

**THE WEATHER.**

Forecast made at San Francisco for thirty hours ending midnight, June 11:  
 San Francisco and vicinity—Fair, warmer Saturday; light northeast winds.  
 A. G. McADIE,  
 District Forecaster.

# THE CALL

**THE THEATERS.**

Alcazar—"Under Two Flags."  
 California—"The Cavalier."  
 Central—"The Fiddler."  
 Chutes—Vaudeville.  
 Columbia—"The Little Minister."  
 Fischer's—"U. S."  
 Grand—"A Captain of Mayar."  
 Orpheum—Vaudeville.  
 Tivoli—"Sergeant Kitty."  
 Matinees at All Theaters To-Day.



VOLUME XCVI—NO. 11.

SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## BOLD PLOT OF CONVICTS FRUSTRATED

### San Quentin Prison Barely Escapes a Fire.

#### Desperate Inmates Plan to Escape While Penitentiary Burns.

Officials Are Reticent, but It Is Known That Three Incendiary Attempts Have Been Made.

Special Dispatch to The Call.  
 SAN QUENTIN, June 10.—A wholesale jail delivery and the destruction of more than \$400,000 worth of the State's property has been attempted at San Quentin prison. There have been three separate attempts made within about as many weeks to burn down the jute mill. The first attempt was on Saturday afternoon, May 21, and by the merest accident were the plans frustrated.

That the formation of the plot was well generalised is evident from the fact that not until every convict was out of the jute mill was the fire discovered. It was set in the rear in what is known as the preparatory department. Two guards who had left the mill suddenly returned and were the ones to discover the fire. In ten minutes more the entire building would have been in flames. The fire apparatus is utterly inadequate to fight a conflagration, and the entire structure, with its \$400,000 worth of machinery and thousands of dollars' worth of grain bags and raw jute, would have been consumed in a short time. At the time the fire was discovered all of the 800 convicts employed in the manufacture of grain bags were out of the mill. There were about 600 in the upper prison yard, while the balance were in the lower yard.

**PLAN OF THE CONVICTS.**  
 The plan evidently was to set the mill on fire, then while the prison officials were excited and the guards busily at work attempting to stay the progress of the flames the convicts were to make a break for liberty. The captain's office was to be the objective point of attack. While more apparatus was being brought inside the walls the gates would have to be opened. At that time it was the plan of the convicts to overpower the guards and, together with Captain Harrison, Turnkey Swan and a number of guards as a shield from the rifle fire, force their way to liberty.

It was a most desperate chance to take and probably many prisoners would have been killed, yet the ring-leaders of the plot had so minutely outlined their mode of procedure that ultimate success to them seemed worth the chance.

This much of the plot is known. It has been obtained from some of the convicts suspected of complicity in the plot, yet the full details cannot be ascertained. The officials themselves are unable to ferret them out. The convicts are extremely secretive upon the subject when questioned by the officers of the prison. The matter has been kept very quiet by the attaches of the guards from the attempted escape at all. The higher officials are particularly non-committal. Some deny that an attempt at a jail break was thought of. Others say they heard something about it, but know none of the facts.

**OFFICIALS ARE RETICENT.**  
 Those who know all the facts will not talk. In regard to the fire they simply say that at various times little blazes are discovered in the mill, but they are of no consequence. Yet with all the assertions to the contrary from semi-official circles the fact leaked out a few days ago that such an attempt had been made.

Subsequently, in a careful investigation by a Call representative, many details of the affair were found out. There were three attempts made to burn the mill. The first one was between 2:30 and 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, May 21. As is the custom, the men in the mill quit work at 2:30 on Saturdays. At 4:45 o'clock they are locked up. There are over 800 convicts employed in the mill. On the day in question all hands had left the mill, including the guards.

Two of the guards returned and went to the back of the mill. In the preparatory department, where the raw jute is first put into the machines, they saw a blaze, and on investigation they found that a quantity of fiber had been neatly piled in one corner. In the middle of this pile there was a lighted candle. It had burned down to the "kindling," and the pile of fiber was igniting rapidly.

**STRAITJACKET APPLIED.**  
 Both men worked diligently and succeeded in extinguishing the blaze. The matter was reported and an investigation resulted. Several men who might be implicated were closely watched as they sauntered in the yard before lock up. It was evident that the men were

Continued on Page 2, Column 1.

## DARING ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP THE 'CZAR; TROOPS OF THE MIKADO TAKE SIUYEN

LONDON, June 11.—The Daily Mail asserts: "Two infernal machines were found on the night of June 7 concealed in tobacco boxes in the Tsarko-Selo Palace, where the Czar is now living. One of the machines was in the dining-room, the other in the audience chamber. The mechanism in each was working when discovered. The strictest secrecy is observed, and this statement, although true in every detail, is sure to be categorically denied."



RUSSIAN SAILORS AND SOLDIERS SEARCHING THE SHORE FOR BODIES OF THE CREW OF THE BATTLESHIP PETROPAYLOVSK, WHICH WAS SUNK BY A MINE WHILE MAKING FOR THE HARBOR AT PORT ARTHUR, CARRYING NEARLY SEVEN HUNDRED MEN DOWN WITH HER.

