

LOS ANGELES HERALD

ISSUED EVERY MORNING BY THE HERALD COMPANY

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A file of the Los Angeles Herald can be seen at the office of our English representative, Messrs. E. and J. Hardy, Co., 30, 31 and 32 Fleet street, London, England, free of charge; and that firm will be glad to receive news, subscriptions and advertisements on our behalf.

Population of Los Angeles 302,604

CLEAR, CRISP AND CLEAN

VESTIGIA NULLA RETRORSUM

AT THE THEATERS

SCO—The Easterner

Lambard Opera Company

ANK—Zira

ROBERTS MAJESTIC—St. Hopkins

THE LUM—Vaudeville

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—The Toy Maker

LOS ANGELES—Vaudeville

PEOPLE'S—Robert Emmet

FISHER'S—Improvident

EMPIRE—La Clef

UNIQUE—A Busy Night

WALKER'S—Vaudeville

SCHOOL BONDS

THE HERALD was the first newspaper of Los Angeles to call attention to the importance of education in national and municipal life.

We showed the percentage of illiteracy was constantly being increased in parts of the country which are devoted most conspicuously to manufacturing and mining.

We said California in order to keep at the head of the procession of states must give an example to the other states by providing facilities for the education of all the children.

When we first broached the subject we said that we should leave "child labor" without the slightest excuse.

We said the people of Los Angeles should make it impossible for any parent or employer to say: "There was no room for the boy at school, and he was surely better off at work than running the streets."

It is pleasing to know our esteemed neighbors have taken up or echoed our demand for more education, plenty of schools, plenty of teachers.

We are glad they have done so.

A reference to the newspaper files, however, will show conclusively which of the morning newspapers is entitled to the credit of having taken the lead in the cause of popular education in Los Angeles and the United States.

It is a long time since first we called attention to the overcrowded condition of some schools, and the lack of room in others; and now at last in proposed financial provision we see fruition of our early begun and long continued campaign for popular education.

We need more schools. Los Angeles MUST have more schools. Vote the school bonds.

PROFESSIONAL WORK

A VETERAN educator quoted by the Boston Transcript says "a crisis in our public school system is coming before long, and for this reason: Nobody stays in the public school service longer than to find some position with better assured future."

And yet, in the estimation of a great many other professional people, ministers for instance, or public writers, the future of the educator enlisted in the big regiment devoted to teaching school is paradisaical compared with future prospects of educators in many other underpaid professions.

As a matter of fact, the average professional remuneration has been decreasing steadily in proportion to the growth of industrial fortunes, for men engaged in floundering or mechanical enterprises sturdily and obstinately refuse to regard the educator as a factor in the community of at least equal importance with themselves.

Carnegie can build houses in which to store books. Therefore Carnegie is greater than any author! Rockefeller can give large sums of money to university equipment. Therefore Rockefeller is greater than any mere university person! And so on. And so on. Humph! We'll believe all that when we believe the water can grind without the mill-wheel.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all readers and friends of Los Angeles Herald. A happy New Year to everybody! Happiness is one of the rights of every American citizen. The founders of the republic declared that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of HAPPINESS." The chief peculiarity of Americanism was its solemn asseveration that happiness was essential to prosperity—that there could be no prosperity without happiness. A miserable rich man is not as successful as a happy poor man. The year upon which we are entering is one of the milestone years in the history of the United States.

A new president will take the oath of office. New brains will conduct the affairs of the great American republic. Citizens look forward to the change without any apprehension. Popular government is a government of changes. It is not good for a country to keep one party in power perpetually. But the danger to a republic which is controlled by a one-party government is in the United States lessened by the power of a free press. An outspoken minority can do a great deal of good and exercise a great deal of power in a country of free speech. All Americans look forward to the presidency of Mr. Taft with equanimity. All hope the New Year will be "happy" politically and governmentally. The Republican party is in office, but government in order to be American must be by the people, of the people and for the people, and the rights of the minority must be respected. Doubtless they will be respected in the Taft administration, and the country will enjoy prosperity and peace under a good-hearted, clear-headed, true blue American chief executive and cabinet of true blue American advisers.

