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AMUSEMENTS

Alcazar—"The Proper Capers." Columbia—"The Highwayman." Alhambra—"The Angel of the Alley." Grand Opera—"The Wedding Day." Central—"Colleen Bawn." Central-Benefit performance Thursday night, March 21. California—"The Telephone Girl." Metropolitan—"Vaudeville." Grand Opera—"La Traviata." Olympia, corner Mason and Eddy streets—Specialties. Gaiety, Zoo and Theater—Vaudeville every afternoon and evening. Fischer's—Vaudeville. Union Square Hall—Lectures to-night. California Club (Oakland)—Races. Tanqueray Park—Races.

OUR INTERESTS AT WASHINGTON.

SENATOR PERKINS' statements published in The Call yesterday give an interesting review of the legislation of the late session of Congress with particular reference to bills directly affecting California. A notable feature of the Senator's review is the showing made of California measures adopted by the Senate but rejected by the House. The number of these is so great as to merit more than passing attention. Concerning them the Senator said:

Several important bills were passed by the Senate, but failed in the House. One of very great importance was that providing for the erection of a new customhouse in San Francisco, on the site of the present structure. The bill introduced by me was passed by the Senate, appropriating \$2,500,000 for construction. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, but was never reported by that body.

The same fate befell the bill introduced by me providing for the relinquishment by the United States of all title to the old Marine Hospital and grounds for the purpose of establishing a sailors' home under local supervision and control. It was passed by the Senate, but was not reported from the House committee.

Another bill of great importance to the Government was introduced by me and was passed by the Senate. It was that prohibiting the towing of logs in rafts along the coast. The danger to navigation from these logs, when the rafts break up, as they usually do when rough weather is encountered, is well known. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Interstate Commerce, which committee failed to report it back. I offered an amendment to the sundry civil bill, appropriating \$500,000 for making and laying a cable from San Francisco to Honolulu, but the House of Representatives having declined to pass the bill, this amendment was not reported by the House.

The bill introduced by me, providing for the coinage of nickels at the United States Branch Mint in San Francisco, was also passed by the Senate and was reported back to the House by the Committee on Ways and Means, but was never brought before the House for a vote.

I regret exceedingly the defeat of the bill providing for a postal cable to the Hawaiian Islands, as I deem it not only a measure of great importance to the Government, but also to the commercial interests of our country, and especially to California.

The bill to secure title to the two groves of big trees in Calaveras and Mariposa counties, for the purpose of preserving them from destruction, was introduced by me at the first session, and was passed by the Senate early in the second session, but, in spite of every effort, it could not be brought up in the House for a vote, owing to the opposition of Speaker Henderson. Another effort will, therefore, have to be made to preserve these trees for posterity.

That is certainly a striking list of measures to be passed by one House but rejected by the other, and it would be interesting to learn why the House is so much less favorable to California interests than the Senate. The subject is the more important because neither branch of Congress has ever shown anything like an extravagant willingness to promote the interests of the Pacific Coast. At this very session, as Senator Perkins points out, several bills of great importance to California failed in both houses. Among them he specifies a bill providing for the establishment of a quarantine for nursery stock, one authorizing the entry and patenting of lands containing petroleum and chiefly valuable therefor, and the mineral land bill providing for the segregation of mineral lands from agricultural lands.

It will be seen by the statements of the Senator that California has many interests at the national capital which will have to be looked after at the next session of Congress with great care. The House is evidently the danger point, and increased efforts will have to be made to render that branch of the Government as favorable to us as at least as the Senate. The situation should be thoroughly studied, the causes which led to the failure of California bills in the House should be determined, and then some means devised for overcoming them.

German statesmen are complaining that the colonies of the Fatherland do not give the bulk of their trade to the home country. The grumblers should not forget that neither patriotism nor friendship governs a man when he goes shopping and wants to get his money's worth.

There appears to be but a single element in the case of Cooper, the desperate rascal, which even suggests a suspicion of sympathy for him. The several women who married him must have been so absolutely devoid of sense as to have made his married life a burden.

THE PHILIPPINE CRUX.

