

THE WEATHER. Forecast for September 22, 1905. San Francisco and Vicinity—Fair. Friday, cooler; light north winds changing to brisk westerly.

THE CALL

THE THEATERS. ALCAZAR—"The First Violin." CALIFORNIA—"Murphy's Mistake." CENTRAL—"The White Tiger of Japan." CHUTES—Vaudeville. MATINEE. COLUMBIA—"The Pic." GRAND—"Queen of the Highway." MAJESTIC—"Alabama." ORPHEUM—Vaudeville. TIVOLI—Grand Opera.

MAY BUILD AN EMPIRE IN SAHARA

De Forest's Expedition Not a Hunting Party. Baron's Trip to the Desert Has the Support of Britain.

Several Thousand Rifles and Ammunition Form Part of Yacht's Cargo.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

PARIS, Sept. 21.—The Herald's European edition publishes the subjoined dispatch from Tangier:

A passenger on board steam yacht Honor, who is well acquainted with Baron de Forest's plans, confidentially informed me that under pretext of a mere hunting trip, the Baron has prepared an armed exploring expedition to the desert of Sahara with the support of the British Government.

For this purpose the Baron's yacht is supplied with from 3000 to 4000 Winchester repeating rifles with ammunition and other material.

My informant did not say whether a start will be made from Mogador or whether the yacht will proceed farther south to select another Atlantic port as the basis of communication and then proceed to England and be back at Tangier by the end of November when the expedition would start inland.

In the course of an interview had with my informant stated that Baron de Forest said he intended to found a Saharan empire, believing that his influence and millions would enable him to carry the scheme to successful issue.

Baron de Forest has been recently in frequent communication with a famous French-Africanist. His idea is that the execution of his project will be of great advantage to the British Government.

He will endeavor to establish and maintain British preponderance.

Baron Maurice Arnold de Forest is an hereditary baron of the Austrian Empire, but became a British subject, and was granted a royal license 1889 to use his title in the United Kingdom.

He is an adopted son of the late Baron de Hirsch.

He was formerly a lieutenant in Prince of Wales Norfolk Artillery militia and in 1903 was transferred to Stafford's Imperial Yeomanry. He has a London residence at 25 St. James place, S. W., and another residence at Eichorn bei Brunn, Austria.

CHICAGOAN DOES NOT BITE AT GOLDEN BAIT Spanish Prisoner Swindlers Offer Julius Rothenburg Some Easy Money.

CHICAGO, Sept. 21.—A letter received yesterday from Madrid, Spain, by Julius Rothenburg, 4869 Prairie avenue, may aid the Spanish Government in running down the Spanish prisoner gang of swindlers, who work wide open markets and extend over a period of several years. It will be turned over to Berthold Singer, the Spanish Consul, with the request that the Madrid authorities be notified.

EARTHQUAKE AGAIN JARS CALABRIA

Rains Add to the Misery of the People. Fields Used as Camping Grounds Are Now Death Traps.

Visitation Affects 212 Towns and Suffering of Victims Is Intense.

Special Cable to The Call and New York Herald. Copyright, 1905, by the New York Herald Publishing Company.

ROME, Sept. 21.—Earthquake shocks continued to-day in Calabria. At Mantea two women were killed. At Ajello many houses fell and twelve persons were injured. At Brusio a church fell and there was further damage at Sosenzi, Catanzaro and Monte Leon.

Autumn rains have begun in the district, adding new miseries to the already long list caused by typhoid, malaria, hunger and cold. The fields, which until now have been used as camping grounds by sufferers, are rendered perfect death traps, the rains causing fever and pneumonia. The suffering all over Calabria is intense.

Rivers have overflowed their banks. There was a cloudburst at Bari, the wind upsetting sailing vessels in the harbor. Six persons were drowned. General Lambertini has made an official list of the damage by the earthquake. He finds that 212 towns and villages suffered great losses. The dead number 589 and the injured 220.

A scientific study of the earthquake phenomena was undertaken by a committee nominated by the government. It has been suggested that old warships be sent to St. Euphemia to shelter the aged and ill and the children of homeless people. The Piedmont committee is constructing wooden houses in Calabria. Signora Fazzari, wife of a well-known resident, took all her jewels to the Bank of Naples and obtained \$1400, which she sent to the earthquake victims.

