

The Call

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1899

JOHN D. SPRECKELS, Proprietor.

Address All Communications to W. S. LEAKE, Manager.

PUBLICATION OFFICE.....Market and Third Sts. S. F.

EDITORIAL ROOMS.....217 to 221 Stevenson Street

DELIVERED BY CARRIERS, 15 CENTS PER WEEK.

Terms by Mail, Including Postage:

DAILY CALL (including Sunday Call), 6 months.....\$6.00

DAILY CALL (including Sunday Call), 3 months.....3.50

DAILY CALL—By Single Month.....15c

NEWSY CALL One Year.....1.50

WEEKLY CALL One Year.....1.00

All postmasters are authorized to receive subscriptions.

Sample copies will be forwarded when requested.

OAKLAND OFFICE.....908 Broadway

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NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT: Herald Square

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE: Tribune Building

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second and Kentucky streets, open until 9 o'clock.

AMUSEMENTS.

Columbia—"The New Dominion."

Alhambra—"Vaudville."

Tivoli—"Groconda."

Alcazar—"Ingomar."

Grand Opera-house—"Paul Jones."

Claret, Hope and Free Theater—Vaudville every afternoon

and evening.

Olympia, corner Mason and Ellis streets—Specialties.

Battle of Manila—Market street, near Eighth.

St. Louis—Swimming Races, at

Golden Gate Agricultural District No. 1—Races to-day.

Alhambra Theater—Benefit to John W. Slade, Saturday

evening, September 2.

California State Fair, Sacramento—September 4 to 15.

AUCTION SALES.

By A. W. Lunderback—Wednesday, August 30, at 2:30

o'clock, Persian and Turkish Rugs, at 117 Sutter street.

NOTHING EVER SEEN LIKE IT.

IT is a queer kind of prosperity that throws men

out of work, but such is the condition of things

in one or two lines of trade to-day. The demand

for finished iron products is so immense that the

furnaces have not been able to turn out the goods fast

enough to fill their orders, so in several branches of

the industry men have had to be laid off until sufficient

supplies can be secured. In fact, nothing like the

present trade activity has ever been seen in this

country. It began a year or so ago, and was thought to be

the natural reaction after a long period of depression,

which would subside after a few months; but it still

continues, and is even more pronounced than last

year.

Current figures show this tremendous activity plainly.

The tonnage movement from Chicago during the

past three weeks has been 80 per cent heavier than last

year, and 74.6 per cent heavier than in 1892, the year

preceding the panic. The bank clearings of the

country have exhibited a marked gain every week this

year, sometimes running up to 80 per cent over 1898.

Every week, too, the failures have been smaller than

for the same week last year. The gratifying feature of

all this prosperity is that it is accompanied by very

little speculation, being, in fact, the result of an enormous

demand for goods all over the United States.

This demand is strikingly illustrated in the clothing

trade, leading clothiers reporting that the people are

not only buying more clothes than for a long time,

but are buying a more expensive class of fabrics.

There can be no better proof of widespread prosperity

than this.

The weekly commercial reports last week abounded

in illustrations of the unprecedented demand for mer-

chandise of all descriptions. Iron and steel, with-

standing the recent advances, continue to point up-

ward under an inquiry fully as eager as at any time

during the past year, while lumber, wool, leather,

boots and shoes, cotton and most of the other staples

rule firm at full figures. Practically all the industries

are some months behind the requirements for actual

use, and in not a few the output for a year ahead has

been sold. The fall demand is showing remarkable

expansion, particularly in the Northwest, while the

great corn belt of the West is in high feather over an

enormous crop at fair prices. The only drawback at

present is a drought in the Southwestern cotton

States, notably Texas. The cattle raisers are in

clover, for present prices for beef have been equalled

in Chicago only five times in twenty-two years, and

there are 10,000,000 less beef cattle in the United

States than there were seven years ago. In fact, it

is said that there are fewer cattle in the country now

than since 1882. Certainly, it is long since prices for

beef and mutton have been as high as they are now,

while hogs keep up to 6c in the San Francisco

market with a pertinacity which surprises the packers.

