

LOS ANGELES HERALD

ISSUED EVERY MORNING BY THE HERALD CO.

THOMAS E. GIBBON, President; FRANK E. WOLFE, Managing Editor; THOMAS J. GOLDING, Business Manager; DAVID G. BAILLIE, Associate Editor.

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Population of Los Angeles 327,685

CLEAR, CRISP AND CLEAN



AT THE THEATERS

AUDITORIUM—Dark. BELASCO—"Forty-five Minutes from Broadway." BURBANK—"The Man on the Box." EMPIRE—Musical extravaganza. GRAND—"By Right of Sword." LOS ANGELES—Vaudeville. MAJESTIC—Kob and Dill. MASON—Dark. OLYMPIC—Musical farce. ORPHEUM—Vaudeville. PRINCESS—Musical farce.

THE COST COUNTED

ANOTHER new battleship has been launched. It is not only the biggest and best ship in the American navy, but a credit to the naval construction of the United States. That the skill of American men should be able to build a battleship as big as a city block with a speed of 20 1/2 knots per hour, is a signal testimony to the brains, enterprise and wealth of the people of the United States.

The bread line is still waiting for a daily pittance in New York. In the bread line are always new faces. Every night there are new chums. Every night new citizens are driven by desperation to the ranks of the army of poverty and humiliation. Many of the men in the bread line are able-bodied, skilled workmen.

The great new warship is named the Florida. Its estimated cost is \$6,000,000. That is a good deal of money. Estimating the average yearly earnings of an American citizen at \$500 (a figure which is over rather than under the average—we believe the correct figure is about \$300) it would take the earnings of a working man during 12,000 continuous years of toll to pay for the Florida; or, if it would be too tedious to await one man's accumulation of such a stupendous Himalaya of wealth, it would take the total earnings of 12,000 men for one year to build the ship. And the government could afford to pay living wages to 12,000 of the unemployed for a year without spending a dollar more than has been disbursed for the warship.

There is a curious flaw in the argument of all civilized governments to devote the national wealth to the maintenance of armies and navies for the protection of impoverished citizens, dying of starvation and worry. Why wouldn't it be a good idea to provide the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of the people before spending millions of dollars on warships?

PEACEMAKER

THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S visit to Germany has been productive of much good, because with strenuous insistence he has ignored the existence of even a possibility of a clash between the British and the German empires, and, as the representative of all the English-speaking peoples, has been assured of the general goodwill of the Germans.

Prof. Brant, president of the German Shakespeare society, gave Col. Roosevelt a document creating him an honorary member of the society and making the statement the society constitutes "a close tie between Germany and the English-speaking world."

After that, jingoism, whether in London or Berlin, will have no excuse for howling for military appropriations.

HIDE AND SEEK

IN HIS article published in the North American Review entitled "Hide and Seek Politics," Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton university, gives an analytical review of the general national political situation and prospects, leading to the conclusion, familiar to readers of The Herald, that the time is ripe for a return to first principles, and that nothing less will satisfy men who are genuine lovers of their country and see naught patriotic or boastworthy in a state of affairs under which remarkable inequalities in prosperity have been developed.

Dr. Wilson finds modern political methods have interfered with popular or American government and have substituted an elaborate system of machinery for a simple system of choice of measures in accordance with the foundation doctrine of the greatest good for the greatest number.

He writes: "It is a very interesting and very vital thing to have come back to our original problem, to be obliged thus to become once more thoughtful partisans of GENUINE DEMOCRACY. THE ISSUE IS NOTHING LESS. What we need is a radical reform of our electoral system, and the proper reform will be a return to democracy. It is the high duty of every lover of political liberty to become a partisan of such a reform if once he becomes convinced of it. Another great era of American politics will have dawned when men seek once more the means to establish the rights of the people and forget parties and private interests to serve a nation."

Dr. Wilson finds publicity inseparable from good government. He characterizes as outrageous and detestable and dangerous the habit which some city councils and other public bodies have fallen into of shutting the door and excluding the public in the persons of newspaper reporters whenever it seemeth good in their own eyes.

Secret sessions are the chief causes of corruption, debauchery and betrayal of public trust. They give opportunity to the devil—may, they suggest opportunity to the go-between and agents of the interests which find it profitable to influence legislation by an argument addressed to the pocketbooks of weaklings.

