INDORSE EQUAL RIGHTS.

Ministers Declare Woman's Day of Power Is Nigh at Hand.

A TALK ON THE CONGRESS.

Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper Pays High Tributes to Her Late Colleagues.

There were almost as many ladies as pastors at the Congregational Monday Club meeting yesterday afternoon to hear Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper speak on "Reminiscences of the Woman's Congress. Mrs. Cooper said:

The Woman's Congress of the Pacific Coast for 1895 will never be forgotten. It has become a part of the unique history of this Western world. As in the woman's branch of the World's Congress, so also here during the weeks past, each participant has been moved by the desire to assist in properly focusing the last and best thought developed, not only in regard to the home, but also in regard to the various outlying departments of the world's work, in which women take a brave and heroic part. All have brought their votive offerings to assist in building up the fair temple of "The Home." And it may just as truly be said of this late congress as it was said of the World's Congress, the influence emanating from these great overflowing meetings from day to day—the influence for good—can never be estimated, for the words spoken and spread broadcast through the medium of the press will be felt far and wide; their influence will never die.

These words express, not only the actual conditions and potent forces which are working for good to-day, but also the influences that lie just back of them, which will make possible a better and happier to-morrow. Such meetings are a great inspiration to all the women workers who have had the privilege of attending them. Hundreds and thousands who have not been privileged to attend will also feel the influence from those who have caught the spirit that pervaded the meetings, and will, in turn, convey it to those whom they meet on their return to their several homes. And I trust and pray that the womanhood of the coast and of the world will indeed arise to the greatness of the responsibility and the opportunity which opens before her.

This congress was born in the Women's Press Association of the Pacific Coast. The great World's Congress gave the hint as to what might be done on a smaller scale. The history of the movement dates back to August, 1893, when the Pacific Coast Women's Press Association (of which I am proud to say I am a charter member), foreseeing the opportunity for discussion of the great questions of the day, took the initiative steps toward the inauguration of auxiliary congresses. Preliminary meetings were held at the Hotel Renton in this City, and were attended by representatives of twenty-two women's organizations of San Francisco and of adjacent towns.

The idea of congresses met with enthusiastic approval, and the result of these meetings was the appointment of a board of congresses to arrange for a Woman's Congress and to suggest general congresses. The board of managers of the Woman's Congress was organized October 17, 1893, and has since then carried on the work of the congress.

Mrs. Cooper read extracts from the printed address, published before the meeting of the recent congress, and gave a resume of what had happened during the congress:

The first day was devoted to "The Home and Education." Beginning with the great divine law of "Hereditary Influence," it passed on to "Early Home Environment" and the "Higher Education as It Affects the Home."

The second day was devoted to "The Home and Esthetics," showing the function of art in the home, the social value of music in the home and showing how to secure its advancement. The elements of good taste were well brought out in a fine discussion of the several papers.

The third day was full of interest, as the subject of "The Home and Economics" occupied the day. The home industries of the past, present and future were compared; the subject of domestic service brought a dozen women to their feet at a time, so eager were they for discussion. "Does Home Life Forbid World Service?" opened up a theme that covered the woman question most satisfactorily. It was shown that the women who were the best homemakers were the most efficient in their work outside of home.

The fourth day was devoted to "The Home and Politics." It was the great day of the feast. And well was it for the congress that the capacious and beautiful auditorium of the First Congregational Church had been graciously tendered the congress on the second day of the session. To say that the vast auditorium was thronged—packed, running over—does not cover the ground. It was estimated that between 1200 and 1500 were turned away after filling the entire building, including the aisles and corridors, to their utmost capacity. It was a wonderful sight, full of suggestive import. What brought them there in such eager throngs, this great mass of humanity? There they stood, three hours at a time, listening in breathless attention. This means something. God is in it. The two magnificent women, Miss Anthony and Miss Shaw, occupied much of the entire day. The people were fairly wild to hear them. The silence was almost breathless, so intent was that vast audience on catching every word. The closing address of the evening, "Does Wifehood Preclude Citizenship?" was a perfect masterpiece of logic and oratory. It fairly bristled with facts and statistics; every sentence was trained down to fighting weight, and there was a masterly eloquence, born of the union of profound thought, wedded to clear luminous diction. Miss Shaw's utterances are enlivened and illumined by flashes of wit and humor—a wit that serves as a buckler to defend by a handsome reply, and never as a sword to wound, no matter how captivatingly facetious she may be.