GIANT GORILLA IS VICTIM OF TUBERCULOSIS Animal Worth Many Thousand Dollars Dies on Ocean.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—Several of the Zoological Society's officials went to Hoboken to-day to meet the Graf Waldersee and her distinguished voyager, Miss Crowther by name, and the second of her species ever to have crossed the Atlantic, but they found the giant gorilla dead, of tuberculosis.

Dr. Cecil French obtained the specimen from a party of Englishmen, who had captured the gorilla on an exploring expedition to that region of the Dark Continent which lies between the Gaboon and the Congo. He said he had high hopes of bringing the animal here alive. That would have been a conspicuous triumph for the Zoological Society, which he represents, as only seven specimens have ever been taken out of Africa alive, and all of these died after a short period of captivity.

The animal cost several thousand dollars and was insured by a London firm which makes a business of insuring animals. Dr. French took the utmost care of his hostage, engaging a stateroom in the second cabin of the Graf Waldersee.

ORIGINAL PENSION CLAIMS NOW 15,256 Commissioner Makes Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ended July 1.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The report of the Commissioner of Pensions for the fiscal year ended July 1 last shows that during the year there were 46,985 allowances under the old age disability order of March 16, 1904. It also shows that 665 pensions of \$72 a month have been increased to \$100 a month on account of total blindness, under the act of April 8, 1904.

There are pending only 15,256 original claims of survivors of the Civil War and the Commissioner gives assurance that they will be adjudicated as speedily as possible.

FLAMING TRAIN IN SNOWSHEDS

Hurried to Safety While Wrapped in Fire. Gasoline Explodes on a Freight, Injuring One Man.

Conductor Heroically Uncouples Burning Car From Engine.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

TRUCKEE, Sept. 21.—A disastrous fire started at about 2 o'clock this morning in a freight train in the snowsheds at Crystal Lake, a small station near here, and destroyed thirteen freight cars, six outfit cars, 2500 feet of snowsheds, the block station and office at Crystal Lake and a half-mile of railroad track. The fire was caused by an explosion of gasoline in one of the freight cars, which was opened by brakeman C. H. Brown, who carried a lantern. Brown was badly burned about the head. The gasoline was in a closed refrigerator car.

Fire trains were sent from Blue Canyon and Cisco, and it was not until nearly noon to-day that the fire was completely under control. Telegraph wires were temporarily down and all railroad traffic was suspended. A wrecking crew was sent from Sacramento and a large force of men put to work relaying the track. It was 7 o'clock to-night before the track was repaired and the delayed passenger trains began to move again. The loss to the Southern Pacific Company will exceed \$75,000.

When freight train No. 212 pulled into the station C. H. Brown, the head brakeman, opened the door of the refrigerator car to unload the freight. Suddenly a mass of flames enveloped the car, ignited the sheds and seriously burned Brown. With 100 gallons of gasoline ablaze, Conductor Lashells ordered the train pulled to the first open space east of Crystal Lake. For over a quarter of a mile he ran the train through the sheds with a roaring blaze streaming from the car door, setting the roof afire. Within ten minutes' time after the burning train passed through the sheds the roof for nearly half a mile was ablaze at one time.

With an overcoat soaked in water, Conductor Lashells bravely uncoupled the burning car from the engine while the flames were creeping upon the oil tender. With all possible speed the train crew reached the first telegraph station and gave warning to the fire crews at Cisco and Truckee. The Cisco fire crew checked the flames at the first opening in the sheds west of Crystal Lake, and this end was saved by the other crew.

The Southern Pacific Company has lost a half-mile of snowsheds, 10,000 feet of steel rails, thousands of ties, twenty-five boxcars, all the buildings at Crystal Lake and many hundreds of dollars' worth of merchandise. Thirteen cars of freight, eleven outfit cars standing on the side-track loaded with tools and material, were all consumed.

How a tight refrigerator car came to be loaded with twenty cans of gasoline is a mystery to the train crew. That the men were not killed by the explosion is regarded as almost miraculous.

The company had about 400 men at work by 8 o'clock this morning clearing away timbers, the bent steel rails and ties preparatory to relaying the track. Five westbound passenger trains carrying about 1500 people were detained here all day. No mail will reach this place from the west until to-morrow.