At secret sessions, says Dr. Wilson (and he speaks for the American people) "the public is not present either in fact or in thought. Commitment is made into the habit of being reticent and silent about what occurred in the committee room, AND SOON FIND THEMSELVES UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT IS THEIR OWN PRIVATE AFFAIR, ANYWAY. The habit spreads to the deliberative bodies themselves. Boards of aldermen (in Los Angeles the city council) will often refuse to open their debates to reporters or to publish the names of those who voted aye or no in the division when the debate was ended. And so wherever we turn, we find the intimate business of government sealed up in confidences of every kind—CONFIDENCES AGAINST THEIR OWN AFFAIRS; confidences with regard to the way in which their interests are to be served and safeguarded. Public discussions are the mere formal dress parade of politics."

A general awakening to appreciation of the rights and privileges guaranteed by Americanism will end the "secret meeting" nonsense. A secret session of a public body is a paradoxical and preposterous proceeding.

REVOLUTIONARY RELICS

ONE of Washington's swords is the subject of litigation in Baltimore courts. A strange fate seems to dog the relics of the first president. Another of his swords—one which Lafayette presented to him—was part of the loot of the John Brown raiders when they stormed and sacked the house and released the slaves of Col. Lewis Washington, whose testimony at the subsequent investigation was in some measure responsible for the conviction and death sentence of poor old Brown.

All the revolutionary relics should be gathered in one safe, central national depository. There are many such relics in the possession of private families or individuals in Los Angeles. What is probably the most complete and valuable collection of pre-revolutionary and revolutionary letters in existence is in this city in private ownership.

Unless better care is taken of the revolutionary letters and relics scattered throughout the United States, the course of time they are certain to be lost or destroyed. For instance, the Los Angeles collection is only a small remnant of a big trunkful of documents, most of which were burned by an indifferent and contemptuous house cleaner, who regarded them as rubbish.

SAN BERNARDINO

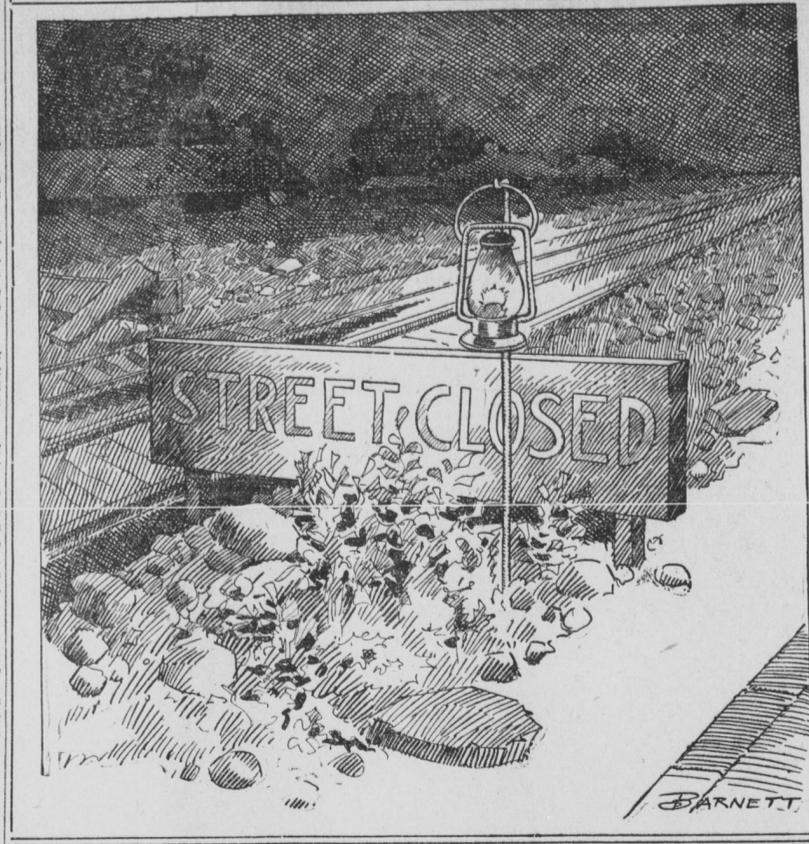
SAN BERNARDINO Centennial celebration is a big success, and its climax of glory and triumph will come today, which is Los Angeles day. On Los Angeles day Greater Los Angeles will help San Bernardino to celebrate in the Los Angeles way. A patriotic or commemorative celebration in any community of this great state is worthy of the heartiest support and encouragement of all the other communities.

