

DEMOCRATS FIND A NOVEL DEFENSE

If They Pay Now for Budd's Band Wagon They Would Be Felons.

An Appeal Has Been Taken and the Fees Run Up Near a Thousand Dollars.

Twenty Dollars Apiece Will Probably Be the Demand, Where But Four Was First Asked.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, March 31.—Instead of having to pay four dollars apiece the members of the Democratic County Central Committee will probably have to part with as many times that amount before they settle the bills for the band wagon and electric lighting that helped to elect Governor Budd two years ago.

For it is known to the world that those plucky bandmen, who dared to play Democratic music in a Republican city, have not yet received their free silver for their heroic acts.

A bond on appeal has been filed in the Superior Court and the case is to be tried again. There are about a hundred defendants including the most prominent Democrats in the county, and according to Attorney McDonald the fees will be a violation of the law in committing a felony. This is perhaps one of the most novel defenses ever put forward in a court of justice.

"The thing is this way," said Mr. McDonald. "Under the jury of election law money for campaign expenses must be paid in advance and no candidate can spend more than a limited amount. The time has long since passed when these bills should have been paid, and the creditors stand a poor show of getting their money. Nevertheless, I cannot but admire the persistency of Collector Stewart, who has shown enough courage to accept the assignment of these claims. He is, I believe, sending men all over the county serving subpoenas, and demurrers, and summonses, and complaints, and in some instances I believe it has taken \$30 to serve one paper. At this rate that the unfortunate little bill of \$240, which we were kindly informed by a good Democrat, is liquidated by paying \$4 apiece, will soon amount to \$1000.

"It would be quite illegal to pay this amount, for all our funds are derived from the assessments of candidates and those who are willing to help their election. To assess any of these people now would be a violation of the law, and good Democrats cannot contemplate any such crime."

Collector Stewart has not lost heart and does not get discouraged. During the past two weeks Alfred Barthelet, sometimes known as the "baron," has been spending a small fortune of somebody's money chasing up delinquent Democrats. If, as Mr. McDonald says, to pay the money would be to commit a crime it is hardly likely that a Republican Judge—and any one else—a Democrat will order an unfortunate Democrat to do any such wicked thing.

MISS MURPHY'S WILL. She Wished Her Property to Go to Her Surviving Sisters.

OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—Victor Metcalf, attorney for Miss Isabel Murphy, who died recently in London, has in his possession what he believes is the only will of the deceased. He stated today that the will was made some time ago and left with him. He does not believe she made any other disposition of her property, and says that he will not allow the contents of the will to be held in public until it is filed for probate. He will await further advice from the dead girl's sisters.

It is not likely that there is anything sensational in the late Mrs. Murphy's will, for Mr. Metcalf, when told of the dispatches from London yesterday, said that he knew it was Miss Murphy's desire that her property should go to her sisters. It is presumed that when making this remark the attorney was guided by a knowledge of the will in his safe.

Haywards Fire Department. The annual election of the Haywards fire department resulted, as follows: Chief Engineer, Thomas Lane; foreman, Walter Myers; first assistant foreman, William Zambrey; second assistant, Oscar Walker; secretary, J. B. Rupprecht; first hoseman, M. B. Clarke; second hoseman, Alfred Dale; third hoseman, F. Rayer; sergeant-at-arms, F. Stroebel.

Organized Celebrations. OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—The committee of fifteen, which has in charge the

ALAMEDA

celebrations for the 4th and 13th of July, has formally organized. C. R. Root is president, Webb Pierce secretary and Theodore Gier secretary and treasurer of the finance committee. The Alameda Trustees have sent in a report that they met last Monday and appointed a committee to undertake that part of the celebration which Alameda will furnish. The executive committee will meet next Friday night.

Friendship to Be Rewarded. OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—There is likely to be a wedding before long as the result of a very delicate operation performed on the scholarly lady at the East Bay Sanitarium. Mrs. Andrus, a widow, who has suffered for years from partial paralysis, consented to the earnest solicitation of a gentleman friend to submit to an operation on the brain of the most delicate and critical nature. He was paid all the expense and the operation was successfully performed. It was found that the cause of her trouble was a large tumor on the brain, which had given no signs whatever of its presence except by the peculiar action of the nerves surrounding the brain. Mrs. Andrus is rapidly recovering from the operation, and she is to become the wife of her benefactor, Mr. Belford, a civil engineer on the Southern Pacific.

Free Library for Haywards. OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—A meeting was held at Haywards last night for the purpose of taking action regarding a free library. Librarian Peterson of Oakland and Harborview of Alameda were present and gave some practical suggestions. Many hundreds of books were donated on the spot and many an effort promised to give the library a start. It was decided that at the next election the matter of providing a small tax for the maintenance of a library should be submitted to the people.