Los Angeles and Southern California may look forward to uninterrupted prosperity and progress. This should be a banner year, a gala year, a grand year. Great activity may be expected in every department of industrialism, and building will go ahead more briskly than ever before. The greatness of San Pedro harbor is assured, and that assurance gives a larger horizon to Los Angeles. With our own safe, commodious harbor at our service, shipping interests will be encouraged.

A vast exporting and importing trade will be conducted in Southern California. Los Angeles will be the central receiving and distributing point, and San Pedro the seaport. Even before the completion of the Panama canal, the maritime interests of Los Angeles and San Pedro harbor will have attained prime importance; and when that new waterway is ready for shipping, San Pedro will become the greatest Pacific coast station for the bi-oceanic, Oriental, Australasian trade and commerce.

We believe this year, in response to the voice of the people, and in view of the inevitable competitive potency of water routes, the railroads will see that it is to their interest to retain and cultivate the friendship of Southern California shippers, to abandon the "high horse" attitude—which never accomplishes anything—and come to terms on the rates question. To say nothing of other considerations, business policy alone would suggest a reasonable and patriotic attitude on the part of railroad managers who have confessed their action has not been prompted by fear of loss, but by fear of diminution of profit. Viewed from any point, their policy has been not merely bad, but stupid, because they have taken the most direct and forceful method possible of calling the attention of the people of the United States to the fact that the greatest public utility of the nation is not only privately owned but operated with an eye rather to profit than to public service.

A little more Americanism, which implies consideration of the rights of others, and a constant recollection of the great truth that when each is for all, then all are for each, will be one of the conspicuous characteristics of the coming year, and will make it famous in history. And so The Herald, borrowing a timely rhyme from the nation which with more vim and vigor and strenuousness than any other celebrates the New Year, wishes right heartily—

A Good New Year to one and all! And many may ye see; And, during a' the years to come, Oh, HAPPY may ye be.

HEALTHY GAINS

LOS ANGELES bank clearings indicate healthy business conditions. Both November and December showed gain over corresponding months of last year. There has been steady approach to normal business conditions. Citizens of Los Angeles are to be congratulated on the great prosperity of this city and of this section of the United States, at a time when many other great cities in various sections of the country were complaining of business depression.

We believe the prosperity of Los Angeles is founded on actual conditions, and not on gambling conditions, and this accounts for the fact it is hard to disturb the equilibrium of this solid business metropolis.

Edward H. Osmun, consul general from the United States to Turkey, says: "This country has the greatest material resources of any on earth, yet we turn over four-fifths of our raw products to our foreign competitors to be manufactured into finished goods. Then, by reason of our small foreign trade in manufactured goods, when a panic comes along it comes with a greater severity than it otherwise would." Sure! That is one of the benevolent results of high tariff, sometimes miscalled "protection"—we presume on the principle of lucas a non lucendo.

In Portland, Ore., masked robbers stole a street car. Even the most vicious criminals occasionally show flashes of originality amounting almost to genius. It is a pity such ingenuity is not turned to better account.