In the success of a celebration like that at San Bernardino all California has a vital interest, for the history of San Bernardino is Californian history, and is typically illustrative of the most sweeping and impressive social change of modern times—the change from sleepy, delightful California of the padres to the wide-awake and still delightful (more delightful than ever) California of the progressivists. Good luck to San Bernardino, and may it celebrate many centennials.

Any person caught chopping up or otherwise maitreating the name of San Bernardino during the centennial celebration will forfeit his reputation among the citizens of the busy and successful centennial celebrant to which we send good luck wishes.

When we read of the commitment of an old school teacher to an institution where he will have to associate with feeble-minded paupers the necessity for an old age pension plan becomes overwhelmingly apparent.

Railway Method of Paving Streets



F. J. WHIFFEN

State Press Echoes

THE good citizens of Los Angeles who value decent government higher than municipal politics, will find additional reason for confidence in and gratitude to the good government organization in the character of the candidates whom that organization has induced to offer themselves to fill two vacancies now in the city council. One of these candidates, Mr. F. J. Whiffen, for whose candidacy the good government influence are responsible, represents in his successful business career in Los Angeles, and in his character as a citizen devoted heart and soul to the welfare of the community in which he lives, the right kind of material with which municipal offices should be filled.

Mr. Whiffen has achieved a sufficient success in business to demonstrate that he is a man to whom the business affairs of the city may be safely entrusted, with the full confidence that they will be cared for in a most businesslike and efficient manner. Having succeeded in acquiring a competency which makes it unnecessary for him to devote all of his time to his private business, he is in a position, if elected, to give to the fullest extent the time required for discharging his duties to the city. He has also for years past devoted sufficient of his time, ability and money to the cause of good government in the city to demonstrate his loyalty to that cause, and to show his fellow citizens that they may expect at his hands, if elected, the same sort of government for which he has used his personal influence, his intelligence and his means as a citizen in the past.

With Mr. Whiffen a member of the council the rule adopted by our citizens at the last election of placing only men of character and ability in that body will remain unbroken.

According to the year book of the department of agriculture it will become more and more difficult to effect successful "corners" in wheat. Many citizens find it profitable to follow farming as a profession and occupation and the cry "Back to the land" means more than it ever meant. Scientific farming is increasing the productivity of the soil and scientific farmers will keep up the food supply.

Young Women's Christian association this week will bring the year's educational work to a close with an exhibition and a special program of great interest. The Young Women's Christian association is one of the most practically useful of the helpful organizations for which Greater Los Angeles is famous.

Good luck to San Bernardino in its centennial celebration. The historical interests of San Bernardino are in great measure those of Southern California. Los Angeles will do all in its power to make the San Bernardino celebration a success in the Los Angeles way.

Governor Hughes has consented to adopt the same view of life as that held by Mr. Carnegie—that there are things better than money. Mr. Hughes, however, will put the matter to a more practical test than Mr. Carnegie has yet managed to secure.—Washington Star.

The absent-minded professor—My tailor has put one button too many on my vest. I must cut it off. That's funny; now there's a buttonhole too many. What's the use of arithmetic?—Paris (France) Sourire.

ATMOSPHERIC EFFECT. Plans for insurance graft were made at meetings held in Sing Sing prison. Nothing like getting the proper atmosphere.—Wall Street Journal.

Public Letter Box

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

WOMEN WILL AID REFORM IF GIVEN THE BALLOT

LOS ANGELES, May 17.—[Editor Herald:] A few days ago some questions were submitted in your columns on woman's suffrage, which no one seems to have answered. The first states woman are more conservative than men, use the heart more than the head, love and affection more than intellect and reason as men do, and asks if their interference in politics would not tend to stagnation instead of progress.