Her vigorous thoughts beget vigorous words, and sparkling humor ripples, brook-like, through all her generalizations.

Precision of statement; that skill and nicety in the handling of political terms, which modulate the very tones of her voice; that readiness which reveals an intellectual training that has become second nature; that easy, self-contained confidence based on the largest preparation; that logical arrangement which gives the assurance that back of every proposition is a solid column to support it, if attacked; that strength and symmetry of expression which carry the conviction that behind utterance there is a fullness of expression that floods every sentence with meaning and that unconscious reserve of power which gives to every word a vital force. The intellectual and the emotional are marvelously blended in this woman.

Miss Susan B. Anthony closed this great day of the feast, speaking on the subject, "Influence or Power — Which?" This, too, was a masterpiece of logic, and showed conclusively that in order to secure the highest possible results there must be a combination of power and influence. Just as the true government of the home combines power with influence, so must it be in the government of the state; not only must there be woman's influence, but also woman's power, as represented by the ballot. Second-hand influence and second-hand power is not enough. Woman is an individual, and responsible individualism is the basis of republican institutions.

Miss Anthony's strong and convincing logic met with round after round of rapturous applause, and at the close of the masterly argument, the vast audience would not be silenced until this great, heroic apostle of woman's enfranchisement came to the front of the platform. She seized the opportunity for suggesting that her soul would be satisfied, if, in 1896, the Legislature of California would adopt the suffrage amendment by eliminating the word "male" from the constitution. This quick sally was received with deafening applause.

It is simple truth to say that Miss Anthony is held in reverent affection and honor by all thoughtful men and women because of her noble, self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of woman. For more than fifty years this magnificent woman has consecrated her mighty talents and energies to the uplifting of woman. Through evil report and good report she has stood steadfast and immovable, counting not her own life dear unto herself in order to bring on a better day for her own sex. She has lived to see the fruition of her hopes. Grand and glorious woman! Her life, still rich and strong and vigorous, is the glorious consummation of all the grand years that have preceded.

In listening to the unanswerable arguments of Miss Anthony, we are reminded that the Nestor of the Greeks was the wisest of them all. In Miss Anthony patriarchal primacy verges toward prophetic majesty. She is preparing the pioneers and marshals for further dispensations and fresh disclosures. Wonderful woman called of God to a wonderful leadership. She is immortal till her work is done.

The fifth day, on the "Home and Sanitation," was carefully provided for, and fine papers from eminent physicians were listened to with fervent interest and were carefully discussed.

"The Home, Considered Sociologically," occupied the sixth day, and was up to the standard of all preceding days.

The seventh day (Sunday) Rev. Anna Shaw occupied the pulpit of the First Congregalional Church in the morning preaching from the text, Joshua 1:7, "Only be though strong and very courageous." The church was filled to its full seating capacity with an intelligent audience, who listened with rapt attention to this inspiring discourse.

In the evening Miss Shaw occupied the pulpit of the Temple Emanu-El, and hundreds were turned from the doors. She preached an eloquent sermon from the text, Revelation iii:11, "Hold that fast which thou hast that no man take thy crown."

It should be stated that on the Sabbath preceding the opening of the congress Rev. Miss Shaw preached in the First Congregational Church of Oakland in the morning on the text, Acts xxvi:19: "Whereupon, O King Agrippa! I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." She delivered the same sermon in the First Congregational Church of this City, in the evening, to a crowded house. It was a marvelous discourse, showing that the people who have visions and are obedient to them are God's agents in human progress in this world.

Two things more I greatly desire to emphasize. One is the gracious action of the pastor and officers of the First Congregational Church in promptly and voluntarily offering that great auditorium for the use of the congress. The entire City gratefully appreciates this timely and generous action. What should we have done but for this thoughtful kindness? The other point I wish to emphasize is the action of the Congregational clergy last Monday in declaring unanimously in favor of the amendment to the constitution. Nothing has given these noble women so much unfeigned joy as this act. It was so utterly unexpected that it filled them with astonishment. I told them it was just exactly like you to do this—that the Congregational clergy of the Pacific Coast represents the advance line in all reforms that look to the highest interests of the race. I am glad to know, also, that the great Episcopal church, in its late diocesan convention in the South, took precisely the same action. With such a noble army of helpers I take up the heavy work devolving upon me as president of the amendment committee with serene and steadfast faith, knowing that I can trust the servants of the living God, and knowing, also, that whatever God has for us to do he will help us to do—yea, he will verily do for us.

