

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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Population of Los Angeles.....319,198

No man may do that which, if all should do, would destroy society. —Kant.

DISCOVERIES ON PEARY'S TRAIL

PEARY'S blazing of the American route to the north pole is bringing forth many new wonders in the way of discovery. Others have followed in his wake and with the trail landmarks to guide them have been searching the wide spaces of the north during the last year. In the northland of Canada Ernest Thompson Seton tells of following the caribou over the arctic plains. He estimates the caribou in that country at anywhere from 30,000,000 to 60,000,000 head, and instead of barrenness he found a rich covering of grass.

THE STATUS OF LORIMER

THAT Senator Lorimer proposes to retain his seat in the highest legislative body of the nation awakes a feeling of regret in every right thinking citizen. Confessions of bribe-takers prove that there was bribery in his election, and the contention that not enough men are proved to have been bribed to have affected the result is one that does not appeal to the public conscience. It is likely to lower the respect the public always has had for the honor of the senate. At least it does not show that the new senator from Illinois has the delicate sense of right that the nation expects in members of that august body. He could at least have resigned and gone back to the legislature for a vindication.

The spectacle also has its influence abroad, judging from comment there and a comparison with the fact that the English house of commons disqualified a man because he used more automobiles in his canvass than appeared proper and thus fell under the ban of the corrupt practices act.

Yet the American senate has accepted a man in the face of proof that there was bribery, even though it may have been done by friends. Was not the landslide of last November enough to show that the people demand cleaner legislators?

Furthermore it can be said for the Democrats that in the states they won they are fixing rigid restrictions for senatorial timber and are insisting that the best men possible be chosen in Ohio, New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts.

FIX THE CANAL TOLLS NOW

SENATOR FLINT and the authorities at Washington are to be congratulated for their agreement to get right down to work on fixing the rate of tolls that is to be charged for passage through the Panama canal. The recent cabinet meeting urging this action will help, but it is up to congress to see that there are no needless delays. This is a big subject involving the future prosperity of the entire nation, and the factions in our national legislature should lay aside differences of opinion on other subjects when it comes to formulate the rules and regulations for the enlargement of commercial relations between both coasts of our nation and with the entire world.

The schedule of tolls should be made and established by act of congress at once so that there shall be no delay in the accomplishing of the good we all believe is to come from the Panama canal. Every line of business has the right to know at the earliest possible moment what these rates are to be and whether they will discriminate against foreign vessels in favor of ships of American register so that each businessman will have the fullest opportunity to adjust his affairs to meet new conditions. The shipbuilders and those who may contemplate extending the scope of their operations have a right to know, so that if new ships are to be built they can have the opportunity of starting them now.

Every detail of the canal affairs ought to be decided upon now so that the commerce of the world can be waiting on the high seas for the opening signal instead of having to wait indefinitely to find out whether a cargo can be carried at a profit. The matter is one of the greatest moment to Los Angeles as the first great port of entry north of the canal on the Pacific coast.

The matter of distance, tonnage and cargo will, of course, enter into the matter of fixing the rates, but the great question on which there is likely to be a contest is whether American ships should enjoy a lower rate than foreign vessels. Many enthusiasts are likely to claim that a differential in favor of American ships would put life into that ancient corpse known as the American merchant marine, but the coastwise act has been on the statute books since 1817 and it never accomplished any result other than to put a burden upon commerce and enable the railroads to throttle water competition. On the other hand discrimination against foreign ships would mean the addition of the extra toll to the tariff already demanded on whatever goods compose the cargo, and the consumer would have to pay the extra cost. There probably are plenty of arguments the other way. It is over this feature the big battle is likely to be waged, and it may become more bitter than the question of whether the canal should be fortified.

Rene Simon, the French aviator, has set a new world mark at New Orleans by going a mile in 57 seconds. It is up to the Los Angeles birdmen to beat it.

CALIFORNIA OIL FOR THE NAVY

THE announcement of recommendations by the general naval board of the United States that the next dreadnaughts built by the government should be oil burners gives an impetus to California oil producers that ought to guarantee prosperity for the greatest industry of California and insure correspondingly higher prices for petroleum in the near future.

The recommendations also urge that oil carrying vessels be constructed to accompany the warships, and a general recommendation is made that the entire navy should ultimately use oil fuel as it will make our ships independent of home bases. This will make the fighting range of ships and remain indefinitely. Coaling at sea from colliers always has been dangerous, and in rough weather absolutely impracticable. Oil fuel can be pumped from ship to ship while steaming at an average speed and in all kinds of sea conditions.

The navy has had experts on the coast for months studying the situation, and the proposition they made almost a year ago was that the government would not install oil burners in the Pacific unless California could show an average of 12,000,000 barrels of oil annually in storage. That was before the days of the Lakeview gusher and all the big field it opened up. Figures for the last eleven months show more than 11,000,000 barrels of surplus oil in storage for this year to say nothing of the millions that have been in storage previous to that time.