It is to be hoped that the necessity for military operations, occupancy and government of the Philippines may soon cease. Until they do this country cannot reach a proper comprehension of the task it has on hand in those islands. The crux of that situation is its industrial aspect. Throughout the Malay Peninsula, the Straits Settlements and to an extent in Burmah, the native labor is not productive of a surplus.

In those tropical countries there are valuable resources, but labor is required for their development. The natives will not work beyond self-support, and Europeans and Americans cannot work in that climate. The whole Malay Peninsula and the Straits Settlements depend entirely on Chinese labor, and greatly on Chinese commercial enterprise, for their development and profit. The iron and tin mines, the gambier, pepper, sago, rice, tobacco, tea, coffee and cocoa plantations are worked entirely by Chinese, and would go back to nature and be disused in one season without them. The damar, rattan and other substitutes for timber and the timber forests themselves are worked by Chinese.

The Chinese merchants and capitalists, driven out of their own country by its conservatism, are the exploiters of neighboring countries in the Orient and the exporters thereto of their coolie countrymen as laborers.

Mr. Blithcote, an American gentleman, reports that Chinese capitalists stand ready to introduce any required number of coolies into the Philippines if permitted by the United States.

Chung Yick Ting, a rich tin mine owner in the Straits Settlements, says that he has already discussed the development of the Philippines by coolie labor. He says that the islands can be made the garden of gardens, but not by white labor, which cannot live there. He advises that our Government confiscate all property of insurgents who do not lay down their arms by a given date and exile its owners to Guam, creating there a penal colony, and then open the islands to Chinese labor. He would build a railroad the whole length of Luzon, following the Rio Grande de Cagayan, with branches, to be constructed by coolie labor, and he declares such a road would pay from the running of the first train. This construction would employ thousands of coolies and would give them some funds with which to permanently locate in the country and perform its labor.

Other thousands he would import at a cost of \$10 per head, with as much more to buy rice until they got started. He says he can take millions of coolies there who have enough money to buy an acre or two of land, finally to become employers of new importations. It is his opinion that the islands will support 25,000,000 of Chinese, whose product will constitute an enormous export of sugar, tobacco, rice and hemp.

Now the sooner this country gets face to face with this situation the better. That Mr. Ting is right about native labor and white labor there is no question, and that he is right about what may be done there with coolie labor may not be questioned. But, he says: "You cannot bring labor from your own country to the tropics, for your laborers cannot stand that climate nor live as cheaply as is necessary there. If the United States is to be a colonizing power it must change its immigration laws as to the colonies, regardless of what these laws may be in the home country." This is more than probably true. It is the next step that must be considered. In the noise and confusion of military operations and the impingement of the question upon politics these practical matters which go to the value of the whole adventure have not been thought of. Senators Beveridge and Carter and others have inflamed the American mind about the vast riches of the archipelago. But they have not qualified their jeweled prospectus by the reflection that no matter how inexhaustible the wealth human labor is required to transmute it for human use.

In that part of the problem the keen and practical views of Mr. Ting are worth all the rhetoric in the world. The practical question is, How much labor is to be required to make the islands worth keeping, and whence is it to come? The future peace and happiness of our own people will be greatly promoted by reaching and settling these issues as soon as possible.

LIGHT IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

RECENT events in South Carolina are in the nature of a dawning light that gives promise of the speedy beginning of a better day in that long benighted State. In the first place the disclosure of the fact that negroes have been held in virtual slavery under a system of contracts has led to the prompt breaking up of the system; and in the second place the action of the State Legislature in refusing to censure Senator McLaurin for voting with the Republicans on many party measures in the Senate reveals a weakening of the Bourbon forces among the people, and shows that they are acquiring something of liberality in politics.

The negro contract incident is one of more than passing importance. The facts brought to light by the investigations of the Grand Jury showed that in certain counties of the State a practice had grown up of getting ignorant negroes to sign contracts which gave them in virtual bondage to their employer. The holder of such a contract claimed under its terms the right to sell the negro's labor to any other man who chose to buy it. It has been the custom of the Justices of the Peace to uphold the contracts, and negroes who undertook to escape from the slavery to which they were bound were at once remanded to the control of the contract holder and he inflicted upon the negro such punishment as he chose.