The Congress Association is entirely unsectarian, having but one single aim, the uplifting of humanity by the united efforts of all true men and women. From all over the coast and from the interior towns come hundreds of letters, expressing warm appreciation of the congress, as reported by the press of San Francisco. There is a thrill of joy everywhere. Every large city is pleading for a visit from these noble women.

Miss Shaw greatly desires to meet all the clergy of the City on her return, and I sincerely hope that some date may be fixed and that this body will extend an invitation to them to hear her speak in the auditorium of this building.

This great, all-prevailing interest is not born of any human instrumentality whatever. It is born of God. As Dr. Brown wisely suggested in his admirable discourse last night on "Husbands and Clubs," there is in this great uprising an epoch-making force and power, and this late demonstration was but as the faint flashes of a dawn. I believe that Susan B. Anthony and Rev. Anna H. Shaw were called of God to their work just as really as were Deborah and Huldah, the prophetesses of the Old Testament time, who by virtue of their inspiration were called "mothers in Israel." (Judges iv: 6.) Miss Shaw is a Miriam, a Huldah and a Deborah, all in one—one of the most magnificent women that ever spoke in the pulpits of any country. I prophesy, here and now, that she has only just begun her God-given work. Again, I say, brethren, that I rejoice in the fact that this honored body has accorded such just recognition to these great women. What you have done will go down as a radiant part of the history of the Congregational Club of California, of which all noble men and women will be justly proud.

In reviewing the paper Rev. W. Tubbs said: "Twenty-three years ago I sat up all night writing against woman's suffrage, and now I would sit up all night writing in its favor."

Rev. Foster indorsed Mr. Tubbs' statement.

Rev. J. Hood suggested "Man" as the subject for the next congress.

Dr. McLean of Oakland said:

I have known Miss Anthony from my boyhood. She has been the subject of more vituperation than almost any American, and I am glad that she has lived to see her triumph.

Professor Lloyd said:

The tables are turned with a vengeance now. I had an experience of three days keeping house and attending to the children, while the ladies of the family were attending congress, and I think that woman is rapidly becoming the master in everything.

Dr. Williams' opinion was that woman's suffrage is a political necessity.

Chaplain Rowell said he had long been an advocate of woman's suffrage.

Rev. W. C. Pond declared "That the congress captured the conservative side of my family—my wife says she is ready to vote now."

Rev. T. H. Henderson said that he had advocated suffrage for years.

"It is right for a woman to vote," said Rev. Philip Coombe, and every one else in the room was of the same opinion except two brethren, who seemed doubtful and therefore kept a discreet silence.

Dr. McLean of Oakland made a motion that all the women in the room should be asked whether they would vote if they could, and the motion being carried twenty-five women held up their hands in token that they desired to wield the ballot, while one signified that she preferred not to vote.

INDORSED EQUAL RIGHTS.

Several Methodists Advocate Throwing the Conference Open to Women.

At the Methodist Preachers' Club Rev. J. D. Hammond spoke on the work for the next Methodist conference, which meets in Cleveland in May, 1896. He said it was a matter for congratulation that the conference would not attempt to make any change in doctrine and that no radical measures would be attempted. The matter of the temporal economy of the church would come up, and it was expected that the hands of local preachers would be strengthened. The important question of the admission of women to the conference and the equal representation of laymen would also be considered.

In the review of the paper Rev. S. J. Carroll said he believed in giving equal rights to the sisters of the church and that it would be admissible for the conferences throughout the country to send petitions to admit women to the general conference.

Rev. J. Bryant expressed the hope that he should live to see the day when women should stand side by side with men, not only in the general conference but in the pulpit.

Rev. Mr. Baker introduced a new phase in the woman discussion by stating that some King's Daughters had danced at a recent church entertainment, and he asked if discipline, with regard to worldly amusements, had become a dead letter. Mr. Baker also wanted to know if the question of licensing women as preachers would be considered at the next general conference.

Dr. Hammond stated his belief that the general rules of the church would not be changed at the next convention.

It will be gratifying to consumers to note that the quality of the baking powder most generally in use in their kitchens, the Royal, is confirmed by the highest official authorities as altogether the best of any in the market.

Infringing on Man's Rights.

