECK.
J. A. Baughman was seen this week watering his horses at the trough near the postoffice in Wichita. The fellow who saw him would have done well to have minded his own business and not been watching his fellow citizens.—Wichita (Kas.) Star.

LA BOHEME
The gay life, the gray life, the life that knows no care; The days that come, the days that go, the while we lit it air; We may not know when we shall dine, nor whether crust or game. But ho! for the merry times we have the while in La Boheme!

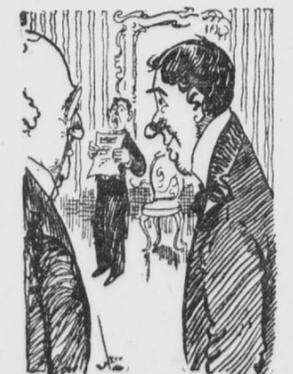
The sad days, the mad days, the days of hope and youth; The period of carelessness when with our lives we're ruff; No hint of fame beclouds our fun, we care naught for a name; But ho! for these royster nights of ours the while in La Boheme!

Oh, there will come a period when we will say good by To all we love and kiss and crave; these days must all slip by; But as they last we'll lift a glass—and who is he shall blame?— Then ho! and a toast we'll drink to this: The while in La Boheme!

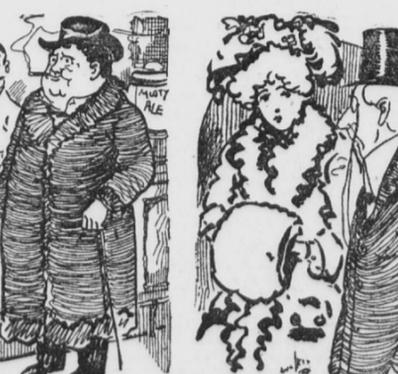
—W. H. C.

Simple Remedies for Blues

BY RYAN WALKER



AWFUL PLAYING.
The Philosopher (at the musicale)—Don't you think there is lots of unnecessary discord in life? The Boozee—Sure. Let's go out and get a drink.



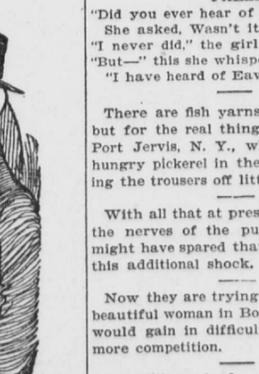
TO THEIR BROW.
Knicker—My! My! How many people trust a doctor! Boozee—Yes, and doctors trust a bunch of people.



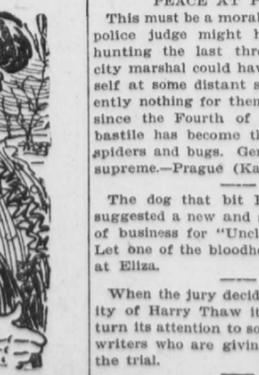
SHE GOT EVEN WITH HIM.
Mrs. Strappy—Oh why, why, did I ever marry you? Strappy—I guess you must have been awfully down on me for some reason or other.



OBJECTION SUSTAINED.
Judge—The witness told all that happened on the second floor. Now, why do you object to calling what happened on the third floor? Counsel—Because, if it please Your Honor, that is another story.



NO MORE THAN HE NEEDED.
"Am going to give you a piece of my mind." "How can you spare it?"



NOT HIS WAY.
Mrs. De Shaw—Why didn't you contact that charity? Mr. De Shaw—Didn't have my check-book with me. Mrs. De Shaw—But a quarter would have seemed big to them. Mr. De Shaw—How could I write my name on a quarter?