As soon as the facts were made known steps were at once taken to put an end to the system. Judge Benet of Anderson County, to whom the Grand Jury made its report, has proven to be the right man in the right place. It was in fact by his instructions that the first investigation was due. He had heard of the wrong and instructed the Grand Jury to inquire into it. The jury appears to have undertaken the work with zeal and courage. We are told that at every step the investigation was opposed by a considerable element of the white people of the county. Some of the richest, most influential and most powerful planters declared they could not carry on their plantations except under that system of controlling labor. In the face of such opposition, however, the jury went on with its work, finding ample support from the Judge; and it now seems probable that not only will the system be broken up, but that some at least of the men who were guilty of the worst outrages committed under it will be brought to punishment.

The McLaurin incident is almost equally significant of a changed public sentiment. During the whole of the recent session of Congress the junior Senator from South Carolina, notwithstanding he is supposed to be a protegee of Tillman, has voted right along with the Republicans on party measures. When the attempt to censure him in the Legislature of his State had failed, he had his name stricken from the caucus roll of the Democrats of the Senate. He is now an

independent, and all reports from South Carolina show that he will be amply sustained in his new position. One of the foremost men of the State in commenting upon the action of McLaurin says that South Carolina is about to abandon the policies of Calhoun and readopt those of her first great statesmen, Langdon Cheves and William Lowndes. He says: "There is unquestionably a spirit of revolt against the Democratic party and a disposition toward independentism in national politics."

Of course independentism cannot last long. Sooner or later the progressive, liberal and enlightened element of South Carolina must unite with the like element in the country generally. It may be a long while yet before the full day beams over South Carolina, but evidently the dawn is at hand.

A PLACE IN THE SUNSHINE.

COUNT VON BULOW, in defending the course pursued by the German Government in China, denied that Germany is serving either British or Russian interests, and insisted with much emphasis that it is German interests alone the Kaiser and his troops are defending in the Orient. Warning to his theme, he added: "That we must defend our interests in Eastern Asia is a fact that has become historic. It was in that sense I said three months ago that we must have our place in the sunshine. I say to-day we will keep that place in the sunshine and not let our eyes be pushed into the shadow."

So it appears the struggle in China is a struggle for sunshine. It is not a war for anything so bloody as conquest nor for anything so sordid as trade. Neither is it a fanatic attempt to interfere with Chinese religion nor an educational movement to uplift the Chinese masses. It is simply a desire for sunshine. The invasion is, in fact, a sort of picnic excursion in search of light and warmth, and such bloodshed as occurs must be attributed solely to the rough and toughs of other nations who try to crowd the Kaiser into the shade.

Sunshine of that sort costs money. All the portents of the situation give warning that it will be a long time before the Kaiser can enjoy sunshine in China in an undisturbed peace, and already his expenditures have been large. Herr Richter, the Radical leader in the Reichstag, stated in reply to Von Bulow's speech that the Chinese troubles have cost Germany up to this time 276,000,000 marks, or a sum larger than the profits of Germany's trade with China for the last twelve years. He closed by saying the Kaiser might be earnestly looking for sunshine but he had gone the wrong way about it and had run up a blind alley.

Recent developments in the camps of the allies go far to confirm the views of Richter. At the present time there is more likelihood of a violent collision among the allied powers than of a harmonious settlement of their claims against China. The troops of Great Britain and of Russia are glaring at one another across a railway siding at Tientsin, and there may be a clash at any moment. Furthermore the Japs are reported to be eager to get at the Russians and drive them out of Manchuria. Germany also, it seems, is watching Russia with something of jealousy, and is reported to have given notice to the Chinese Government not to make concessions to the Czar.

It may seem strange that all this strife and jealousy should exist over a struggle for sunshine when there is so much sunshine in the world, but it is to be borne in mind that when people once get greedy for anything they can never get enough so long as anybody else has any at all. If the strugglers for sunshine should get possession of the whole earth they would not be satisfied, but would straightway reach out for the sun.

A UTAH DECISION.