A story is going the rounds that Anna Shaw is in favor of suppressing certain information. "Don't let it get into the newspapers," she said, "or it will be construed into an argument against woman's advancement. The enemy will say that a husband will not be allowed the right of snoring in his own bed any more." What excited her apprehensions was the story that one of the leading members of the Woman's Congress awoke her family one night last week by hammering furiously on the head board and shouting, "The meeting will come to order."

Comfortable Traveling.

The most comfortable route to the East summer or winter is the Santa Fe route. The sleeping-cars are superior and the meals en route are unequaled. There is less dust and no more heat than on any other line.

A popular misbelief is that extreme heat prevails on this line in summer, while the fact is that the elevation of the whole line insures as comfortable a temperature as can be found on even the most northerly line. The northern part of Arizona is the summer resort of the people of that section, and the Grand Canyon of the Colorado is visited in the summer months exclusively.

The Santa Fe route is first class all the way through to Chicago. The ticket office is 650 Market street, Chronicle building. The Pullman sleepers run without change from San Francisco to Chicago via Kansas City.

RICHMOND GROWING FAST.

Nearly Two Score of Buildings, Some Quite Artistic, Are Going Up.

WATCHFUL OF ITS STREETS.

First Avenue Wanted for a Boulevard—The Point Lobos Franchise.

Golden Gate Park and the ocean combine to attract home-seekers to fair Richmond, and, in consequence, this live suburb is being dotted all over with new residences, many of which are more than usually attractive. There are almost two score of buildings going up. Some of the frames are just receiving the first boards, and others are being painted, and will soon be ready for occupants.

Good taste seems to be the prevailing characteristic, and the artistic exteriors indicate that a special genius must have inspired the architects. A partial list of these improvements is here given:

Richmond Congregational Church on Seventh avenue: to be enlarged.

William Matthews, residence, corner of Clement street and Twelfth avenue.

J. J. Duffy, residence, Seventh avenue, between Point Lobos avenue and A street.

Mr. Lynch, residence, Seventh avenue, between A and B streets.

H. H. Mahan, store and flats, northeast corner of Point Lobos and Fifth avenues.

Jacob Vollmer, residence, Third avenue, between California and Clement streets.

Joseph Heaney, residence, Tenth avenue, north of California street.

R. J. Ufen, residence, northeast corner of Thirteenth avenue and Clement street.

Cyclery, D street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues. This will have a large tower with a clock.

Mrs. Frohman, residence, Second avenue, between California and Clement streets.

George Coon, residence, Clement street, between Fourth and Fifth avenues.

Mr. Kerwin, residence, Clement street, between Third and Fourth avenues.

Contractor McGrath, three residences, Clement street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

G. R. R. Hinds, store and flats, northeast corner Point Lobos and Fourth avenues.

L. Levy, residence, Fourth avenue, between Clement street and Point Lobos avenue.

E. Ginley, residence, Fourth avenue, between Point Lobos avenue and Clement street.

George S. Conroy, residence, Third avenue, between Lake and California streets.

Thomas G. Parker, residence, Eleventh avenue, between Clement street and Point Lobos avenue.

Mr. Harrison, residence, Twelfth avenue, between Clement and California streets.

Steuart Menzies, six residences, corner California street and Second avenue.

Mr. Shehan, residence, Eighth avenue, between Point Lobos avenue and Clement street.

T. G. Parker, residence, Second avenue, between Lake and California streets.

Two flats on Third avenue, between Lake and California streets.

Store and flats, southwest corner Third avenue and Clement street.

Mr. Kohn, residence, Second avenue, between Clement and California streets.

M. de Cartoni, store and flats, southwest corner of Clement street and Third avenue.

A new parochial school is also in prospect. The parish of the Star of the Sea Church has just acquired some property adjoining the church on Eighth avenue, between Point Lobos avenue and Clement street, on which a large school building is to be constructed.

Stone & Cahill have secured the contract for the marble work on the exterior of the new crematory in the Odd Fellows' cemetery.

The transfer station of the California steamcar line has been removed from Seventh avenue to Sixth, to connect with the Sacramento-street cable line.

Three of the five locations from which the regents of the State University are to select a site for the medical college are in Richmond. The first is on the northwest corner of Geary street and Central avenue, the second is just south of the park and is bounded by First avenue, Carl and Frederick streets, and the third is on the northwest corner of Fourth avenue and Lake street.