May It Be the Happiest Year



LOS ANGELES

A THOUGHT FOR 1909

EARTHQUAKES in divers places impress on mankind the fact that after all the human race does not own the world, but merely lives in it—or on it. The great forces of nature are still beyond human regulation or control. Seismic disturbances mock man's puny efforts, and show how little real power he possesses, how unstable and uncertain is his hold on the planet which he is accustomed to call his own. In spite of scientific progress, the elements are still untamed, and natural laws are still enforced—or broken—without "let or hindrance" from the tiny being who calls himself the lord of creation. Since mankind is in constant peril from vast unknown or little known and absolutely uncontrollable powers, how amazingly foolish it is that the children of men should not cultivate the spirit of brotherliness, enter into a great peace pact, stop inventing destructive guns—the most terrible of which is a toy compared with nature's destructive forces—and devote every energy of which human brain and body are capable to improving social conditions. Selfishness is not only reprehensible, but stupid. A selfish man, who devotes his life to piling up money for himself without a thought of his brethren, is not merely avaricious. He is foolish, and in his folly exists an unmistakable menace to the general prosperity of the human race. It behooves men to be up and working for the "thousand years of peace," to aid, comfort and support each other in conquering the natural enemies of mankind, which constantly menace the race. How idiotic it is to keep up the practice of throat cutting and of hurling dynamite bombs and shells from one "hostile" army into the ranks of another, while still there lurk in the secret places of the earth powers of terror and of devastation which in a moment of time can hurl opposing armies—the "victor" and the "vanquished"—into an abyssal chaos, where they will lie in one red burial bled; their puny quarrels and their petty lives forgotten. Let mankind remember brotherliness, and devote the new year to a cultivation of those peaceful arts which bring enduring prosperity.

HARPER AND KERN

MAYOR HARPER and Chief Kern have invited public attention and scrutiny, and therefore should not be disappointed to find they are getting it. After all, the people of Los Angeles should have some authority in determining the fitness or unfitness of candidates for positions of the highest responsibility, and that the Municipal League and a large number of taxpayers should have protested against the appointment of Mr. Kern as a member of the board of public works should give pause to the mayor. The arrangement in which Messrs. Harper, Kern and others are concerned looks to those who have cut their wisdom teeth exactly like what is called by the blunt-spoken "frame up."

We do not think the people of Los Angeles are in a mood for submitting quietly to any "frame up." They are only beginning to have their say; and we should imagine a strongly developed human instinct which is said to be "the first law of nature" might move politicians to pause, counsel together and count the consequences before they proceed to insult public intelligence, and in the face of opposition, based upon good grounds, continue to carry out their little program—or "frame up."

TO THE NEW YEAR

WELL! What have you brought us? Again you are standing here; Open the book before us, Grimly mysterious seer; Tell us your message boldly, Be it for weal or woe; We are men to dare and strong to bear Whatever the page may show.

Do you come with a shout of conquest, Or an infantile, puling cry? The ring of an honest purpose, Or the whine of a weakling lie? Show us the record frankly, Say what you have to say; We weary of night and crave the light, However may dawn the day.

These years they have come so often And the story is ever the same; Cradled in clouds of glory, Buried in depths of shame; For the thoughts that shrank from action, And the hopes that were smothered in dread, Are the dull refrain of the soul in pain, Mourning its murdered dead.

Do you wear the red roses of struggle Or the languorous lilies of ease? Will you arm us anew for the battle Or tutor us tamely to please? Shall we skulk in the camp or mount the trail, Try for the heights or hug the plain? And if we fight shall we strike for right Or barter our swords for gain?

Perhaps you have no message; Perhaps you merely stand Cold, insensate, lifeless, Clay to the potter's hand; An empty room in the house of life, A thread in the loom of time, A pattern at will to be moulded ill Or fashioned to the sublime.

—WILLIAM C. OWEN.

Mr. Kern would not be satisfactory to the best interests of the city of Los Angeles. Citizens cannot endorse the appointment of an official whose influence would be detrimental to the prosperity and progress of Los Angeles. It was clearly the mayor's duty to consult representatives of the best business interests of the city before making an appointment. There are two main reasons why the appointment of Mr. Kern is undesirable. First, Mr. Kern is and has been closely connected and indeed identified with local politics, and his appointment will introduce into the board a partisan political element of the directly offensive type which civil service reformers and their allies fight and have been fighting relentlessly for years. Secondly, the mayor, by appointing Mr. Kern, would be putting into control of the most vital interests of the city a man whose record as city councilman is sufficient proof of his unfitness for an important position on the board of public works.

The appointment of Mr. Kern will discredit Mayor Harper's administration and will show a contempt for public opinion and public weal which will bring it into odium and send it into history deeply tarnished with disgrace.