IN the lower courts of Utah a Mormon was found guilty of polygamy. His first—or lawful—wife lived in Salt Lake County, the plural wife lived in Utah County. He was indicted, and his relations with the surplus wife were in evidence and the jury found him guilty, the locus of the crime being in the county where the polygamous wife lived.

The Supreme Court of Utah has reversed the decision, set aside the verdict and quashed the information. The court says briefly: "The mere existence in some other county than the place of trial of acts or conditions of defendant lawful in and of themselves, but necessary to be alleged and proven in order to establish the crime as charged, does not involve the power of this statute so as to permit the trial of the defendant in such other county."

This is rather turbid language, employed in order to omit use of the sacred word polygamy, or plural marriage. Its meaning, however, is plain. A Mormon can have his first or lawful wife in one county and a dozen others in a dozen different counties, and under this decision can escape punishment, since his lawful marriage, "an act or condition lawful in itself," can be violated only in the county where the lawful wife lives. This decision does not follow the statute of adultery in the other States, nor does it follow interstate law. In actions for divorce under that statute the act or acts of adultery may be proven anywhere in the State or in other States. Were it not so the marriage contract would be without binding validity and would furnish no protection to those who are party to it. It will be noticed that the Utah Supreme Court goes clear beyond the verdict in the court below and quashes the information.

The action of the Legislature and the Supreme Court decision will be a surprise to the whole country. It was supposed that polygamy was weakening in its hold upon the people and was a fast fading institution. But these revelations prove that it has a stubborn hold and that its temporary suppression by the Tucker-Edmunds law has only served to increase its strength.

Her statehood makes Utah at present supreme in the making and enforcing of statutes intended to shield this odium of the Mormon church. That church is rapidly colonizing Idaho and Wyoming, and holds the balance of power in Arizona. It will soon control the group of inter-mountain States, and they will be theocracies in their government, for the church is paternal and controls the people in their politics as well as in their materialities. It will be well if Congress act quickly in placing polygamy beside its twin relic, slavery, by a constitutional amendment.

The women who have been making spectacles of themselves by fawning upon the desperate criminal, Cooper, should congratulate themselves that under the statutes of this State idiosyncy has not been made a crime.

An effort is being made to extend the local fire limits. It might be wise at the same time to lessen the danger of fire by preventing the erection of shacks within the limits.

Justice in California as the Supreme Court thinks it to be seems not only to be blind but suffers also from an acute attack of the blind staggers.

PAPERS OF CURRENT TOPICS PREPARED BY EXPERTS AND SPECIALISTS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL.

How the Japanese Govern Formosa Wisely and Well Under Principles of Civil and Political Liberty.

By Professor Ernest W. Clement.

V.—JAPANESE RULE IN FORMOSA.

By the terms of the treaty of Shimoda, which in 1855 brought to a close the war between China and the Pescadores were ceded to Japan, and upon ratification of that treaty in May of that year were formally handed over by the Chinese to the Japanese.

When Count Kabayama retired from that position he was succeeded by Viscount General Kutsura, who has recently resigned the army portfolio. Next came Baron General Nogai, and then Baron General Kodama, who holds the position at present, together with the army portfolio. No man is eligible to the Governor Generalship.

The questions that have presented themselves in Japan in connection with the civil administration in Formosa have been both general and special. For a very brief period Formosa affairs were under a separate department of state, with the Governor and vice minister of colonization, as well as subordinate officials. The administrative economy and reform were deemed to require the appointment of a Governor General, appointed by the Emperor upon the recommendation of the cabinet, was made responsible to the Emperor.

Early Difficulties in Formosa. The first difficult question that arose concerned the status of the Chinese residents of Formosa under the terms of the Shimoda treaty reads as follows: "The inhabitants of the territories ceded to us shall not be treated as aliens, but shall be subject to the laws and regulations of the empire."

Another embarrassing matter was the question of the prohibition of the exportation of opium into Japan is forbidden, the only apparently consistent course would have been to prohibit the importation into Formosa. This was the policy adopted by the Japanese Government; but at the same time it was impossible to abolish opium smoking at once among the thousands of Chinese there. Consequently the Government was obliged to issue retrievable licenses, to whom special licenses have been granted. It is expected, however, that the number of licensed smokers will gradually decrease until the evil is practically eradicated from the island.