All these conditions tell the tale of the current

prosperity. We seem to be in one of those epochs familiar

to readers of history, when the land seems flowing

with milk and honey. On this coast the principal

expression of the prevailing good times is the lack

of farm hands to harvest the grain and fruit crops.

This complaint has been heard ever since the harvest

began, and is something unique in agriculture.

Wages have advanced in proportion, but the prices

of most farm products are now so good that the

farmer is making more money at the high labor rate

than he did when he was getting men for very low

pay.

When business is so active, both in city and country,

it is difficult to point out where the principal

activity lies. Suffice it to say that not for many years

has trade been in such satisfactory condition as now;

and the best feature of it is that it is likely to continue

so indefinitely.

The hide of Holcaust, the French horse that Tod

Sloan rode to its death in the English Derby, has been

tanned and will be made into boots for fashionable

London. It goes without saying that purchasers will

be found in the fast set.

A sound like unto that made by a cow drawing her

hoof out of the mud was heard plainly the other day

in Washington. Thomas Brackett Reed was pulling

out of Congress.

BUSINESS SENSE IN THE SOUTH.

PERMANENT organization was recently effected in Atlanta by an association of business men known as the Southern Industrial League, the objects of which are to encourage the payment and collection of debts, to repeal statutes devised to hinder the collection of debts, to protect all forms of invested capital and to prevent the discounting of debts.

The organization of a league for such purposes throws a strong side light upon business conditions of the Southern States and reveal some of the causes why the South has been so backward in commercial and industrial development. In the wreck of the old slaveholding society in the South there fell upon that section so much of disaster that discontent became the dominant sentiment of the people, and the quack legislators, who flourish everywhere in periods of popular discontent, obtained such power they were enabled to fill the statute books with laws ostensibly designed to protect debtors, but which might be fairly termed acts to destroy credit. By making it difficult to collect debts these States have made it difficult for their people to borrow money, and as a consequence, while the rest of the Union has ample financial resources to promote industry and trade, the South has been in a condition of chronic financial stringency. The intelligent business men of the South now perceive the evil that has been brought upon them by this "fool legislation" and have organized to repeal it.

At the meeting at which the permanent organization was effected the principal speaker was S. G. McLendon of Thomasville, Georgia, and in the course of his address he gave the South much good advice in matters of national as well as of State legislation. Commenting upon the support given to Bryan and free silver he said:

"Congress never did, never will, and never can regulate the value of a single piece of money made out of metal or paper, except in payment of taxes and executions. The unwritten laws of commerce regulate these, and all other values. To reduce it down to a unit, the buyer and the seller are the only people on earth who are possessed of final and absolute power to regulate values, and Parliaments and Kings and Congresses are utterly helpless in the presence of the power of these two persons. * * * When we of the South take our stand against our own and the experience of other nations, and join in an effort to uphold this ancient and exploded theory, we assume a burden that reduces our credit, paralyzes our resources and retards our development."

Equally pertinent was his condemnation of the proposed indiscriminate legislation against trusts. On that question he said:

"I do not defend trusts, but I do insist that the people have a right to ask that the criminal or evil trusts be named and their crimes specified before they are invited to an indiscriminate slaughter of all corporations created under State laws. The laws against re-grating, forestalling and engrossing sleep calmly in the statute books of many of our States, but how one sovereign in forty-five is going to dictate the conduct of another sovereign, or how the Federal Government is going to acquire jurisdiction over franchises granted by the State, or over the States which grant them, are questions upon which the anti-trust orators and press have so far given out no information. Until an intelligent indictment against offending trusts is framed and presented to the great assize of the people no progress will be made toward the suppression of an alleged evil."

Finally Mr. McLendon closed with a general counsel that will be profitably studied not only in the South but throughout the Union:

"In our haste for remedial legislation we often see the wrong man hit. We are groaning to-day under the heavy burden of statesmanship which introduces laws which can in no way be administered. Let the people awake and scourge such men from public office. Let them awake and suppress that school which would teach that government can usurp the functions of the Almighty and create something out of nothing. Let them awake and quit levying public taxes for private profit. Let them awake and require that only just and reasonable laws shall be enacted, and that these shall be promptly and impartially administered by the courts. Let the people do these things, and our burdens will be lifted, the idle hand and the idle dollar will meet under the banner of equal laws, and while giving employment to each other will give prosperity to our country."