Richmond residents are determined to have First avenue, from the Presidio to the Golden Gate Park, converted into a boulevard. It is 100 feet wide and would need a slight change of grade near the Presidio. President George R. Sanderson of the Presidio Heights Improvement Club is working hard to see the boulevard a thing of fact.

The great obstacle in the way has been the Market-street Railway Company. It is loth to give up its franchise, because by using that avenue it can obtain easy access to the carhouse on Point Lobos avenue. It is contended that with the Geary-street cars running on Fifth avenue, the Sacramento-street cars on Sixth and the California-street steamcars on Seventh, the railway company has enough cross streets covered with franchises.

The new French Hospital is to be opened formally to the public on the 23d inst. The bronze fountain presented by A. Legallet has been finished.

The Richmond Improvement Club, of which Thomas G. Parker is president, intends to have a mass-meeting at Farrell's Hall, corner of Point Lobos and Ninth avenues, on the night preceding the meeting of the Park Commissioners, to protest against any extension of time being granted to the Market-street Railway Company on Lobos avenue. Mr. Parker said yesterday:

The company's time will be up on the last of August, and it is now intending to ask for two years more in which to construct its line to the Cliff. So long as it has the franchise it excludes all other competitors, and Richmond stands no chance of getting a proper street-railway line.

When Mr. Sutro asked for a franchise the Market-street people said they were going right ahead with their line, but they have not done anything, and it does not look as if they intend to do anything for a long while yet to come.

This magnificent thoroughfare, running from Central avenue to the Cliff, is four and a half miles long and 125 feet wide, and there ought to be something done about the Market-street company's franchise. The company has an old track on it, all buried up, which it used until it abandoned the bobtail-cars about five years ago.

This club will also ask the Park Commissioners for a line of road to connect Seventh avenue on the north side with Seventh avenue on the south side.

Clement street, from Fifth to Tenth avenues, is being sewered. The sewerage work on Thirteenth avenue, from Lake to Clement streets, is entirely finished.

The Board of Education has decided to remove the Sutro Primary School, on Nineteenth avenue, near Point Lobos avenue, to the lot between Twelfth and Thirteenth avenues and Clement and California streets.

The CALL takes the following from the Richmond Banner:

The remarkable change in the condition of Point Lobos avenue, all along the line, is a source of much gratification.

All traces of the many ruts and depressions left by the winter rains have been obliterated, and once more this favorite driveway to the beach is made passable. Park Commissioner Joseph Austin took the matter in hand, with the above desirable result. To him also belongs the credit that this avenue is now being kept in order and the dust relegated to its proper place. He has been ably seconded by Contractor James Winslow, who is carrying on the work of sprinkling and repairing.

Matters look promising for the opening of the Sutro Railroad through Richmond to the ocean beach early in the month of July. The track is laid, the poles are up and half a dozen cars are nearly ready for immediate use. Some thirty or forty more cars are understood to be under construction, several of them being of large size and capable of carrying great numbers. Travel to the park and to the ocean will increase as the seasons roll by, and travel accommodations will doubtless be taxed to their full capacity.

The Western Addition Expositor is the name of a new paper recently started by James Bowlan, with an office on Central avenue. It is alive to the interests of its section. Considerable space of last week's number was devoted to the ever-interesting subject of the Board of Health, and incidentally the candidates for the office of Superintendent of the City Cemetery. The Expositor has started a coupon contest for the aspirants for the cemetery position. Dr. John F. Morse is its favorite for the Board of Health.

A NEW POLICE STATION.

Bluecoats Will Lodge Their Prisoners on California Street.

After July 1 the unfortunates who meet with mishaps while tobogganing on the Barbary Coast will be swiftly driven up Kearny street, past the historic old tanks and thrown into cells now being specially provided for them in the basement of the building at 538 California street. They will miss the sewer gas and the mud puddles which made life so little worth the living in the old place, but they will be in the heart of the market district.

Everything is out of the old hall now but the newly helmeted detachment of police under Sergeants Conboy and Esola and the workmen are busy fitting up the California-street building preparatory to their departure and the tearing down of the structure that has looked out on the plaza for so many years. The first floor and the basement of 538 California street have been leased by the Police Department for a year from July 1 and the work of fitting the place up for service as a temporary police station begins to-day. The first floor will be used for the office and patrolmen's rooms and the basement for prisoners. It will not be as roomy, but it will be much more healthy than the miasmatic depths of the present quarters, and though some of the neighbors may be disturbed occasionally by drunken yells they can sympathize with a change that will make things pleasant for the police and for the drunks.