BRYAN STARTS WEST ON TOUR OF WORLD Declines Offer of Private Car From Omaha to San Francisco.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

OMAHA, Sept. 21.—William Jennings Bryan, accompanied by Mrs. Bryan and their two children, William and Grace, started west over the Union Pacific this afternoon for their long-contemplated trip around the world. Bryan purchased railroad tickets for himself and the members of his family, having declined a proffer from the Union Pacific Railroad of a private car from Omaha to San Francisco. In this action Bryan acted in conformity with the plank of the Nebraska Democratic platform adopted at the convention which he addressed at Lincoln yesterday.

The Bryan party will sail from San Francisco September 28.

WILL GIVE DECISION ON SATURDAY WEEK Judge Who Tried Taggart Divorce Case Announces Another Postponement.

WOOSTER, Ohio, Sept. 21.—Judge Eason announced to-day that he would not be able to give his decision in the Taggart divorce case until Saturday, September 30. He had previously said that it would be forthcoming September 23, but he has not had time to go over the evidence and a postponement of one week was found necessary. Mrs. Taggart, who is still in Wooster, has been ill for several days and threatened with a fever, but it is now expected that she will be out in a few days.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION TO END ERA OF CORRUPTION.

Whereas, The conditions prevailing in San Francisco require for their betterment the union of all honest, right-thinking men; and Whereas, To effect such united action requires on this occasion the extinction of partisanship in municipal affairs; and Whereas, The Republican Municipal Convention has appointed a committee of five to confer with this convention and suggest a basis for fusion, whereby there may be placed before the voters of San Francisco by the Democratic and Republican conventions but one set of candidates; therefore be it Resolved, That the chairman of this convention be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint a committee of five members of this convention to meet said conference committee of the Republican Convention and report its recommendations to this convention.—Resolution adopted by Democratic Municipal Convention.



CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY OF THE DEMOCRATIC MUNICIPAL CONVENTION, WHO WERE PRACTICALLY UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED AS PERMANENT OFFICERS BY THE DELEGATES AT THE MEETING LAST NIGHT.

Meets and Names Committee on Fusion.

THOMAS W. HICKEY IS THE CHAIRMAN Attempt at Rowdiness Quickly Quelled.

THOMAS F. EAGAN LEADS HOODLUMS

Order and harmony prevailed at the initial session of the Democratic Municipal Convention at Pioneer Hall last night. Thomas W. Hickey, who was chosen permanent presiding officer, spoke eloquently for the cause of clean government for San Francisco.

The sentiments of civic patriotism expressed in his brief but able address to the delegates were greeted with rounds of applause. The notable event of the session was the adoption of a resolution setting forth the imperative necessity for a union of all the forces of good citizenship and authorizing the chairman to appoint a fusion conference committee of five delegates to confer with a like number of delegates from the Republican convention.

Subsequently Chairman Hickey appointed J. R. Pringle, Forty-third District; John J. Tomalty, Thirtieth; James J. Donovan, Thirty-second; William A. Kelly, Thirty-fifth, and Louis A. Mosser, Forty-first, to confer with the Republican Fusion Committee, consisting of David Rich, H. N. Beatty, Mark L. Gerstle, E. F. Treadwell and F. C. Jones. It is expected that a session of the joint committee on fusion will be held to-day.

The deliberations of the Democratic convention last night were not interrupted by gangs of ruffians. Ample measures for the preservation of order were taken yesterday, hence the delegates and the members of the fusion committee had no demonstrations of rowdiness. Just as the chairman was putting the motion to adjourn several of the janitors from the City Hall who were in the gallery gave three cheers for Chairman Hickey. The shouting was so feeble that it created only merriment and derision. It was noted that the police behaved in a creditable manner, seeming to comprehend that it was the duty of the force to subdue rather than create riotous tumult.

Special significance is attached to the incident that only one delegate in the convention voted in the negative on the proposition to coalesce with the Republicans.

As foreshadowed in The Call yesterday the convention authorized the appointment of committees on resolutions, order of business and Supervisors.

Rumor is rife to the effect that there will be one hot old-fashioned Democratic fight if an effort shall be made to turn down Byington for renomination to the office of District Attorney. It is current gossip that the slate framers have Supervisor Brandenstein in mind for the District Attorneyship. It seems to be settled that Knox Maddox will be one of the twelve nominees of the convention for Supervisor.