TRUST CONFERENCES.

SOME time ago Governor Sayers of Texas issued a call for a convention of Governors and Attorneys General of the States and Territories to meet in St. Louis September 20, to devise a uniform system of laws for the regulation of trusts. A little later the Civic Federation of Chicago arranged for a conference on trusts to assemble in that city September 13, and the Governors of the States have been requested to appoint delegates to attend it.

The two conferences will differ widely from one another in the attitude they assume toward the subject under consideration. That which meets in St. Louis has been called "to consider the effect which the formation of trusts is having upon the country, and, if possible, to agree upon a character of legislation that will not only force those now existing into dissolution, but will also prevent their further creation." The attitude of such a convention it will be seen is one of hostility to trusts and its main object is to devise a means for preventing their operation.

The Chicago conference, according to the call of the Civic Federation, is "to discuss combinations and trusts, their uses and abuses, embracing the subjects of transportation, labor, industrial and commercial combinations." The object of this conference, therefore, is purely educational; it will aim to present all sides of the issue impartially and will consider upon its merits every problem involved.

After the Chicago conference had been called the committee of arrangements discovered that while there has been much discussion on the subject there has been very little reliable data brought forward upon which to base conclusions. To remedy that defect the committee has issued blanks to upward of 20,000 persons, firms and corporations, more or less affected by trusts, asking for replies to questions pertinent to the controversy. By means of these replies the committee expects to be able to compile a larger fund of information on the subject of trusts and their effects than has yet been furnished.

Of the two conferences, that at Chicago promises to be the more interesting. A considerable number of Governors and Attorneys General have accepted the invitation to the St. Louis meeting and it will doubtless be well attended, but the results are not likely to be profitable. At the utmost it can only agree upon some declamatory resolutions denouncing trusts, more useful for stump speakers in the campaigns of the fall than for intelligent legislators seeking to devise laws for the good of their commonwealths.

From the Chicago conference, on the other hand, there may be expected a discussion of the subject that will increase the public understanding of its problems and thus prepare the way for such legislation as

may be needed to regulate them and guard against abuses. In fact if the anti-trust Governors and Attorneys General who are going to the convention at St. Louis are wise, they will attend the Chicago conference first and learn something of both sides of the issue they purpose to deal with.

THE EAST AND THE WEST.

ACCORDING to a report from Washington, one of the most serious obstacles in the way of procuring governmental aid for the irrigation of arid districts of the West is the opposition of Eastern interests. It is said many people in that section of the Union regard the development of the West as in some measure prejudicial to Eastern farmers inasmuch as it will tend to diminish the value of farm lands and the prices of farm products.

A prominent leader of one of the Eastern ranges is quoted as saying he could see nothing in the way of results from irrigation under the supervision and by the aid of the national Government but a local benefit to the West, and that he did not think it right for the people of the whole country to be taxed for the purpose of helping a few sparsely settled arid States.

It is of course inevitable that some sectional opposition to the vast work of irrigation should develop. It is true that the Eastern States do not need irrigation and that if the national Government undertake the work of constructing great storage reservoirs, the Eastern as well as the Western taxpayer will have to assist in defraying the cost. The issue is therefore a sectional one, but it is not more so than any other work of internal improvement. When the interior of the country is taxed to provide revenues for the improvement of harbors on the coast, the residents of the coast cities can easily perceive the improvement is for the general good, but when it is proposed to improve the interior of the country some Atlantic Coast people see nothing in it but a movement for a purely Western benefit.

Fortunately it is not likely that merely sectional considerations will have much weight in determining the action of the Government on an issue of this kind. It is true that almost every river and harbor bill and every bill providing for the construction of post-offices is made up largely by an interchange of favors between the members of Congress from the different districts that are to be benefited, but in measures dealing with large matters there is very little sectionalism displayed. When a comprehensive irrigation policy has been given definite form and comes up for action, the leaders of Congress, the directing statesmen of the nation, will not give much heed to objections interposed on sectional grounds.

