

LOS ANGELES HERALD

BY THE HERALD COMPANY
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OLDEST MORNING PAPER IN LOS ANGELES
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THE HERALD IN SAN FRANCISCO AND OAKLAND—Los Angeles and Southern California visitors to San Francisco and Oakland will find The Herald on sale at the news stands in the San Francisco ferry building and on the streets in Oakland by Wheatley and by Amos News Co.

Population of Los Angeles, 300,000

Get busy and catch Raffles.

The Raffles game is still a hot one. Get into it.

Nobody made a Raffles haul at the city hall yesterday.

Testimony in the Thaw case is ended. Thank God!

Detweiler seems to be the mysterious Mr. Raffles of the Ruef case.

Don't get excited if you meet Raffles. Keep cool and get the money.

Only the talk fest, and the Thaw case will go to the jury. Glory be!

Swettenham, in going to Canada, evidently wants to cool off a bit.

Quite a coolness exists between Taft and Foraker. Its name is Fairbanks.

Why not let "The Two Orphans" look for Raffles? They need the money.

Bad streets are the worst advertisement a city can have. Better fix ours.

J. P. Morgan being now in Rome, the Romans are busy nailing down the town.

Abe Detweiler seems to be emulating Abe Ruef in his endeavors to keep out of sight.

Disaster is predicted for Pittsburg. Well, Pittsburg is bad enough to court it.

So far as is reported, no Shriner celebration has been announced for Cold-foot Collins.

Renewed activity in trolley building may be expected now. Mr. Huntington is home again.

Every word in the salutation to Mr. Raffles is worth \$100. Better learn the magic ten by heart.

The real necessity is the proper formula in addressing Raffles. Without that the case is hopeless.

Fix up the streets; after crossing the burning sands the Shriners will want easy going in Los Angeles.

That new Roosevelt lemonade has two features—a big stick in it and the fact that it is a lie all through.

Now that H. E. Huntington is home perhaps the Pacific Electric cars will get those fenders on them.

Not for several days has an eminent public man been called a liar. Is the supply of great men run short?

The city hall crowd is so used to getting easy money it is a wonder Raffles escaped they clutch yesterday.

Speaker Cannon having returned from Panama another castor will be shied into the Republican presidential ring.

So it was Mr. Fish's revenge that overtook Mr. Harriman, was it? But doesn't it rather look like a roorback?

Properly low rates having been granted by the railroads to the National Educational association, a wonderful host of visitors may be expected here in July.

With a probable glut in the lumber market, the trusts will find that their era of high prices will collapse. Thus will building operations be resumed in Los Angeles with a rush.

And after the Thaw trial ends Mr. Jerome will find that there still exists plenty of wickedness in New York to keep him busy for the rest of his term of office, and then some.

If there are any more leading men of the United States who haven't been called liars by the president now is the time for them to step up and be branded. It is an honor none should omit.

It is now necessary to curb the motorcyclists. They should be required to wear license tags as do the autos, and severe penalties should be visited upon the first speed violator caught. A jail sentence pretty well broke up the auto racing, it will be remembered.

In yielding to the Shriners and making reasonable rates, the local hotels have shown the proper spirit and prove that they are in accord with the best interests of the city. It was a commendable move on their part and insures the great success of the convales.

GALL OF THE FAKERS

For "gall" that might be guaranteed to stand any test for purity, note the argument put up by the local fakers against the proposed increase in their license tax: "That the excessive increase or any increase in the present rate would reduce the amount of revenue, as the practitioners will remove to locations beyond the city limits, thus depriving the city of revenue now accruing therefrom."

The mediums, clairvoyants, slate writers and other spook conjurers threaten to leave Los Angeles and deprive the city treasury of their contributions in license taxes unless the monthly requirement is kept down to an almost nominal figure.

If the fakers can be induced to scamper from the city by such means, then let no time be lost in putting the license tax up to the top notch, notwithstanding the prospect of losing the \$15 a month per faker that now is paid into the city treasury.

The impudence of this class of frauds is in keeping with their methods for fleecing unwary victims. In a formal communication to the mayor and the city council the fakers represent themselves as "taxpayers" and dub themselves professionally as "practitioners."

The extent to which they are taxpayers may be inferred from the threat to leave the city if the license fee be raised from \$15 to \$50 a month. The Herald's graphic exposure of these despicable swindlers of easy victims was the means of greatly abating the nuisance.

The diminution of "business," in the line of separating dupes from their money, decreased so greatly that several of the "practitioners" were obliged either to leave town or buckle down to honest means of earning a living.

All that is necessary now, in order to complete The Herald's good work in its crusade against the fakers is the increased license rate. The publicity afforded by The Herald's exposures, supplemented by the high license tax, will relieve the community at least in great part of the baldest fraud perpetrators in Los Angeles.

