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THE RATE ESTABLISHED.

The announcement made by the Southern and Union Pacific roads that they have agreed on a \$50 round-trip rate from Chicago to San Francisco for those attending the Republican National Convention settles the important question of the rate.

According to the latest estimate, we need seven delegates to secure a deciding vote in the National Committee in favor of San Francisco. Those which we have were secured without great difficulty.

Too much cannot be raised. Whatever is not needed by the National Committee can be profitably employed in entertaining delegates and other visitors, and exhibiting to them the resources and attractions of the State.

THE ACADEMY'S FUTURE.

It is sincerely hoped that the bickering which for so long has crippled the usefulness of the California Academy of Sciences will be dropped. It is announced that the dissatisfaction which the old management created has gained sufficient strength to reorganize the institution and place David Starr Jordan at the head, and that in order to checkmate this movement a great deal of diplomatic work is being done.

In all of his rich endowments James Lick, whose bounty created this Academy of Sciences, was eminently practical, and for his aim in this particular kept instruction of the young in the front.

The advent of a considerable number of able and progressive instructors from the State and Stanford universities into the academy has had a most wholesome effect. These are ambitious men, leaders in their several lines of investigation and thought, and as their training has been in the direction of instructing the young they naturally have awakened that sentiment in the institution.

The academy might do a vast amount of valuable work in making a close study of the strange ingredients of California's natural wealth. The State University is doing a noble work in this line, but evidently the academy, with its large membership of enthusiastic investigators, is better able to accomplish large results for the benefit of the State.

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AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

A. L. McDonald has returned from Japan, where he made close observations of all the saw of the interesting Japanese and their country. In telling about his visit yesterday he said:

"One wonders at the great progress made by the Japanese in the last thirty years, the readiness with which they have assimilated European and American methods and manners especially in matters of administration of governmental affairs.

"They are all young men dressed in clothes out after European fashion, dark blue cloth in winter and white duck in summer. All wear their badges of office, and have a polite smile and a bow when they address you. You are hardly prepared by this to go down the side and slip into a 'sannan,' one of their primitive boats, and be wobbled ashore by a couple of half-sunken, unburly, well-saved, for it is nearer the mark than anything else.

"The ladies in your party make no difference to them; they take everything as a matter of course, and are here in no restraint whatever by any notions of false modesty or trampled in the least by circumstance of place or surroundings.

"At the landing place, or 'hetoba,' as they call it, you see a crowd representing all grades and types of the people, from a member of the nobility in a plug hat and black cloth clothes down to the half-naked coolie in a ragged kimono or maybe no kimono at all. From this line on you can look for contrasts to everything you have been accustomed to in this country.

"There is one habit they have taken from foreigners and which they have made a national characteristic, the use of tobacco. Every man, woman and child in Japan uses it. The 'tabatobach,' a box or tin filled nearly full of ashes in which rests a piece or two of glowing charcoal, forms a part of the furniture of every shop and every room or place where Japanese stay. The police stations, the post office, the custom-house, at the street corners, in the richest men's dwellings, everywhere, in fact, you will see the charcoal ready for lighting the pipe.

"Every man and woman and many of the children, too, carry a pipe and a tobacco pouch fastened to the belt or stuck in the bosom or down in the capacious sleeve of the kimono.

"The American factories practically control the trade in foreign cigarettes, and they sell them much cheaper there than in this country. They have to do it to compete with the Japs, who have already established a number of cigarette factories, using American tobacco, but adulterating it, of course, very much. They sell a cigarette larger than those mostly used here, wrapped in rice paper, at the rate of three boxes for 10 sen."

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TURMOIL IN KERN.

After all the pains taken by a Grand Jury of Kern county, and the many times the state and federal courts have been called upon to settle the matter, there is every appearance that no convictions will be made, for with the many and varied influences brought to bear by the members of the jury and their friends, whose toes are being trod upon, the Grand Jury is being assailed as a body that has been through a heated hard-worked (7) official, the office-holders having carried out a scheme to raise the law relating to their offices, except to draw their salary.—San Francisco Call.

So writes a correspondent from Bakersfield to the San Francisco Call. It is a pity that such misrepresentations should be set forth with regard to reputable citizens of this community. Nobody here has assailed the Grand Jury for its work, and nobody is disposed to. It did what it thought was right. But it made the mistake of electing a jury that was not fair-minded, and an alleged expert who has convicted himself out of his own mouth.

In the only two cases of county officials accused by Moore, so far tried, the most prompt acquittals have followed. There was absolutely no particle of evidence against either of them. The jurors who acquitted Howell and Baker did so because of "influences" brought to bear by members of the ring and their friends. This is a direct insult to the gentlemen composing these juries and an insult to the community. There is not a decent, fair-minded man in this county but knows those juries acted with the strictest regard to the facts and unwavering by its own influence. In the case of Howell and Baker, the verdict of the jury is not to be depended upon if it testimony other than that of the discredited expert is introduced sufficient to convict, just as the jury will do their duty regardless of the alleged influence of "rings" and the "friends of criminals." Not all the work of the Grand Jury had so many a foundation as the Howell and Baker cases.

The same contributor to THE CALL quotes at length from the report of the Grand Jury. Unfortunately that report, so far as relates to alleged crookedness, is based entirely upon the allegations of Expert Moore. As that individual now stands convicted out of his own mouth of besmirching the character of two prominent citizens, it is evident that little reliance can be placed upon the report. It is a great pity that a man, a newspaper or a party should be allowed to do as they please and fair play without being accused of sympathy with crime and being controlled by alleged "rings."—Bakersfield Californian.

THE EDITOR OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL.—Sir: The subject of the accompanying illustration was the successful termination of a feat of engineering of a hard and extremely novel character. The house shown in the picture is a handsome two-story dwelling, owned by Ernest Reyer, a well-known attorney of this city. It was built in Arcata, twelve miles from this city, and when Mr. Sevier came into possession, was a paying investment. When rems declined in Arcata the house proved almost valueless, and the owner resolved to move it to Eureka, where he owns building property. A contract was entered into between contractors Mercer & Berry of this city, who agreed to set the house up here for \$12,000. In case it was unfit for occupancy upon its arrival, they were to receive the dwelling as their compensation. Everything was put in readiness a few days ago, and the start was made. The moving to the edge of the bay was quite difficult on account of the softness of the marsh. A large structure also had to be carried over a large dike. When the edge of the bay was reached two large railroad lighters, under the direction of the jetties, were lashed together, and the house moved upon them. On a high tide Friday November 16th, the strange craft was towed down to Eureka. Hundreds of people lined the water front when it arrived, and all the mills and steam craft in the bay saluted in honor of this triumph of moving. Everything was put in readiness a few days ago, and the start was made. The moving to the edge of the bay was quite difficult on account of the softness of the marsh. A large structure also had to be carried over a large dike. When the edge of the bay was reached two large railroad lighters, under the direction of the jetties, were lashed together, and the house moved upon them. On a high tide Friday November 16th, the strange craft was towed down to Eureka. 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