ON THE DUMP

The Targart machine in Indiana is, to use its operator's own language, "on the dump." It will be the gladdest, happiest funeral ever held in the middle west.—Humboldt Standard.

ACIDIFIED MILK

Secretary Ballinger has been a very ill humored witness in his own behalf. His milk of human kindness may have been acidified by his white house whitewash.—Oakland Enquirer.

RACY POST CARDS

The local postoffice officials have received orders from Washington cautioning them to exercise the utmost care in admitting racy post cards to the mails.—Madera Tribune.

Far and Wide

Among the stars which now prevail, Unless it wears its rich, Vast sweep of light we call a tail, We don't know which is which.

COMET POETRY

LOS ANGELES, May 18.—[Editor Herald:] In yesterday's Herald, on the first page, was the article on the "vagabond" of the land which may give a wrong impression as to the settlement of the land and the settlers' wrongs. By looking up the files of the daily paper you will find that the settlers all fled to the mesa to save themselves and live stock, and the owners of the Fiftyth ranch worked day and night to protect their lives, and their ditches were all washed level by the high water. In fact, at the town of Rancho the water stood up to the foundation of Hotel Rancho, which was deserted by all.

State Press Echoes

SANE FOURTH. The supervisors are still inclined to coquet with the idea of removing the same useful prohibition of fireworks on the Fourth of July.

TYPOGRAPHICAL BOGIE. A typographical error, the bogie of the newspaper office, in a heading in Thursday's Searchlight gave wrong the date of the Presbyterian concert, but as the date given has passed it is not likely that there was any misunderstanding, as the text of the story was correct. The positive date of the concert is Wednesday, May 18.—Redding Searchlight.

THE INSANE FOURTH. "The bloody, brutal, foolish Fourth," as one exchange terms it; the silly, senseless, ear-splitting Fourth, is now being attacked hip and thigh by the newspaper writers. Some declare the celebration which depends for its success on the noise produced is idiotic.—Humboldt Standard.

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Perhaps Comet Will Cause New Thought Leading to Parcels

(San Jose Mercury.) "LIFE" says: "When John Wanamaker was postmaster general he explained why we could not have a parcels post. 'There are four insuperable obstacles,' he said, when asked why we could not have what England and Germany have. The first is the Adams Express company, the second is the American Express company, the third is the Wells-Fargo Express company and the fourth is the carrying of parcels, thereby really doing something for the general welfare of the public. When shining examples of welfare in their affairs in other nations are pointed to, the claimer is made that 'conditions are different in this country.' They are different only in so far as we choose to make them different. That they are better in the difference is not always apparent—notably in the incongruity of the reasoning that it is a good thing for the government to carry letters for the people at nominal cost and a bad thing to carry parcels for the same people in the same way. Consistency, however, takes no part of prominence in the legislative mind. In America, our self-sufficiency forbids our profiting by the present, example or experience of nations, which have lived longer and suffered more. Like the unruly child, we prefer to tinker and experiment with each new bubble that blows from the wind-bag of our gaseous, dominant, lawmaking organizations. Perhaps the sweep of the comet's tail will usher in a few days of fulfillment in G. Wells' imaginative prediction and infuse into our inconsistent and stormy brains some really 'new thought' that will sober us into the sensibility that a possible and practicable millennium. Then congress may cease to be for want of business, and, among other delights of common sense, we will have a parcels post."

Creamery Butter Combine Illustrates Trust Methods of Raising the Prices

(San Jose Herald) A TRANSCRIPT of the testimony of the president of the Elgin, Ill., board of trade before the Lodge food committee might be placed in the hands of the proper federal authorities as a basis for an investigation into the law against conspiracy in raising prices. The creamery butter combine, if we accept the frank admissions of President John Newman as to its mode of operation, is about the most oppressive combination in restraint of trade yet brought to light by any of the agencies employed to fathom the cause of the high cost of living. There are no creameries at Elgin, yet what is known as the quotation board, comprised of five members of the board of trade, arbitrarily fixes the price of creamery butter for producers of that article as far away as Iowa, and practically for consumers everywhere. We say "practically," because if a butter dealer should cut the prices fixed by the little coterie of all powerfuls at Elgin he would be expelled from the organization of farmers, creamery men and sellers, who, President Newman admits, control the market. The expelled dealer can buy no more creamery butter. Is this not equivalent to naming the price the consumer pays? If this is not a plain case of conspiracy, what is? It is a conspiracy to commit an offense of that nature sufficiently oppressive to be actionable. The butter combine would seem to be on all fours with the case of highly specialized goods who fix the price at which the jobber must sell to the retailer and what the latter shall charge the ultimate consumer. A system of penalties ranging from fine to a boycotting process is enforced against those who rebel against these exactions. Last winter New York jobbers who had no objection to this sort of discipline, lodged complaints with the district attorney, who warned the offending manufacturers that they were violating the law and that if they did not cease they would be proceeded against. Why should not steps be taken to determine the legal status of the Elgin creamery combine?