Blame California Wins. OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—C. D. Foster, the Eastern traveling man who went out Monday night and lost everything he had, including his overcoat, told the police that he was committed to the county jail because he was young fellows who looked like students. He said it was his first visit to California, and that the bouquet of the native vines overcame him. The police have not recovered any of his property.

Field Day. OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—The Central High School tryout field day, which was to have been held Saturday afternoon at Berkeley, but had to be postponed on account of rain, took place Tuesday afternoon. There were several surprises during the day, especially the running of Crogan in the mile, E. Morrill in the hurdles and Griffin in the mile walk.

Field Day. OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—The field day was held for the purpose of selecting a team to represent the school in the Academic Athletic League field day to be held at the Olympic Club ground April 17.

Following is a complete list of the events and the time, distance or height in each: 100-yard dash—Henderson first, Stevens second, Moore third; time, 11 sec. 200-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 24.25. 300-yard dash—Murray first, Cole second, Jones third; time, 33.25. 400-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 55 sec. 500-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 1:15. 600-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 1:35. 800-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 2:15. 1000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 3:00. 1200-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 3:45. 1500-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 4:45. 2000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 6:15. 2500-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 7:45. 3000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 9:15. 4000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 12:15. 5000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 15:15. 6000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 18:15. 8000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 24:15. 10000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 30:15. 12000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 36:15. 15000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 45:15. 20000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 60:15. 25000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 75:15. 30000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 90:15. 40000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 120:15. 50000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 150:15. 60000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 180:15. 80000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 240:15. 100000-yard dash—Murray first, Moore second, Jones third; time, 300:15.

Q. H. S. TRYOUT. Held to Select a Team for the Coming Field Day.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT UPSET. The Struggle for Chief Results in a Lack of Discipline.

OAKLAND, CAL., March 31.—There is a bitter war going on for the position of Chief of the Fire Department. Chief Fair, who realizes that he is to go, is being opposed by William Smith, foreman of chemical engine 1, and the two men are going around telling all sorts of petty stories of each other.

Fair stated today that he had been required to admonish Smith because the latter was neglecting his work to do politics. There was a meeting last night in the office of the Chief, and some very warm words passed. Assistant Chief Murdoch also figures in the affair, and there is no doubt that the Fire Department will not be restored to complete discipline until a new Chief is appointed.

New Scholarships. BERKELEY, CAL., March 31.—The State University made the formal announcement today of the new scholarships, amounting to \$7000 a year, which have recently been provided by Levi Strauss and the State Legislature. The entire amount is to be divided into scholarships not to exceed 66 in number, which will mean that each student receiving one will get about \$125 a year. Full details are given of the method of award.

THE BRIDGE MATTER. A Novel Solution of the Question Proposed—Trains to Run on a Loop.

ALAMEDA, CAL., March 31.—An apparently feasible solution of the estuary bridge proposition is offered by Engineer von Schmidt, the well-known dredger proprietor. If carried out it will remove nearly every objectionable feature of travel to and from Alameda as at present existing and will obviate the necessity of constructing and maintaining an expensive bridge or bridges. Mr. von Schmidt's proposition is to use both moles, as at present, but to lay three rails, so that narrow-gauge and broad-gauge trains on the narrow-gauge pier. They operate all trains on a loop line. That is, have trains run from the broad-gauge pier through Oakland and around the head of the estuary, then through Alameda to the present narrow-gauge pier and back again to the broad-gauge pier. The narrow-gauge trains do the same thing, swinging around at High street in this city so as to connect with the present line by Fruitvale. Passengers could thus easily way to reach the ferry, and no matter which way a train was running it would bring up at either one of the moles. This would greatly relieve the stress of travel when it is at its height, as there would be no empty trains running one way and crowded ones the other, as at present. It would, as stated, obviate the necessity of maintaining a bridge with the vexatious delays incidental to its frequent opening, which are becoming worse and worse as travel in the estuary increases. The expense of fitting the tracks for both gauges and of connecting the present lines would be small. In fact the traveling public would be greatly commended by the increased facilities afforded, and it is

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Two Years of the Most Ridiculous Government Oakland Ever Knew.

With Mayor Thomas' Advent There Is Some Hope for Harmony and Municipal Progress.

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The career of Mr. Davie has been one of great interest. His opponent, J. W. Nelson, was brought to the attention of the Supreme Court that tribunal would sustain his position, and I am willing at any time to leave it to a jury of my fellow-citizens.

"I shall allow no such language to be used in my court, and I trust that you will not again repeat the remarks to which I have just referred," said Judge Bahrs.

"Earlier in this case you said something that was unprofessional, but I let it pass, hoping that you would not repeat it. You have seen fit to do so, and I cannot ignore it a second time."

The attorney was on his feet in an instant with a very red face, but Judge Bahrs went calmly on:

"You know yourself, and no one knows better than you, that such language is unprofessional. I am sure that if the matter were brought to the attention of the Supreme Court that tribunal would sustain his position, and I am willing at any time to leave it to a jury of my fellow-citizens."

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