Did Constitution Follow the Flag? One specially interesting question arose in connection with the forced retirement of the Chief Judge of the Formosa Court and the question of the employment of the self refused to acknowledge the right of the Governor General to retire him, and fell back on the Japanese constitution, chapter 5, article 58, second paragraph, which reads as follows: "The position of a judge shall not be removed or restricted by way of criminal sentence or disciplinary punishment."

Then followed for several months a discussion of a proposed amendment of the imperial Diet, on the question whether the constitution extended over Formosa. The debate was carried along on exactly the same lines as that of the cent discussion as to whether the United States constitution applied to the Philippines. In Japan it has been finally decided by public and legal opinion that the crown, and not the constitution, is paramount in Formosa, and that the constitution is not, per se, in force, but must be made specially applicable in Formosa.

Dealing With Rebellious Natives. With reference to the rebels, Baron Kodama's policy is to wage relentless war on bandits, but when once they have been suppressed he pursues a conciliatory policy. "Surgate" from one side by force of arms and then confer on the subjugated portion the benefits of civil government."

When the Japanese first entered Formosa the people as a whole manifested considerable suspicion and antipathy, due to misrepresentations by persons who were proper to be not by the people saw old conditions. But since the people saw that in spite of mistakes and corruption the Japanese meant well, and that it was greatly to their advantage, they have been under such a stable and responsible government as the Japanese would and are according to the island they are completely reconciled. A missionary has lived twenty-five years in Formosa and his testimony in behalf of the benefits obtained by getting rid of Chinese officialdom and the literary class, who are a narrow-minded and impracticable body of men."

Drawing Colony and Empire Close. It should always be borne in mind that it is the expressed determination of the Japanese that Formosa must be made the soul and spirit of a Japanese empire. Whatever mistakes they have made, or may make, that is their affair. Although their constitution, their codes and other instruments of civilization may not be immediately applicable to Formosa, they are being so far as they can be rapidly as conditions will permit. Local self-government will be extended there, and the advantage of Formosa to the Japanese will be increased. When the Formosan Railway failed as a private concern the Government bought up the line and pushed it, together with other public improvements, by means of special bonds. Wages have increased from 70 to 80 per cent, and the prices of commodities have

PERSONAL MENTION.

H. Casey of Salinas is at the Occidental. Henry Bron of Napa is a guest at the Palace. Peter Musto, a merchant of Stockton, is at the Grand. John Cross and wife of Los Angeles are at the Occidental. Colonel George Stone arrived from Honolulu yesterday. E. R. Snyder, an oil man of Coalinga, is a guest at the Lick. W. H. McKenzie, an oil man of Fresno, is staying at the Lick. L. W. Robitaille of Sacramento is staying at the Occidental. F. Lutz, a merchant of Modesto, is a guest at the Occidental. Ex-Speaker Alden Anderson of Suisun is registered at the Grand. M. Biggs Jr., a capitalist of Oroville, is registered at the Grand. L. T. Hanford of Sacramento is registered at the Occidental. F. B. Fraser, a banker of Fresno, is registered at the Palace. Lawrence, a sugar planter of Honolulu, is a guest at the Palace. R. F. Johnson, a real estate man of Monterey, is a guest at the Grand. H. P. Goodman, a banker of Napa, is staying for a few days at the Palace. O. F. Smith, a lawyer of Reno, Nev., accompanied by his wife, is at the Palace. Mark R. Plasted, proprietor of the Fresno Evening Democrat, is at the California. Congressman Elliott of South Carolina, accompanied by his wife, is staying at the California. R. L. James, proprietor of the El Carmelo Hotel at Pacific Grove, is staying at the Grand. Ex-Governor Edward J. Murphy, accompanied by his wife and family, leaves today for New York. Miss Jennie Flood, Miss Howard and Miss Crosby arrived yesterday from New York in a special car. Miss Flood is at the Palace. W. B. Hampton and wife are staying at the California. They recently returned from a trip to Honolulu, and are on their way home to Los Angeles. E. S. Benson, general auditor of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company, with headquarters at Portland, Or., is at the Palace with his wife. W. A. B. Wallace, assistant to the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, accompanied by his wife, is touring the coast in his private car Iolanthe. They are at present staying at the Palace.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, March 18.—The following Californians are in New York: From San Francisco—W. E. Bourn, at the Netherlands; L. F. Gelscher, at the Imperial; Miss C. Wallace, at the Grand; J. Goldstein, at the St. Denis; E. W. Hopkins, at the Holland; D. Nogle, at the Plaza; E. A. Phelps, at the Holland; E. D. Rosenblatt and E. L. Stern, at the Netherlands; J. H. Wallace, at the Manhattan; R. H. Fease, at the Holland; C. Williams and wife, at the Manhattan. From Los Angeles—J. Erdman, at the Bay State; G. Wilcox, at the Ashland; C. W. Parsons, at the Bay State.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