The government's requirement of 12,000,000 in storage is taken to indicate in a measure what the demands of the navy are likely to be in California, which would indicate that the oil fuel decision of the navy will remove practically all of the menace of the oil in storage from the market. Some enthusiasts predict dollar oil for the heavier grades with like advances on the high gravity product of the Ventura and several other fields.

The English navy also has been considering the use of oil fuel, and the move of the United States is sure to force her to the same line of action if she is to maintain supremacy of the seas. It is expected to effect a great saving, as it eliminates the cost of bringing the navy fuel to the coasts and cuts out the cost of stoking. It also will mean the abandonment of expensive coaling stations.

The nation need have no fear of California not being able to supply the fleets in the Pacific. Only a comparatively small portion of our oil territory has been developed yet, the actual figures of production for the first eleven months of the year showing 69,954,520 barrels, and the December production will run the total to about 76,000,000. This is an increase of more than 18,000,000 over the production of 1909.

AMERICAN BANQUETS MENACED

CAN it be possible that personal animosities are to put an end to the public banquet feature of American life? The recent trend of affairs seems to be in that direction. The loss of the American banquet probably would not be so bad after all. It at least would stop the excuse for a great many tiresome speeches and perhaps lessen the percentage of the "day after" grouches.

It is the cause which threatens the passing of the banquet that worries us and the fear that the day may come when it will be impossible to find enough men of prominence who will break bread together to make the feast rise to the dignity of being "notable."

Just a short time ago Judge Baldwin refused to sit at a dinner in New Haven with Theodore Roosevelt because the colonial unearthed and published the judge's decision in the Hoxey case. According to one of the judge's spokesmen he "would not submit to a renewal of the insult," which, by the way, was only the quotation of the judge's decision as he had handed it down from the bench.

Apparently former Attorney General Bonaparte of Baltimore, who was a member of Roosevelt's cabinet, is furnishing the first part of the sequel by giving the excuse of "a previous engagement" the other day when asked to sit at a banquet with Judge Baldwin. Suppose this practice spreads to all of Judge Baldwin's friends and all of Colonel Roosevelt's friends. It is just as likely to spread to the Ballinger and Pinchot partisans and may even attack the hosts of Cannon and Cummins. On the whole, we fear for the future of the American banquet, but if they won't break bread together it may be possible that there still will be gatherings of the great and the nearly great where the food question will be solved by each guest bringing his own sandwich with him in his coat tail pocket.

The United States legal department announces it is dropping civil suits against the beef trust so as to prosecute its members criminally. Abolishing the tariff on meat also would help some and give quicker relief than threats of prison bars.

Secretary of the Navy Meyer, who is an attorney, has just told Maxim that he does not know anything about explosives but that is not likely to stop the nations of the world from still using Maxim guns.

The wife of an Angeleno millionaire demands a divorce because her husband would not let her play the piano, which proves at least that her brand of music had lost its power to charm.

Taft's friends announce that he will run for the presidency again, but it is a little early to predict who will be chauffeur of the steam roller in the next Republican national convention.

According to Congressman Longworth's bill the proposed tariff commission is to be a sort of Father Confessor and only tell the country what is "good" for it to know.

Reapportionment under the new census will add thirty-seven new members to the next congress. Won't that put a heavy strain on the presses of the Congressional Record?

The Santa Barbara divorcee who could borrow \$8000 from her prospective mother-in-law surely is entitled to a place in the front rank of high finance.

One of the disquieting features of the aviation records is that it is impossible to make them on the level.

The Willing Bather



Attorneys for some of the bath tub trust magnates who had been indicted have advised their clients to plead guilty in the hope of escaping a jail sentence, being let off with a fine—News Item

THE HERALD'S PUBLIC LETTER BOX

DEATH AS A FRIEND

Editor Herald: One of the greatest of errors today among our churches or should rather say among many strange sects, is the one that there is no death, in spite of the statement in holy writ that "the last enemy that shall be destroyed is death."

AN OUTRAGE, IF TRUE

Editor Herald: I will try to state a case of peculiar hardship to an old soldier and his family, consisting of a wife and daughter, living on South Pedra street, this city, as briefly as I can. Some days ago this old veteran of 83 years fell on the stairway of the G. A. R. hall of the post to which he belongs and broke a thigh bone. He was taken to the receiving hospital, from which he was sent home next morning without being informed that his thigh bone was actually broken, and he and his family did not know until several days afterward, when he was examined by a surgeon. In the meantime the ends of the broken bone had slipped past each other some inches so that now the fracture is past remedy. Another cause of woe is that the only son and chief support of the family died recently, leaving the daughter an invalid herself, as only wage-earner. O. P. WHARTON.