It is said Mayor Harper wants to compromise the fakers's license by reducing the amount prescribed in the new ordinance from \$50 to \$30. His argument is that \$50 would be prohibitive and if enforced the fakers would remove just outside the city limits, continue their business without paying any license and still require attention from the police, whereas if only \$30 be exacted they will remain in the city and pay it. The attention of the mayor is called to the fact that until The Herald began its crusade the fakers were never molested by the police, and many of them had free permits from former mayors, and the city can certainly do without the license which the new ordinance proposes if it can get rid of these objectionable employments.

As a matter of fact the ordinance requiring \$15 a month license was never enforced and therefore the city would lose nothing if ever had by adopting an ordinance that would assess even a prohibitive license fee.

A PALPABLE BLUNDER

There seems to be danger that the prosecution in the San Francisco graft cases will aim too high and thus overshoot the mark.

"We are after the men higher up," is the often reiterated declaration of the prosecutors. In line with that policy, as averred, the whole board of San Francisco supervisors, eighteen in number, were given immunity from punishment for self-confessed graft of the most infamous character. The announcement of that act of leniency was a public surprise, notwithstanding the assurance that it was necessary in order to bring down the higher game.

But public surprise over the immunity granted to the supervisory felons gives place to utter amazement at the plan now disclosed by the prosecution for reaching the high perch grafters. It is nothing less than an offer to Ruef, as reported, of a mere pretense of punishment for his crimes on condition that he reveal all he knows about grafting in San Francisco.

It is said that "in the attempt of the prosecution to induce Ruef to inculcate his associates in boodle, the seventy times accused prisoner has been offered immunity so closely approaching a clean bill of health that his term of imprisonment, which the prosecution is said to have agreed to arrange with the courts, was to have been limited to two years."

And it is understood, also, that either complete immunity or the next thing to it has been offered to Mayor Schmitz on like terms.

The Herald does not question the intentions of the prosecution in this extraordinary procedure, but it most decidedly questions the judgment manifested therein.

The course of the prosecution in this respect is based on a palpable misconception of the main purpose in the warfare against municipal graft in San Francisco. The mistake lies in the assumption that it is pre-eminent important to punish the graft givers and that in order to accomplish that purpose it is expedient to grant immunity to the graft receivers.

Both the givers and the takers of such boodle deserve the limit of terms in state prison. But it needs little reflection to convince the thoughtful mind that if there is any difference in the culpability of the San Francisco graft givers and receivers the greater weight rests upon the latter.

For this reason: The mayor and the supervisors of San Francisco were the recipients of a distinct public trust when the voters elected them. They were sworn to protect public interests in return for the distinguished mark of popular confidence. And in betraying that trust they not only committed an atrocious felony but they also traitorously betrayed the people and committed perjury by breaking their oaths.

As for Ruef, political boss of San Francisco but not a public official, the

DEATH-TRAP BRIDGES

Los Angeles has outgrown the pueblo style of ramshackle river bridges or bridges constructed on a level with railway crossings to save expense of the viaduct plan.

No other progressive city on earth, even approximating Los Angeles in metropolitan character, would tolerate such bridge building as is witnessed here. Much less would any other such city seriously consider the saving of some paltry dollars by bridge building calculated to be a constant menace to life by railway casualties.

The new bridges for which general provision has been made should be constructed with reference not only to present needs and conditions but to those of the future as well. Such modern steel bridges as are seen in all eastern cities of any pretension are good for decades of usefulness.

Aside from the question of civic effect it is absurd to argue that Los Angeles must put up with unsightly and dangerous structures for economic reasons.

And in view of the extraordinary record of railway casualties in Los Angeles the community should not permit, on any pretense whatever, the construction of such a death trap as has been designed for the river crossing at Seventh street. The proposition that the bridge should be erected at railway grade crossing for the sake of economy, or because that would suit the convenience of truckmen and a single railway company, is intolerable.

Again harken to the warning of former Secretary Shaw of the federal treasury department to the people of Los Angeles: "Build for the future—build big."

And do not build either public sewers or railway death traps.

WHOLESALE LIQUOR ZONE

The city council deserves public thanks and an expression of appreciation for having established, by ordinance, yesterday a wholesale liquor zone co-extensive and co-ordinate with the retail liquor zone.

This will effectually put a stop to the crude opening of wholesale shops and wineries in the residence sections for the sale of liquor in the smallest possible package allowed by law. Moreover, it removes from business where now located the many wineries that "smell to heaven" and are an offense to various neighborhoods outside the zone.

It was alleged last night that Mayor Harper hesitates about signing the ordinance. He has his own views, of course, and is entitled to them, but if he desires to reflect the will and wish of the whole people on this subject he will approve the ordinance without amendment.