SILK INDUSTRY—G. E. W. City, Silk worms are raised in San Diego and vicinity. NO PREMIUM—H. W. San Rafael, Cal. No premium is offered by dealers for dimes of 1845, 1853, 1854 and 1861.

THE SHERIDAN—W. B. M. San Jose, Cal. There is no law limiting the number of terms a citizen may be President of the United States. PARKS—A Subscriber, City. Golden Gate Park, in San Francisco, has an area of 1,046 acres and Central Park of New York an area of 843 acres.

TRANSPORTS—H. R. Raymond, Cal. For such information as you desire in relation to repairs to the transports address a communication to the Navy Department, Washington, D. C. NOT THE SHERIDAN—A. S. Watsonville, Cal. The accident referred to in your communication could not have occurred on the Pacific coast. She was not in the port of San Francisco.

PENSION OFFICE—M. L. M. Madery, Cal. The United States Pension Office in San Francisco is located at the northwest corner of Pine and Sansome streets. Applications for pensions cannot be made at any pension agent. AIR SHIP—R. R. Stockton, Cal. Count Zeppelin has been experimenting with a new balloon in Europe, and he expects great results, but at this time it is impossible to tell to what extent it can be used for the air. There are a number of other inventors who are building air ships, or rather models, but time alone will tell what success.

CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS—Subscriber, Santa Cruz, Cal. If you desire to obtain information as to civil service apply to the Civil Service Commission, at the secretary of the commission, City Hall, San Francisco. If the desire is to obtain information in relation to the United States Civil Service, address the secretary of the commission, Washington, D. C. DUPLICATE WHIST—Subscriber, Cal. In duplicate whist the player who is entitled to the trump card is termed the dealer. The cards have been dealt by him or whether they have not. Duplicate whist is that form of whist in which each player is dealt only one card, and played so as to bring the play of teams, pairs or individuals into comparison.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY—H. N. B. City. The call uses wireless telegraphy to obtain news when occasions require the use of the wire. The time that the Call used it was upon the return of the California Volunteers from Manila in August, 1899. Messages have been transmitted by wireless telegraph without difficulty. There is, it is claimed, no limit, within reasonable distances, by that method. The reason that the system is not used more extensively at this time is that it is yet in infancy.

NICARAGUA—J. E. Amador City, Cal. The steamships from New Orleans to Nicaragua make Greytown the terminal port. There are a large number of mines in Nicaragua. There are placer mines near the headwaters of the Frijoles, at the foot of the eastern declivity of the Cordillera. This is about 15 miles from Greytown. It takes about seven days by boat to reach the mines. There is also mining on the Wa Wa River, in the Segarra district, and in the Matagalpa district. In the latter district the following places in Nicaragua: Bluefields, Corinto, Matagalpa and San Juan del Sur. Letters should be addressed to "United States Consul at," giving the name of the place.

Choice candies, Townsend's, Palace Hotel. Cal. glace fruit 50c per lb at Townsend's. Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 610 Montgomery St. Telephone Main 1943.

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Many petty trade-mark pirates trade on reputation of Dr. Siegert's Angostura Bitters, unqualified South American tonic. Refuse imitation.