ME AND ANDY AND JOHN

Editor Herald: I would like to have you print the following. Author W. D. Nesbit. GEO. W. H. Los Angeles, Cal.

FAITH AND WORLD ACTIVITY

Editor Herald: There are many minds that cannot accept for truth only what can be made manifest to the natural senses. Such minds, even in spiritual truths, must be able to see and feel. Like "Thomas," they are doubters and are in no wise to be harshly judged, but are less condemned for honestly doubting many of the dogmas of the churches. Yet after all, if we actually know by the natural sense all concerning the future life, we would need no faith; consequently no hope, for there would be nothing to hope for; and there would be no need of patience—that very excellent virtue, and probably the most difficult to come by. We are forced to the conclusion that "The law of God—in requiring the just to live by faith—is perfecting the soul." That is, purifying the soul by obedience to the very virtues called into action by the act of faith. The righteousness of God is revealed from faith to every true believer. Men of science may and will wrestle and wrangle until doomsday, but will have no proof of immortality until this scripture be fulfilled: "And thou shalt appear the sign of the Son of Man, and in heaven shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds (unbelief) of heaven (spiritual heaven) with power and great glory." The words of Jesus to Thomas the doubter will then have force. "Blessed are they that have not seen, yet have believed." Los Angeles, Cal. STUDENT.

LIFE AFTER DEATH

Editor Herald: Does it not seem reasonable to believe that "something" cannot come from nothing? Then the names and forms of this material world must evolve from something. Yet some persons with names and forms claim to have evolved into nothing and again evolved into something (name and form) in order to tell us that there is nothing or no life after death, which amounts to the same. If a person has had a dream, is it reasonable to expect from him or her to show the experience to another? Or the spiritual body through favorable condition has had a chance to leave the physical body, looked upon this material form, re-entered this physical form and the person, after regaining consciousness, is required to show his experience to another person as proof. Is it not reasonable to believe that the question of "life after death" has been answered to that one in the affirmative within? In this case, where would the "Spectator" suppose the "ego" to be—in the apparently dead body or in the spiritual form, doing the act of looking on the physical form? The individual who has his senses and mind in normal condition but under perfect control is wireless, including his physical body; to nature an ego does not exist in reality, but unconditioned is always conscious of being incomparably happy through every and all of the multifarious acts of nature—all aware of the absolute within all—the background of all. Does it not seem reasonable to believe that to such an one the question of immortality has been answered in the affirmative within? NAMELESS-FORMLESS. Los Angeles, Cal.

ANSWER TO PURITAS

Editor Herald: Granting the superficial truth of the views of the satirist who signs himself Puritas, in the Herald forum of December 25, I respectfully submit the appended lines for consideration by that avowed gentleman:

I thought of one who lives in Galilee, And loved the common, stupid, troubled throng; Not judged his garment sullied if it be, But brushed by one of them who slouched along.

I dwell on many wars that history knows, And found some honored names that live today— Also some stinking mobs who dealt the blows For which men to these names deep homage pay.

I thought of one, close in our country's past, A peasant all up from the bottom rung, Who did not deem his grandeur overcast, Each time he clasped a hand that smelled of dung.

I thought of Burns, the brilliant, brawling Scot, Who, 'mid the reeking odors of a "Pub" Could write "The Cotter" and "For a' o' Thae"; Not in the confines of a cultured club! A. F. GANNON. Los Angeles, Cal.

ANOTHER LETTER ON EGO

Editor Herald: I must say I like the Spectator's attitude. He seems to be seeking for truth—and not merely "arguing," like most of your letter writers. This letter is for him, and any others who may be interested. Spectator asks: "Does the ego persist?" He seems to identify the ego with the body or the mind. Let us clear up this idea at the start—for the ego is neither of these—they are merely being merely the instrument that the ego uses. This, also, can be readily seen—a man can change his mind—and there must be that behind the mind which changes it. Man can expand his mind to a greater or less degree, depending upon how well it is trained. We can even imagine him expanding his mind to infinity, and the ego would be behind all the time, giving the impulse to expansion.

The question arises, if the ego is not the body nor the mind, what is it? Let us call it the "perceiver." It is the power for perception. As it has been written, "The soul is vision itself, and looks directly upon ideas." The ego is the real ego, which has neither being, nor ending, whether working in physical bodies or not. It is that which incarnates and reincarnates. Its existence cannot be proved objectively, that is certain. But it can be known to everyone. Each man can know his ego for himself, but he cannot prove its existence to another.

Men have existed in all ages who have this knowledge. We find it in all the bibles, and taught by all great teachers. Charts are given by which this knowledge may be known—and invariably the teachers give directions, in language more or less veiled, by which a man can come at the truth. The knowledge is never sold, but given freely.