Andrew Carnegie evidently regarded the tariff hearing as a huge joke. He entertained the ways and means committee with droll Scotch stories. Incidentally, he said "American steel doesn't need to be protected by a duty. Oh, if Jim Blaine could have heard him! The Herald has already commented on Mr. Carnegie's extraordinary change of attitude with regard to protection. Beyond reasonable doubt

it is, in effect, a "reductio ad absurdum" of the system of high tariff.

It is to be hoped the bill proposed by Attorney William Denman of San Francisco for the purpose of separating the judiciary from politics will become law. Between "party affiliation" and the judicial office there is a great gulf which has hitherto been bridged by politics. It is time to remove the bridge. There is no reason for making the election of judges of the courts a party matter. There are many reasons why such elections should be non-partisan.

Two big Marathon races will be run today: One from Los Angeles to Venice, under the auspices of the Los Angeles Athletic club; the other a professional race from Venice to Pasadena. Announcement of the amateur race has attracted much attention in all parts of the United States. We wish all the contestants good luck.

Shipments of citrus fruit are reported to be heavy. The distinguished and world-renowned Orange and Lemon families of California are to be congratulated on their thrifty progress and prosperity. In California, progress hand lemons to all the world, and all the world is glad to get our kind of lemons.

From various parts of the United States and Canada come accounts of blizzards which are said to be raging. There's "only one California," and in its bright, glorious, sunny lexicon there is no such word as "blizzard."

What Secretary Straus Says on the Unemployed Problem

THERE are always two kinds of unemployed," says Secretary Straus of the department of commerce and labor, "those who are too lazy and shiftless to work, which we need not take under consideration, and those who, without fault of their own, are unable to find work because of the depression or because the labor market is oversupplied." The majority of that nonsense is thought worthy of a cabinet position!

Why should we not take into consideration "those who are too lazy and shiftless to work"? It is at least worth while to know the condition that "class" whether its members are dependent or independent. For we know that some of those too lazy and shiftless to work do not suffer for lack of food, clothing and shelter. We know, on the contrary, that some of them have not only all the necessities but all the luxuries of life, says the San Francisco whether.

As to the oversupply of the labor market, Secretary Straus writes like unto one who has taken medals in the department of "economics" of an American university. We wonder if he is an advocate of the "open shop." Why should anyone advocate the open shop if oversupply of the labor market is a natural condition, a condition that cannot be abolished?

We can imagine the joy with which our Socialist friends will read Straus' profound argument against a department of labor, especially when he speaks of the duty of his department in discouraging commerce that is developed and expanded to the detriment of the health or the wage standard of the workers, and says:

"The head of a department who is charged with the administration of both of these interests would, in my judgment, be better qualified to direct commerce out of channels which lead to such serious consequences than if these interests were entrusted to separate administrations."

Of course, it has never occurred to Mr. Straus that if natural opportunities were free to workers, it would be impossible for commerce to get into the channels that lead to serious consequences to health. He says he refers to that class of industries that are "deleterious to health or in which the labor of women and children, because it is much cheaper, largely enters." Yet the very industries in which the labor of women and children is largely entered, "because it is much cheaper," are the highly protected industries.

Mr. Straus would have us believe that it is the duty of his department to discourage commerce out of those industries. Unfortunately, he does not give us a diagram or a working model of his idea. It is possible that we have misunderstood him; his English may be as obscure as his economics are foggy. But we wish he had explained how the commerce of the world kept off the rocks before Oscar S. Straus entered the cabinet.

We need, it seems, captains of industry to furnish an excuse for a department of commerce, and we need the energies of the captains of industry—"useless each without the other."

The Public Letter Box

TO CORRESPONDENTS—Letters intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The Herald gives the address of correspondents, but assumes no responsibility for their views. Letters must not exceed 300 words.

BIDS LETTER BOX A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31.—[Editor Herald:] Surely it is in order this morning to wish the Letter Box a most happy and prosperous new year; to hope that its sphere of influence may be constantly enlarged and to express the heartfelt wish that as it adds readers to its ranks it may strive more and more strenuously to lay before them well pondered matter worthy of their serious thought.