## PORTLAND OFFICIAL OUSTED

### Postmaster Bancroft Is Forced to Resign.

Special Dispatch to The Call.  
 PORTLAND, Or., June 10.—President Roosevelt to-day appointed John W. Minto to be Postmaster at Portland, vice F. A. Bancroft, resigned. The change is effective July 1.

Bancroft's resignation was tendered last Monday on a demand of the department, transmitted by Senator Mitchell. Bancroft's trouble began when Inspectors Riches and Butler made their report last December on tags deposited by the Postmaster in lieu of cash belonging to the postal funds. A second investigation made a short time ago resulted in finding Bancroft had overdrawn his salary several times and that inefficiency was shown in a general demoralization of the office.

Assistant Postmaster C. A. Burckhardt is alleged to have been largely instrumental in the disclosure of these irregularities. Burckhardt was an active candidate for his superior's place, but the change in Postmasters will probably result in his removal entirely from the postal business.

Senator Mitchell at first recommended ex-State Senator James E. Hunt, a well-known and successful business man, but certain slanderous rumors were used against Hunt with the department and the applicant was refused consideration.

Minto served as Chief of Police of Portland for one term and proved a very efficient executive. He has long been in public office, of later years being in the customs service.

**WILL REMAIN AT HIS POST.**  
 Ambassador McCormick Expresses No Intention of Resigning.

WASHINGTON, June 10.—No intimation has been received at the State Department that Ambassador McCormick has any intention of resigning his high office on account of the alleged anti-American feeling in St. Petersburg. On the contrary, nearly all the reports the Minister has made to the department indicate that he has been treated with the greatest courtesy and consideration by the Russian officials and socially he is extremely popular.

## General Kuropatkin Gives Details of Bombardment of Coast Between Senyuchin and Kaiping by the Japanese Forces.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 10.—The Japanese have taken Sinyen, driving out the Russians. The enemy appears to be advancing on Haicheng.

TOKIO, June 10.—Saimatze was occupied by Japanese troops on Tuesday after a series of skirmishes, in the course of which the Russians were cleverly rounded up and defeated. On Monday and Tuesday there was also much fighting south of Liushanswan, the Japanese clearing the Russians out of that district. The first army in co-operation with the forces landed at Takushan, and occupied Siuyen on Wednesday, the Russians retreating in confusion in the direction of Chaimucheng and Kaiping.

SEOUL, Korea, June 10, 8 p. m.—A body of Russian troops from Kopsan have occupied a small city near Changjiu. There are conflicting reports regarding the action of the Korean garrison. The natives claim that the garrison bravely defended the place, but the Japanese report that the garrison made a precipitate flight.

CONSTANTINOPLE, June 10.—The Ottoman Government declares the report published in a dispatch from St. Petersburg yesterday that the Porte had consented to the passage of the Dardanelles by the Russian Black Sea fleet is unfounded.

LONDON, June 10.—The Daily Mail's Chefu correspondent says: The Japanese Consul has discovered that a wireless telegraph apparatus is attached in the night time to the Russian consular flagstaff at Chefu and that the consulate is in communication with Port Arthur.

NAGASAKI, June 11, 10 a. m.—Naval experts believe that the Russians are working hard to clear the entrance to Port Arthur with the intention of making the escape of their fleet effective. The Russian fleet at Port Arthur is estimated to consist of eighteen vessels, large and small, besides seventeen destroyers.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 10.—The Emperor has received from General Kuropatkin the following telegram, dated June 9:

"The Japanese bombardment on June 8 of the coast between Senyuchin and Kaiping caused no loss of life or material damage, although a considerable number of shells were fired. One man doing hospital duty was slightly wounded and two wagons were damaged. All is quiet on the coast this morning, but several Japanese ships are cruising in the offing.  
 "June 7 the Japanese slowly continued their march toward Siuyen by the

Takushan and the Fengwangcheng roads. Their advance guard did not approach nearer than five miles south and east of Siuyen. On the morning of June 8 a Japanese infantry brigade, two mountain batteries and five squadrons of cavalry marched against Siuyen. About 11 o'clock the Japanese appeared before the town on the south side, but were checked by a very successful fire from our batteries.

"Japanese infantry then began advancing against the town from the east by the Fengwangcheng road and came in contact with the Cossacks holding the pass. After two hours of fighting the Cossacks were obliged to retire and our artillery opened fire

along the pass, not allowing the Japanese to establish themselves. At this moment a Japanese mountain battery arrived and took a position to the south, but, after firing a few rounds, was silenced by our battery. A second Japanese battery did not succeed in getting into action, but was compelled to evacuate its new position under the fire of our guns.

"In the course of the fight a flanking movement by several battalions of Japanese infantry was observed northeast of Siuyen, threatening our line of retreat. Consequently, our Cossacks gradually withdrew five miles from

Continued on Page 2, Column 3.