Now if the Spectator is really in earnest—and I think he is—I will gladly tell him what little I know, which will not take long, and refer him to teachings that will tell him very much more. H. W. CLOUGH. Los Angeles, Cal.

A HEARTY LAUGH

Being the day's best joke from the news—chances

Little George asked permission to say grace and permission was accorded. "We thank thee, Lord," he began, "we thank thee, Lord, for this food—we thank thee, Lord—we—" "Go on," said his father, encouragingly, "you're doing fine." "Yes, I know, father," said the little fellow, "but I can't wind the darned thing up."

WITH THE PLAYERS

"United States Minister Bedloe," George Ade's latest play, was produced in Trenton Monday evening and will go into Chicago for a run at the Blackstone theater, opening January 2.

Laura Nelson Hall, who was leading woman of the Burbank stock company several years ago, has been selected by Henry W. Savage to create the name role in the "modern morality play" of "Everywoman."

H. S. Sheldon's new play, "The Haven," was presented by Henry Miller in Washington, D. C., last week and is said to have won success. The cast numbers only four persons, Mr. Miller, Francis Byrne, Daniel Pennell and Laura Hope Crews.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell has failed dimly in her efforts to make New York accept Henri Battaille's "The Foolish Virgin." The play has been rejected because of its unpleasant presentation of a sex problem. "The Scandal," another of Battaille's plays which Kyrle Bellew is using, also is accounted a failure and for pretty much the same reason.

Margaret Anglin will make her appearance as a comedienne next Monday evening when she will present for its first performance "Green Stockings," a comedy by A. E. W. Mason, the English novelist. The piece has been retouched by Miss Constance Fletcher, who uses the pen name of "George Fleming." The play discloses how its heroine, threatened with life-long spinsterhood, achieves matrimony. Heretofore Miss Anglin has won fame exclusively in emotional roles.

The "first annual dinner" of the board of founders of the New theater brought together a distinguished if somewhat incongruous assemblage in New York last week. Among those present were Abraham L. Erlanger, Harrison Grey Fiske and Leo Shubert; the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott and Paul M. Potter, who wrote "The Queen of the Moulin Rouge"; Norman Haggood and Daniel Guggenheim, James S. Metcalfe and J. Pierpont Morgan, William Dean Howells and George M. Cohan, with many others.

REFORMATORY METHOD

Dr. Amos W. Butler, president of the American Prison association, makes this plea for reformatory treatment for prisoners:

"The fruit of the prison is in the men and women it turns out. Is the fruit good or bad? How many can be returned to self-supporting, law-abiding life? A prison or reformatory may be clean, well organized, well administered and show well, yet it may do little in preparing its inmates to keep out of prison hereafter. That is the fruit of such an institution. Fruit is what we want."

"Why should we help the discharged prisoner? Not because he is a criminal and has been a prisoner, but because he is a man and needs help. That is the unselfish reason. Proper after care of the discharged prisoner is right for the protection of society. That is the selfish reason."

"In some of our states where statistics have been kept they show that from 75 to 80 per cent of the prisoners had no trade when convicted. How is it when they are released? If in the prison they are taught industry, self-control, sobriety and acquisitiveness, there is some hope for our efforts."

"While the men and women who are discharged from our prisons should be aided, what is done for them should be to help them to help themselves. As a rule, they should be helped by giving them work. Employment and personal friendship are the things most needed. Valuable hints may be had from charity organization society methods. Their motto, 'Not alms, but a friend,' is one fitting for this work."

The Prison Reform league of Los Angeles has published much valuable data favoring the transformation of prisons into adult reformatories. The league expects to favor measures at the coming legislative session which will fully cover the entire subject. Col. G. J. Griffith expects to appear before the respective committees at Sacramento next month in the interest of this work.

THE VASE

From the madding crowd they stand apart, The maidens four and the Work of Art. And none might tell, from sight alone, In which had culture ripen grown. The Gotham million, fair to see, The Philadelphia pedigree. The Boston mind of azure hue, Or the soulful soul from Kalamazoo;

For they all loved Art in a seemly way, With an earnest soul and a capital A. Long they worshipped, but no one broke The sacred stillness, until one spoke—

The western one from the nameless place, Who, blushing, said: "What a lovely vase! Over three faces a sad smile flew, And they edged away from Kalamazoo.

But Gotham's haughty soul was stirred To crush the stranger with one small word. Doffing hiding reproof in praise, She cried: "Tis indeed a lovely vase!" But brief her unworthy triumph when The lofty one from the home of Penn, With the consciousness of two grandpapas, Exclaims: "It is quite a lovely vase!"

And glances around with an anxious thrill Awaiting the word from Beacon Hill. But the Boston maid smiles courteous, And gently murmurs: "Oh, pardon me, I did not catch your remark, because I was so entranced with the charming vase!" JAMES JEFFREY ROCHE.