TO USE CARRIER-PIGEONS.

Observations From the Farallone Islands to Be Obtained Daily.

An Innovation by Which Accuracy Will Be Increased in the Weather Forecasts.

A new factor is to be introduced in the weather forecasts by Mr. Hammon, the chief of the Weather Bureau. It is in the shape of a flock of carrier pigeons for the station at the Farallone Islands.

An anemometer and a wind-gauge have been recently planted there. The instruments will show the true state of the atmosphere and the direction of the winds, since the islands are twenty miles from shore and there are no topographical influences to interfere.

"The observations are taken at 5 o'clock each evening," said Weather Forecaster Hammon yesterday evening. "The forecasts are made up at 7. If the report of the observations at the Farallones were tied to a homing pigeon at 5:10 o'clock we ought to get it long before 6 and in time to make good use of the information.

"This will enable us to foretell many rainstorms that we now only know of an hour or so before they reach us. Only the other day the wind here was blowing all day in a direction that indicated only fair weather. At the Farallones, we learned later, it was blowing in exactly the opposite direction, and had we known of it our rain flag would have been up. As it was, the storm came unexpectedly. This will now be impossible.

"The credit for the new idea," Mr. Hammon added, "belongs to some stranger. He came up here and asked me if we intended to establish a line of communication with the Farallones. I told him I supposed we would have a cable some day.

"He persisted that he meant now. I answered that I sincerely wished we might be able to insure some means of promptly dispatching information. Then he suggested the carrier pigeons and I am going to carry out the idea."

MORALS OF SAILORS.

Officers at Vallejo Said to Be Apathetic in Regard to Church Services.

Rev. J. F. Burnham of Vallejo addressed the Presbyterian Ministerial Union yesterday on "Morals and Religion in the Naval Service of the United States." The need of more chaplains was dwelt upon by the speaker, who said that according to the statistics last January only six out of the United States' twenty-two chaplains were afloat, whereas Great Britain has 100 chaplains, as well as two Catholic priests. Mr. Burnham spoke in the highest terms of the work being done by the local floating societies of Christian Endeavor.

In the review of the paper Dr. Scott said:

The navy is an institution which belongs to barbarism, and it seems to me the Christian Church would be more in harmony with its mission if it tried to do away with these National pugilistic arrangements.

Rev. Mr. Armstrong thought the navy should be ready to protect the Nation and weaker neighbors.

Dr. Mathena said:

I believe the navy is a religious institution, for the Gospel can be preached in savage countries with a gunboat alongside while the missionary is preaching better than if the missionary is unprotected.

Dr. Ellis raised a laugh by saying:

If many more Dr. Shaws come to California there will be nothing left for the men to do. The army and navy are the only professions where women cannot displace men, and I think they should be enlarged for the sake of supporting men.

Dr. Mackenzie, Dr. Alexander and Mrs. Mason, a Christian worker in the navy-yard, also spoke on other subjects.

Dr. Coyle of Oakland reported for the committee appointed to consider the present condition of affairs with regard to the Occident, that in view of the fact that the Occident was issued last week under new management, it is likely to be continued, for a time at least. The report was adopted and the committee was continued, in case its services should be again required.

THE United States Government Chemist, after an examination for the Indian Department, made the emphatic statement that "The Royal Baking Powder is the purest in quality and highest in strength of any baking powder of which I have knowledge."

MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

Reported Discovery of a Petroleum Deposit—Major Pearce to Lecture.

The fuel committee of the Manufacturers' Association met yesterday. It was decided to pay a visit to a piece of land located eleven miles from Oakland, upon which it is reported there exists a petroleum deposit. An inspection will be made on Thursday next.

The following letter was received by the association:

SAN FRANCISCO, June 3, 1895.

Louis R. Mead Esq., Secretary Manufacturers' Association, San Francisco, Cal.—DEAR SIR: A cordial invitation is hereby extended to the members of your association to be present at an address to be delivered at the Chamber of Commerce at 2 P. M. Tuesday, the 4th inst., by Major Pearce of St. Louis upon the recent industrial development in India, China and Japan as witnessed by himself during the last four months.