## TWO WOMEN COMPLETE A NOVEL TRIP

### See All Points of World at Cost of \$200.

Special Dispatch to The Call.  
 NEW YORK, June 10.—Seeing the world at a cost of only \$200, including a trip from San Francisco, and occupying a year and a half in the journey, is the accomplishment of two young American women who arrived to-day on the Cedric of the White Star line. They are the Misses Kate and L. Ninde.

The Misses Ninde left San Francisco just eighteen months ago for Japan. They next visited Siam, India and Egypt successively. They finally reached Europe, traveling practically all over the latter continent. The young women started from home well supplied with funds, but had determined to work their way as much as possible, and to that end sold a book on their route. When they arrived in New York their original capital had been diminished only by \$200.

**BABE IS DROPPED TO DEATH BY FRIGHTENED MOTHER**

NEW YORK, June 10.—Frantic with fear at a fire in a six-story tenement house on Stanton street, Mrs. Benjamin Apfel threw her only child, a baby of 4 months, from a window of her apartments to death on the pavement three stories below. Mrs. Apfel was prevented from leaping to the street after her child by firemen, who had climbed to the third story on scaling ladders and whose arrival an instant earlier would have saved the child from death. More than a score of persons who occupied apartments on the three upper floors of the building and who had been unable to escape through the flame-swept halls were taken in safety from the fire escapes by means of scaling ladders. The financial loss by the fire, which started from the explosion of an oil stove, was trivial.

**SIMONS SAID TO HAVE MET DEATH ON PLANTATION**

HAVANA, June 10.—An American named Simons is reported to have been assassinated by Cubans on a plantation near Puerto Principe. The authorities are investigating.

**WEALTH COUNTS FOR NOTHING.**  
 For the most part the names found in the American Peerage Book are of those descended from the proud Knickerbocker families of New York, Puritans of New England, Quakers of Pennsylvania, Huguenot exiles of noble blood and cavaliers of the South. Foremost among the Knickerbocker families stands the name of Roosevelt, including Theodore, descendant of Claes Martens, the Van Roosevelt, who came from Holland and settled in New York in 1651. The coat of arms of the Roosevelt family is thus stated in technical heraldic terms: "Argent, on a mount vert, a rosebush with three roses, P. P. R." Translated into plain English this means a coat of arms, the design a green hill on a silver background, a rosebush showing three roses, etc.

Family names have been inserted only when actual history has clearly shown the family to be entitled to the distinction and in no case has any compensation, direct or indirect, been accepted for the publication. In other words, one's right to a coat of arms must be genuine—blown in the bottle. Mere wealth counts for nothing, for such families as the Vanderbilts, the Astors, the Whitneys, the Stuyvesant Fishes and the Belmonts are conspicuously absent from the American list. The Astors and Vanderbilts could trace their origin back to the days of "Little Old New York" or New Amsterdam, when their forefathers were engaged in the honorable occupation of trading coconuts in the Northwest Territory, but here the trail stopped and they could not show they were descended from a line of Kings like J. Pierpont Morgan, who boasts of descent from Gwynedd Cymric, who was King of all Wales.

Continued on Page 4, Column 1.

## SOCIAL SET RECEIVES A BIG SHOCK

### Many of the Leaders Not in New Peerage Book.

#### Unable to Show That Purple Blood Courses in Their Veins.

Names of Several Well Known Californians Will Appear in the Registry When It Is Published.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, June 10.—A representative of The Call has been permitted to examine the advance sheets of the forthcoming "Peerage Book," about which the social set of New York has been agog for several weeks. The lines drawn by the Genealogical Association of New York, under whose direction the volume has been prepared by William Armstrong Crozier, will prove a shock to the Four Hundred, for many of them will look in vain through its pages for their names. This registry of American families entitled to a coat of arms is the first of its kind to be published in the United States. Britishers have for a long time turned up their aristocratic noses at America. A fine country but "too new" they have declared. We have lacked ancient traditions, hoary ruins, and, worst of all, a "peerage book" that has enabled Britishers and the nations of Continental Europe to trace their ancestry for centuries and prove that purple blood runs in their veins. We have had out "social registers" published by enterprising "genealogists" who charged fees for designing coats of arms, crests and mottoes for the worthy and ambitious people, but a genuine peerage book, such as Burke's Peerage, published in England, has for many years been a long felt want in families of America who have great social pretensions.

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**CALIFORNIANS ON THE LIST.**  
 The work abounds in such old names as the Lees, Carrolls, Adames, Franklins, Jays and Livingstons, while that of Colonel Washington is especially prominent. All kinds of evidence has been submitted to the genealogical society by applicants for distinction. Some send photographs of inscriptions and armorial designs engraved on tombstones centuries old, county court records and old official documents, pieces of old designs engraved thereon and armor of old carriage doors. Let it be remembered, however, that there is still extant and in full force in England a statute prescribing both fine and imprisonment for the use of a coat of arms by those not entitled, and as many of the old English laws are still operative in the States of the Union, it would be wise for ambitious applicants not to attempt to ring in any spurious relics.

Continued on Page 4, Column 1.