Harry Thaw's case will go to the jury this week, so that it will most likely be out of the way before Abe Ruef's rottenness is foisted upon a disgusted world.

There is no need of a grade crossing at the Seventh street bridge, and the Salt Lake should be compelled to come to time and obviate it.

Raffles has no interest in denying his captor, provided the right words be spoken. But the proper sentence must be used.

That circus was exceedingly wise in showing here during the Easter vacation. All the small boys are footloose now.

BAPTIST MINISTERS HAVE MONTHLY MEETING

At the monthly meeting of the Baptist ministers' conference of Southern California yesterday morning at the First Baptist church, Rev. J. Herndon Garnett of Santa Ana, president of the conference, presided and Rev. George Taylor of Sawtelle acted as secretary.

A committee of five was appointed to draft resolutions on the resignation of Dr. S. A. Northrop, pastor of the First Baptist church. His resignation is to take effect July 1.

A committee was appointed to draft resolutions on the death of Rev. Joseph Whitlock, who had been a member of the Baptist African church for thirty years and a member of this conference for eighteen years.

An interesting paper was read by Rev. J. N. Field of Redlands on "The Present Day Church: Its Imperative Needs." A discussion followed.

Rev. C. C. Pierce read a report of the work of the church federation for the past two months, which was followed by reports from the churches.

GOVERNOR OF SAMOA VISITS FRIENDS HERE

Commander C. B. T. Moore, U. S. N., and wife will arrive in Los Angeles today to visit Judge and Mrs. C. C. McComas. Commander Moore is the brother of Mrs. McComas and is governor of the American Samoan Islands.

An automobile party will be given by Judge and Mrs. McComas today and this evening the party will go to the country home of Judge and Mrs. McComas at San Dimas. Commander and Mrs. Moore sail April 20 for Honolulu on their way to their island home in the Pacific.

Fire Loss Two Millions

By Associated Press.

HARBIN, Manchuria, April 8.—The mercantile suburb of this city, known as Fudacadam, in which many large warehouses were situated, has been destroyed by fire. The burned area covers almost a square mile. The loss is estimated at \$2,000,000.

Everything you want you will find in the classified page. One cent a word.

COUNCIL IN THROES OF REFORM

TO STOP ABUSES OF REQUISITIONS OF CONTRACTS

KEEPS OFFICIALS OUT OF CONTRACTS

CITY AUDITOR AND ATTORNEY MAKE RULING

Bunch of Demands Turned Down with the Opinion That They Were Not Authorized by the Charter

City Auditor Mueshet and City Attorney Hewitt have set their official disapproval on the old style of requisitions that, under the Bostwick regime in the finance committee, were passed along with the approval of the councilmen.

Turning down a number of demands, Mr. Hewitt yesterday went into the details governing such requisitions which will be law hereafter in all departments.

"I return herewith demands sent to the council at your meeting on March 11 by the city auditor with his report stating the objections thereto. These demands, together with the auditor's report, were referred to me.

"I find that demands Nos. 16,295, 16,296 and 16,297, as shown by the dates thereon, represent services rendered and supplies furnished prior to the date of the requisitions. The demands Nos. 16,303 and 16,305 do not show whether the work specified therein was done prior or subsequent to the requisitions, and that as to demand No. 16,306 there services were rendered, so far as appears, on the date of the requisition.

In no instance does it appear from the demands or the papers attached thereto on what date the council passed the requisitions.

What Charter Provides

"The charter expressly provides that the only manner in which any officer, committee or agent of the city can bind it for the payment of any sum of money not exceeding \$500 is in pursuance of authority of the council, and it is obligatory that such authority must be given prior to the binding of the city. In any case where an authorization is necessary certainly the authorization must precede the doing of the thing contemplated. Any other construction would render the charter provision meaningless.

The failure of any of the demands in question to give the itemized details pointed out by the auditor is possibly subject to correction, but a prior authorization by the council is necessary to enable any officer, committee or agent of the city to obligate it for the payment of any sum not exceeding \$500.

There are only two methods prescribed in the charter whereby the city can be bound for the payment of money by contract.

By a contract in writing made after notice has been given inviting proposals to perform the same, and let to the lowest responsible bidder furnishing security for its performance satisfactory to the council, and

When the amount thereof does not exceed \$500 by a resolution of the council first had authorizing the same, in which case a written contract or previous advertisement inviting proposals is not necessary.

Provisions Clear

"The provisions of the charter are in my opinion clear and positive. The demands you have referred to me are all for amounts less than \$500, and therefore no question as to the necessity of a written contract is involved therein. The vital point is whether the council authorized the binding of the city to the payment of the money represented by these demands before the services for supplies therein mentioned were performed or furnished as the charter requires.