The fact that some sectional opposition exists ought, however, to arouse the people of the West to the importance of making a united effort to bring the issue fairly before the nation and to educate the East upon the advantage which the whole people will derive from the upbuilding of the semi-arid section of the Union. The problems of irrigation on the vast scale required to redeem the arid and semi-arid regions cannot be adequately dealt with by any power less than that of the national Government, and he is but a narrow-minded American who can see in such redemption nothing but a local benefit for the districts where the irrigation will be supplied.

A DEMOCRATIC ELI WANTED.

WHILE Bryan has been sweeping one Democratic State convention after another into the old stampede for free silver, the conservative Democrats are still puffing and panting in the race after the wild crowd trying to get them back into the old road. They are making the race with a persistence worthy of their cause, and loud are their shouts to one another, "Get there, Eli, and head them steers."

William F. Harty, who has been some time at Saratoga talking politics with aristocratic Democrats from all parts of the country, declares the prevailing feeling among them is a desire to get rid of Bryan and bring about a reunion of the party. He says: "The upmost thought in the minds of those whom I casually met was the hope that the Democratic National Convention of 1900 would pursue such a conservative course that all Democrats and citizens generally of independent tendencies might cordially and enthusiastically support the platform and the candidate."

Similar expressions come from other sources. The Nashville American recently said: "Mr. Bryan has unquestionably lost strength with many thinking men in the South, not only because free coinage has lost prestige, but because of his indefinite position regarding expansion and his weak handling of the trust question."

The Philadelphia Times, an independent Democratic paper, says: "Many of the Democratic leaders believe, or pretend to believe, that Mr. Bryan will be renominated as the Democratic candidate for President next year, but, fearful and suicidal as have been the Democratic follies of the past, there is little likelihood that the next Democratic National Convention will select a candidate for President who would be known from start to finish as the leader of an utterly forlorn hope."

From East and West and North and South come reports of that kind. There is a prevalent desire for harmony among such Democrats as can afford to spend the summer at Saratoga and talk politics over \$10 dinners, there is a belief among sane Democrats that the rank and file will not be foolish enough to repeat in 1900 the crazy stampede of 1896, and there is a conviction among earnest Democrats that Bryan is not equal to the demands of the new issues before the country; but what do all these desires, beliefs and convictions amount to? They serve but to engender illusions in the minds of those who cherish them. The wild steers are following the wilder ass of the Platte with as much of rampage and recklessness as ever, and the Eli who is expected to head them off is not visible on the prairie.

California boys needed just such an opportunity as was afforded them Thursday to prove that they brought along with them from the Philippines the appetites with which they were provided when they left San Francisco. They didn't do a thing to that breakfast!

At Vienna the other day a rich banker, having failed, hanged himself by the neck until he was dead. An unfeeling telegraph editor labeled the story "Another Banker Suspends."

Oom Paul apparently has taken for granted the truth of the saying that the English are a nation of shopkeepers. At least, he has made them a number of counter propositions.

A Japanese, morally and physically diseased, is to be allowed to land at this port because he is a merchant. There is some merchandise that San Francisco does not want.

Lynching may now be placed in the category of luxuries in the South. It costs now, according to the dispatches, \$5000 apiece to hang men without authority of law.

A WEEKS' TALES FROM THE LIGHTER.

The attendance and enthusiasm at the annual convention of the El Dorado County Miners' Association at Placerville on Saturday evening shows that the life and the enterprising spirit of the mining regions are increasing with the growing mining prosperity. Other county conventions will follow, and there is every promise of Secretary Benjamin of the California Miners' Association meeting with great success in his efforts to stimulate the increase of membership in county associations and so further strengthen the state association, which is composed of these federated county organizations.

A lucky tenderfoot has struck it rich in the woods about six miles west of old Fruitvale, Shasta County, in section 7, township 33 north, range 2 west, and created a rush to the new diggings. A week or two before James Wilson and wife of Oakland struck out north for a health vacation and wisely decided to go far from the usual beaten paths and to take a nature. They traveled the Fall River road for twenty-five miles from Redding in the old El Dorado, and then they followed the Ridge road for miles until they found a deserted old cabin and a few shacks, and then they struck gold. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who are both of the nature, they traveled the Fall River road for twenty-five miles from Redding in the old El Dorado, and then they followed the Ridge road for miles until they found a deserted old cabin and a few shacks, and then they struck gold.