Is Manufacture of Millionaires of Real Benefit to the Human Race?

(Danville Commercial-News.) IS THE making of millionaires a benefit to the human race? Andrew Carnegie seems to think so. Speaking to the National Press club at Washington he boasted of having made forty-two millionaires in Pittsburgh. He even advised newspaper men that only chance prevented him from going into his business, in which case he might have made millionaires of all of them. This is unlikely, because the business does not lend itself to that exploitation of monopoly which is Mr. Carnegie's method of making millionaires. It is more than likely that a man of so little imagination and sense of humor would have remained poor himself in the newspaper business. To return to the initial question, the millionaire per se is rather a poor creature. Mr. Carnegie himself is many of the Pittsburgh blacksmiths he made millionaires are disgusting. Yet money is a vast power for good, and rich men have been blessings to society from the beginning; most a blessing indeed when they sought their own selfish ends by means not degrading to the moral sense or corrupting to the reason. The value of the millionaire when made depends upon the method of the manufacture. The best product is that which is longest in making. The millionaire machine made while you wait smells of the shop and is sticky to cultivated tastes, like fresh paint. It is because of this that things, you cannot rob and remain a pleasant person. The forty-odd millionaires Mr. Carnegie made out of his iron-mongers in Pittsburgh by admitting them to share in the loot of his monopoly, have made it stink like an exploded cess pool, because they had no conception of money and lusts, and no appreciation of a higher right to the enjoyment of any good from a dinner to a life than that conferred by its possession.

Rockefeller's Bible Class Members Stung by Reason of the High Prices

(New York Herald) JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., was re-elected vice-president of the Young Men's Bible class of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church yesterday evening, receiving seventy-six votes, and his opponent, M. A. Nicholas, eleven votes. George F. Tafel was re-elected president, receiving seventy votes, and his opponent, A. C. Thomas, sixty-eight votes. The occasion was a class dinner, the price of which was 60 cents. The charge heretofore had been 50 cents a plate, but owing to the prevailing high prices, 10 cents was added. The menu follows: Clams, Rice Soup, Mashed Potatoes, Beans, Peas, Apparatous, Fruit Salad, Lettuce, Strawberry Shortcake, Cheese, Crackers, Coffee.

Buffalo Health Commissioner Condemns Kissing as Menace to National Health

(Fresno Herald) DR. FRANCIS E. FRONZAK, health commissioner of Buffalo, has turned his scientific batteries on the noxious habit of kissing, and delivered a lecture recently in his home town which should have made every hearer vow never to kiss again. Nothing, however, is recorded as to the impressions the learned man made on his audience; though if any faith is to be pinned in what he says, one-half the ills to which human flesh is heir result from the awful practice of kissing on the lips. There is then only one thing to do, if any one wishes the practice of kissing on the lips to survive, and that is to be careful as to who one kisses. It would be as well for parties indulging in this pleasant exercise to go about provided with a health certificate, proving that his or her lungs are not the homes of countless microbes.

Los Angeles Way of Eliminating Loan Shark from Pay Roll Commended

(Sacramento Bee) LOS ANGELES has begun a practice in regard to her street laborers that is an economy for all concerned. No hardship falls on anybody, nobody loses his job, and the work goes on uninterrupted. The only loser is the loan shark already fat with usurious profits. All that is gained by the simple device of paying the men directly out of the city treasury instead of by warrant. A weekly evening pay line, it is called. On Saturday nights the men call and collect their wages in cash, and that is the end of it.