"Any demand for a requisition that has been ordered by the council after services have been performed or other supplies have been furnished, is irregular, and shows that the charter has been disregarded.

"The city cannot be bound by any other manner than that prescribed by the charter.

"I am of the opinion that a demand against the city does not represent a contract indebtedness legally incurred unless it is either for a payment on a written contract regularly executed or unless, if not such a payment, it is on an account not exceeding \$500, it is founded on an authorization previously given by the council.

"The fact seems to be conclusive that no previous authority was given by the council to bind the city to any of the above demands where the requisition is of a date subsequent to the furnishing of the supplies or performance of the services therein specified.

"The conclusion is therefore that the payments called for by such demands were not authorized in the manner contemplated by the charter and that any indebtedness represented by such demands was not lawfully incurred."

CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL

The public schools of Los Angeles will celebrate the anniversary of the founding of The Hague peace tribunal. Dr. E. C. Moore, superintendent of city schools, recommended at last night's meeting of the board of education that half an hour be set aside May 17 for exercises in the schools. His recommendation was as follows:

"It is customary for the schools of some of the states to commemorate the founding of the world court of arbitration at The Hague on May 18, 1899; and as such exercises make powerful impressions on the minds of the children, we recommend that a half hour be set apart for this purpose in the schools of Los Angeles, on the approaching 17th of May, as the anniversary of that event falls on Saturday this year."

REV. MR. SIGLER READS PAPER ON TITHE GIVING

"Tithing Methods" was the topic of the paper read by Rev. Frederick Pearl Sigler, pastor of the Highgrove Methodist church and missionary secretary of the San Diego district, Southern California conference, at the Methodist ministers' meeting yesterday.

Rev. Mr. Sigler held steadfastly to the Christian's duty of giving one-tenth of his income to the religious work and urged the ministers to preach frequently on the subject.

A lively discussion followed with different expressions of opinion regarding the tithing giving.

Advertisement for Robinson Company sofa pillows. Text: 'Jauntiest wash suits for boys of 2 1-2 to 10 years are here at \$1.25 to \$8.56'. 'Sofa Pillows and Center Pieces Worth Up to \$12 for \$5.00'. 'Lovers of fine needlework will find tomorrow's offerings irresistible'.

Advertisement for Knabe Pianos. Text: 'The Supreme Achievement in Piano Building'. 'Knabe Pianos are in a class by themselves—the supreme achievement of several generations of piano making—of constant improvement and betterment.' 'The Wiley B. Allen Co. 416-418 South Broadway'.

she knows she gives no sign of her intelligence. "The American man will tell you to go to the dickens and shake hands with you, and this is as good as another man's check. There is more business done here in one week than there is in a month in any part of Mexico. It is all managed down there, and it is very difficult to pin people down to business. "America is the place for me."

Women Are Musical Managers

Dr. and Mrs. W. C. Casselbury of Chicago are at the Angelus. The doctor is one of the prominent physicians of the Windy City and he has come to Southern California on a Seattle trip.

Dr. C. D. Hindley of London, England, who is making a tour of America accompanied by Mrs. Hindley, are at the Angelus.

FORCE OF BLOW FROM DEAD MAN KILLS HIM

Phillip Garcia of Palms, who was struck by the body of Frank T. Kline as it was hurled through the air in a street car accident at Sawtelle March

2, died from his injuries Saturday afternoon and was buried yesterday. Kline was dead when picked up. Garcia was unconscious and was taken to his home, where he recovered his senses the next day and explained he was not struck by the car but by the body of Kline, which was thrown fifty feet. Garcia was severely bruised, but no bones were broken and it was thought he would recover.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION OPENS

Southern California Association Will Begin Sessions This Morning in First Methodist Church. Preliminaries Held

The seventeenth annual convention of the Southern California Sunday School association will open in session this morning at 9 o'clock at the First Methodist church. Preliminary exercises were held yesterday afternoon and evening.

At the beginning of the afternoon session C. D. Melgs, general secretary of the Texas Sunday School association, spoke on "How to Teach With Chalk, Pencil and Objects." He illustrated his address with crayon sketches.

The address to have been given by Mrs. Zillah Foster Stevens, in the Sunday School Times, was omitted on account of the illness of Mrs. Stevens. Mrs. J. Woodbridge Barnes, international superintendent of elementary grades, spoke on "Lesson Building," was led by Sectional work, divided. Mrs. E. B. Fosdick, of Pasadena, assisted by Mrs. C. A. Baskerville and Mrs. J. W. Barnes.

A song service was held in the evening and addresses were made by Mrs. J. W. Barnes on "Class Management and Class Manual Work" and C. D. Melgs on "The Aim of the Teacher of the Primary Class."