Major Pearce is in St. Louis a manufacturer of jute and cotton goods, and in a trip around the world has taken in the factories of Dundee, Manchester, Calcutta, Canton, Shanghai and Osaka, Japan, and will point out what the competition of cheap labor of these countries means for the manufacturing industries of the United States, and the wage-earning classes of the Pacific Coast and our large American cities especially. Every manufacturer in San Francisco should be present. Yours faithfully,

HUGH CRAIG,
First Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco.

It is thought the lecture by Major Pearce will explain many disputed matters regarding the labor market in the Orient.

AFTER THE ORCHARDISTS.

Investigating the Class of Labor to Which They Give Employment.

MEETING AT PLEASANTON.

The Commissioners Propose to Put a Stop to the Hiring of Aliens on Contracts.

The determination of Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald and Immigration Commissioner Stradley to abolish the contract cooly labor evil is meeting with the approval of a large number of citizens, who have called upon both officials within the past few days to express the hope that the anti-cheap-labor fight will be kept up to the end. In yesterday's CALL the fact was published that in this State there are 58,000 Japanese and Chinese laborers, none of whom are idle. There are in this State 15,000 unemployed white men, of whom 10,000 are in this City. Of these at least two-thirds have families numbering from one to seven persons. If the white laborers were furnished the employment now given to the coolies at least 20,000 white people would be relieved from sore distress for the necessaries of life for which they are now suffering.

During the day yesterday at least fifty well-to-do people called upon Mr. Fitzgerald and asked him if the CALL's figures were true, for they were too appalling to believe.

"The CALL's figures are correct, and I am sorry to say that the situation is even worse than depicted," was Mr. Fitzgerald's reply. "If the coolies could be displaced by our idle white men this State would soon experience a boom of prosperity."

The encouragement given to the two Commissioners has incited them to even a greater activity in fighting cheap labor. The number of Japanese who have recently arrived from Japan, direct and via Victoria, has caused a reasonable suspicion that they were contracted for before their arrival by many of the Alameda orchardists and farmers. If so, it was in violation of the United States contract labor act of 1885. The principal section provides:

That from and after the passage of this act (February 26, 1885) it shall be unlawful for any person, company, partnership or corporation in any manner whatsoever to prepay the transportation of an alien or in any way to assist or encourage the importation or imigration of any alien or aliens, any foreigner or foreigners into the United States, its Territories or the District of Columbia under contract or agreement, parole or special, express or implied, made previous to the importation or immigration.

The act further sets forth that all contracts made in violation of this act shall be utterly void and of no effect. The statute provides that for the violation of the provisions of this act the person or corporation shall pay the sum of $1000, which may be sued for by the Government. Every alien so imported shall constitute a separate offense.

Believing that the law has been violated, the two Commissioners will hold an investigation to-day in Pleasanton, Alameda County. Yesterday their deputies served subpenas upon eighty orchardists, farmers and laborers. The Labor Commissioner has the authority to hold such an inquisition and the United States Immigration Commissioner has the right to compel witnesses to answer any and all questions he may ask.

In a recent interview Governor Budd told Mr. Fitzgerald to probe the matter to the bottom, and yesterday Mr. Stradley received instructions from the Immigration Department at Washington to go ahead and co-operate with the State Commissioner, and if they find that the law is being or has been violated to prosecute the guilty parties at once. Backed by both State and Federal Governments the two officers will make a thorough investigation.

So far they have found that nearly all of the harvesting in the eastern part of Alameda County is done by coolies, who are under the direction of a few bosses. The latter, mostly Japanese, keep themselves informed as to the acreage in orchards, grapes and hops, and they so arrange their business that gangs go from one place to another on the same principle as harvesters work in the grainfields. This, with the credit system, completely shuts out white laborers from competing for work even at starvation wages.

In connection with the employment of Japs in Alameda County, a remarkable incident occurred not long ago. A batch of about three dozen Japs were landed from a China steamer. The next day about a dozen of the number were seen at work on a farm near Pleasanton in the uniforms they wore during the late war between Japan and China.

The investigation of Immigration Commissioner Stradley into the cases of the two dozen Japanese who arrived Saturday on the steamer Belgic has resulted in his learning to his satisfaction that at least twelve are under contract and have no right to land. He has determined to hold them for a few days on board the ship and send them back to Japan as soon as the Alameda County investigation is over. Upon matters of this kind where there is any doubt he will refuse to grant them a landing and let their bosses fight the cases in the United States courts. This gives rise to the belief that the old habeas corpus mill that operated a few years ago in the Chinese cases will be set in operation again by the Japanese.

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