Surely it is a hopeful sign that in the midst of the sordid and ever-absorbing struggle for the necessities of life there are those who look beyond the moment and understand that only by the growth of intelligence and—which is unquestionably of far greater importance—by unflinchingly courageous adoption of the conclusions to which intelligence leads can the burden of humanity be lightened.

In the weighty phrase of John Stuart Mill, "the future of humanity will be gravely imperiled if great questions are left to be fought out between ignorant change and ignorant opposition to change." "The greatest of all vices is shallowness." That this is understood by at least one organ of public opinion in this city of Los Angeles is assuredly a happy augury for the coming year.

May the Letter Box shine with an ever brightening luster; that not for long shall we and our children have to say sadly with the poet: The days of the nations bear no trace Of all the glories so long foretold; The cannon speaks in the vulgar place; The age is hoary with work and gold, And high hopes wither and memories fade On faces and alters whose fires are dead. Let us remember that the singer concludes the verse with: But that brave faith hath not lived in vain And this is all that the watcher said.

NATURE DOES NOT ASK THE SACRIFICE OF EITHER SEX

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—[Editor Herald:] It has always seemed to me that if there is a set of creatures calling themselves men who think they possess a "nature" that demands the downfall of a certain number of the daughters of other people they should at least have the grace to go away to some quiet spot and remain there until death. You will notice that they are never willing to donate one of their own daughters or sisters to that cause, yet if it is their theory that some of the daughters and sisters must be fallen who should they be so selfish as to always say it must be the daughter or sister of some one else?

Whence comes the demand for fallen women? Whence comes the demand for the white slave trade? Any one who patronizes a fallen woman as much responsible for her "fallen" state as the one who started her on the downward path. How brave, manly and chivalrous is a man (and a woman) who says he has a "nature" which makes it necessary for a certain portion of his neighbors' daughters to live short lives of living death, be ostracized from society, shunned as "lost creatures," referred to as "lost souls," and finally, when they die, be buried with dishonor in a forgotten grave, goes so solemnly on his way, (presumably) sells straight into heaven!

If one of them tries to reform and lift up her head amongst respectable people, said manly, manly man says: "The idea of her presuming to associate with us decent people. I guess I know what she is."

It is all both about any such "nature." Everything in the universe is perfect, and no "nature" was ever intended which could be met only at the expense of another's nature. HELEN STANDISH.

DEEMS CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST SOCIALIST IMPOSSIBLE

ALHAMBRA, Dec. 25.—[Editor Herald:] A correspondent asks if there are any Christian Scientists in Los Angeles. I cannot conceive of it if he follows the teachings of the founder, Mrs. Dddy.

On page 183 of "Science and Health" (edition of 1906) Mrs. Eddy says: "The Scriptures inform us that sin or error first caused the condemnation of man to fill the ground, and indicate that obedience to God will remove this necessity."

This would indicate that she thinks work is a sin and a punishment, and that God will some day make it unnecessary for man to work. Socialists believe in the divinity of productive toil and the conservation of energy and matter, and that there is an equal chance to toil and to get the full product of that toil. Christian Science denies the existence of sin, disease and poverty. It holds that man and woman deny the existence of poverty. Socialists are a thinking people and are usually versed in things material. They hold that the means by which man earns his bread, and varies with longitude and latitude. They believe that bread winning is the first step in our salvation, and that other things will then be added accordingly. Christian Science says "Seek first the kingdom of heaven," and "Take no thought of the morrow." Socialism is understood; Christian Science must be believed. You can't understand it. No, friend; oil and water won't mix. DR. HUMANITAS.

THE ALARM CLOCK

BY SINCLAIR LEWIS
Merely what a dreadful shock!
I was sleeping sound;
The alarm clock, such a dreadful clock,
Buzzed and fussed around,
He growled as nice clocks never do,
"You're lazy, R-r-rob! Wake up!
Yes, you!"