HICKEY IN THE CHAIR. Thomas W. Hickey, chairman of the Democratic County Committee, called the convention to order shortly after 8 o'clock, that harmony prevailed among the delegates and that there were no contested seats was made evident when Thomas J. Horan of the Twenty-ninth moved that the calling of the roll be dispensed with. The motion carried. Chairman Hickey then called for nominations for temporary chairman of the convention. Charles A. Sweigert of the Thirty-seventh District responded to the call and took his station on the platform to place Hickey in nomination. Applause greeted Sweigert's appearance. When it subsided he said:

Conventions have come and gone, but at no time in the history of the Democratic party in this city has there been such a grave condition to face. San Francisco stands before the world in her debasement. Four years ago classism forced upon our people a Mayor without a rag of honor. In the ardent hope of bettering conditions we have convened here to-night. This great convention is worthy of a chairman with attributes that spell superiority. He belongs to the kind of man of whom the redoubtable Governor of Missouri spoke when he said there are too few in public life—the class of men ruled by a sense of honor. My nomination for chairman of this convention is the richly gifted Thomas W. Hickey.

CHAIRMAN ELECTED. At the conclusion of his short speech, Sweigert took the gavel. A motion that Hickey be elected by acclamation was put and carried with a shout. Sweigert then formally introduced Hickey, who was enthusiastically

CANADA PLANS TO HAVE NAVY OF ITS OWN

Alarmed at Ambitions of the United States.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

VICTORIA, B. C., Sept. 21.—The nucleus of a Canadian navy will shortly be established at Esquimalt, the Government having arranged for the maintenance of a training vessel there at once. Raymond Prefontaine, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, has left for England to arrange for the ship which will be under the jurisdiction of the Canadian authorities. This announcement was made here by Sir Frederick Borden, Minister of Militia. He said:

"We must be prepared for eventualities. The greatest assurance against war must be in being prepared for war. In the slight preparations made in Canada the main idea was the maintenance of law and order. We were not afraid of foreign invasion, but with the large influx of all kinds of people we must be prepared to maintain order. We are not spilling for a fight, but we must maintain our laws and civil government, and then you know Uncle Sam is growing ambitious."

FIERCE FIGHT BETWEEN MAN AND BIG BEAR

Timely Bullet Puts an End to the Animal.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

UKIAH, Sept. 21.—Ernest Osborn and Bud Arnold of Comptche report one of the closest calls of the season resulting from a bear fight. For some time a large bear had been bothering their stock and they had made several ineffectual attempts to put an end to him. This week they started out and found tracks and put dogs on the trail. While the two men were waiting for the hounds and sitting comfortably on a log, something appeared behind them and knocked Osborn's gun out of his hand. In a moment Osborn was engaged in a hand to hand encounter with the bear, which had doubled on the dogs and had come back on the hunters. The blow of the bear's paw broke the gun in two and bent the barrel.

The fight was so fierce that Arnold had to wait several minutes before he dared to risk a shot for fear of killing his companion. Osborn finally begged him to shoot anyway, as he said he would rather be shot than be killed by the bear. Arnold shot the bear, the bullet just grazing Osborn's arm. The bear was one of the biggest ever killed in that section.

WEALTHY GIRL CLANDESTINELY WEDS ARTIST

Miss Lippincott, Sister of Publishers, Becomes Bride.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

DENVER, Sept. 21.—Miss Emma Lippincott of Philadelphia and Edward S. Powell of Denver, artist and society man, were married secretly at Littleton, Colo., September 2. Secrecy, it is said, was decided upon because of some parental opposition. The couple went overland into Routt County, Colorado, for their honeymoon.

Miss Lippincott came to Denver two years ago for her health. Her male relatives comprise the well-known Philadelphia firm of publishers, Powell is a Harvard graduate and his bride is highly educated and has traveled much. Powell recently attended a "frat" convention in Cincinnati and on his way home met his fiancée, who was returning from an Eastern visit. Then they planned the wedding, which occurred in the Episcopal church in the presence of two witnesses, one of whom, a woman, revealed the secret to-day.

LOANS AUTHORIZED IN SPITE OF WEAVER Philadelphia's City Councils Arrange to Borrow Six Million Dollars.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 21.—Despite the earnest request of Mayor Weaver that action be deferred for the present, both branches of the City Council to-day passed ordinances authorizing a loan of \$5,000,000, of which \$4,000,000 is to be expended in abolishing grade crossings and the remainder for street paving. The Mayor sent a long message to the councils suggesting that the consideration of loans should not be taken up until further consideration is given to the general subject of the finances of the municipality by the Finance Committee of the council in conjunction with the executive heads of the several departments. Under the laws of the city an ordinance providing for the borrowing of money is not effective until approved by the vote of the people.