Wilson decided, however, to be a miner for a few minutes as well as a farmer, and child of nature, and took a pick and shovel and told Mrs. Wilson that he was ready to go to work. The prospect was ever full enough to dig on section 3, and the old miner who left the cabin long ago to strike a strike and trail north by northeast to hills worth exploring.

Wilson proceeded to develop his prospect, and on the day following the discovery over \$200 was taken out of the mine. The mine adjoins the quartz to Redding, and its unusual richness is apparent at a glance. How much gold the mine will produce has not been taken out the lady did not state, but it has already reached a handsome sum.

People living in the vicinity have learned to be careful, and all the country thereabout is being plastered with location notices. More than thirty notices have been placed in the vicinity of the place where the Wilsons made their strike. Indications of gold, silver and copper have been seen in several places.

Many cemeteries here and there in the gold mining regions have seen the peace of the dead disturbed by mining operations. Every mountain hamlet has its little city of the dead near by, and here and there these consecrated areas contain gold and silver. In some cases hydraulic miners have come along with their big flumes and giants and gophers and have destroyed the graves. Sometimes the bones have been moved to a patch of ground that could be better protected by the miners, and sometimes the bones have been left where they were, and in some cases the surrounding ground has been sluiced away to the line of the fence, and the high and deep banks from which, with the wear of weather and time, coffins would later stick out, overhanging the ground, and the bones would be scattered wherever the wind blows.

The Empire copper mine, the property of Charles Braid, has been sold to the Lucky Boy syndicate. The mine is one of the principal mines of the famous group at Copperopolis. It carries with it nearly two acres of property, and the syndicate has \$50,000, and of this amount Braid received \$25,000 and the promoters of the deal the balance.

There is a little gold excitement in the mountains in the interior of Santa Barbara County, where there was one three or four years ago. Last week the County Recorder received four location notices from a man who claims to have discovered some distance below the marble crosses is quite rich, the pay dirt in which the bones of the dead are scattered. Several dollars to the man, Joseph Morris and James Hamblent, although the location is in the interior of the county, proceeded some time ago to run a tunnel drift into the pay dirt and to work the rest of the deep river beach has been worked on all sides, leaving a square block of ground thirty or forty feet square, and the red sides from miles away. There are other places where there has been so let alone.

Rich cemeteries have had other troubles, and there is one up at Columbia, Tuolumne County, that has just been saved by Father Gering, who was in the let the gold rest there under the dead where the Almighty put it. It seems that the bones of the dead are scattered some distance below the marble crosses is quite rich, the pay dirt in which the bones of the dead are scattered.

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There are a great number of mining men in Los Angeles at the present time, says the Los Angeles Times. Many of them are here on business connected with Southern California properties, some buying supplies for their own properties, others on their way north or south. The plant is run by electricity, and the water power are located in Chill Gulch about two miles from this place, has started up another mine. The plant is run by electricity, and the water power are located in Chill Gulch about two miles from this place, has started up another mine.

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INTERIOR PRESS PRAISES THE CALL'S SOUVENIR EDITION.

The Call distanced all of its competitors in getting out a special edition in honor of the returning volunteers. Its illustrations were the best we have seen in any newspaper for some time, and the reporters all did themselves proud in their descriptive work.

The volunteer souvenir edition of the San Francisco Call, which was issued Thursday, is one of the prettiest pieces of newspaper work that has come to our tables for a long time. The taste, ability and good sense displayed in getting it out does credit not only to the Call, but to Pacific Coast Journalism.

The Call easily distanced all its rivals in its Thursday morning's edition, in which was announced the arrival of the First California heroes. The issue was really a magnificent one and head and shoulders above anything from any of the other metropolitan presses on that day.

The Call "put it all over" the other San Francisco dailies yesterday, just like a coat of paint. The illustrations in that paper were the best ever printed by a newspaper on the coast. The wash drawings by McChesney representing the boys of the gallant First California in action were magnificent. Nothing more appropriate to the occasion could have been conceived or executed with greater skill.

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NEWS OF FOREIGN NAVIES.

The fleet of foreign ships of war in Asiatic waters numbers 101. Of these Great Britain is represented by 35, United States 22, Russia 19, France 10, Germany 5, Italy 5 and Austria and Portugal