

SAN FRANCISCO CALL

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THE INSURANCE SITUATION.

Last week the insurance committee of the committee of forty sent a telegram to the home offices of the various insurance companies doing business in California, demanding that they cease quibbling and that some definite policy of settlement be announced.

The promise that a "satisfactory settlement will be made," that "our losses will receive prompt attention," and the like, without specification of time or place or manner of settlement, leaves the policyholder as little informed as to what the companies are to do as ever.

The tendency on the part of some of the companies to complain of what they call the "impatience" of the policy-holders is scarcely justified. The policy-holders want to get back to normal conditions; they want to resume business; to become once more producers; they cannot afford to continue for long mere consumers.

Two months ago yesterday the fire was under control; two months ago today it was out. While some losses have been adjusted and some paid and not a few companies have come to the fore with definite statements of policy, it must be confessed that the insurance situation as a whole has not changed materially.

It is reasonable to ask of the insurance companies as a whole that this doubt be removed. No responsible person asks that they pay dishonest claims, or that they submit to inequitable adjustment. But they have sold fire insurance in this community, a reasonable time for delivery has passed.

MONEY IS PLENTIFUL.

One of the largest dealers in dry goods of this city yesterday addressed a letter to an Eastern business house, in which he said: "I have been doing a bigger business than I was doing before the fire. Everybody seems to have money and there is a great deal of Eastern capital here looking for investments."

It sounds good to hear that our people are not facing a stringent money market and on first thought it is more than pleasing to know that outside capital is seeking opportunity to speculate here. The only thing to be avoided is overconfidence in what might be termed "cheap outside money."

Downtown property is being firmly held and there does not seem to be any inclination to let "cheap" capital grab it. The shrewd speculator knows a good thing when he sees it and there are scores of them here ready to drive a bargain.

CORRECTING FALSE IMPRESSIONS.

Twenty Eastern publications have announced their willingness to give publicity to articles about San Francisco and the State that are to be furnished them by the California Promotion Committee.

The Promotion Committee is working along the right lines. It has been particularly distressing to Californians visiting the East to be confronted in the public prints with yarns about the San Francisco fire and the earthquake that are the veriest nonsense.

Commercial and the New York Sun have fallen into the serious error of allowing grossly inaccurate letters concerning San Francisco's condition to appear in their issues.

A recently returned Californian, who has been traveling extensively in the East, says that Eastern people have been drilled in the belief that California and the entire Pacific Coast are as unsteady underfoot as a ship's deck and there is no telling when one of our coast cities will be shaken to the ground.

The man who doesn't care for astronomy and refuses to study it will invariably argue, "How do they know that the sun is over ninety million miles from the earth?" and he refuses to believe that it is possible to measure a sun spot.

As it appears to be almost as impossible to prevent the refraction of a ray of light as it is to avoid an earthquake, story being badly twisted after passing through the dense skull of a professional knocker, it is well that the Promotion Committee has decided on a campaign of education.

MANCHURIAN TRADE SITUATION.

Diplomatic circles are somewhat jarred by the scurrying of the Japanese for the vantage points of trade in Manchuria. Before the Russia-Japan war the little brown men were suavely declaring that in event of their success in battle they would deal liberally with the world in the dispensing of the good things of Oriental traffic.

European merchants and banking institutions are making bitter complaint of the Japanese government of Manchuria, alleging that Japan will remain in control of the territory until next April under the terms of the Portsmouth treaty, and that in the interim foreign commerce has been cleverly blocked to such an extent that the rich trade of the district is rapidly passing from their hands to the material benefit of Japan.

In the treaty of Portsmouth provision was made to open Mukden and Antung to foreign trade, but the Japanese inserted a clause that placed certain restrictions on the traffic and made it necessary to obtain from the Japanese Government certain permits for trafficking.

The United States has been dealt with more liberally than Europe in Manchurian trade relations on account of some rather confusing treaty arrangements in 1903 which even the Japanese do not seem to be capable of fathoming.

GEARY-STREET CARS RUNNING.

Cars on the Geary-street line began running yesterday for the first time since the fire, and are the only cable cars in operation in San Francisco. In getting the track, cable and slot into shape for the work the management has had to meet many difficulties.

The number 13 is not necessarily always unlucky, at least not for California. The insurance companies that have defied the laws and that are to get out of the State as a consequence number precisely thirteen.

Cabrera is reported to be very unpopular as President of Guatemala. He need not feel badly, however, for there have been others.

The railroads report big travel to San Francisco. No one who has lived any length of time in this city or State will stay away from it.

Rockefeller says extravagance is the curse of nations. There are some individuals, however, who have escaped the curse.

Only one saloon to each city block, says the Mayor. Well, it won't be such a very long time between drinks.

Keep the dirt and garbage out of the gutters and the flies won't have to be killed with wet towels.

ANOTHER HORRID MONOPOLY.



PEOPLE AND THINGS.

BY LOUISE VEILLER.

Rumor has it that just as soon as the divorce court will allow it, William Ellis Corey, president of the steel trust, will marry a prominent society woman of Pittsburg.

That the society woman of Pittsburg knows the cause of the recent disruption stands for responsibility, goes without the saying. That she hopes for no repetition of such spicy episodes in her married life will also be accepted without argument.

There is a whole lot of sentimental rubbish that has been written and is being written to the effect that woman should be man's solace and comfort in misery. That is all right when misery follows marriage.

Time and custom and the proper order of things have made man the head of the house. The head of the house is not a mere empty title. It means exactly what it states. It stands for strength. It stands for dignity and it stands for responsibility.

HOW TO KILL A MOSQUITO

In a communication which we have received from a well-known citizen of Meridian, Miss., the following suggestion is made for the construction of a mosquito destroyer: "Why may not an apparatus on the order of the electric circular fan be made and used for destroying mosquitoes?"

WITH A POSSIBLE POINT.

IMMUNE—"I suppose it's always hot-killing time in your town, Miss Packer," sneered the New Yorker.

TROLLEY CARS.

St. Medders—Trolley cars are a great blessing, Josh.

THE POET GETS EVEN

Oh, the butcher man! He has such a pleasant way As he smiles and sweetly asks you what you'd like to have today.

GET BUSY, YOUNG MAN.

Miss Yerner—Mr. Hussel was going to call on me this evening, but he heard you were to be here.

THE SILENCE CURE.

A doctor who makes a specialty of modern nerves says that an hour of silence should be rigorously imposed on each patient daily.

IN ANSWER TO QUERIES

BATES—A. S. City. Major John C. Bates, U. S. A., is slated for retirement on August 26, 1906.

GOLD AND IRON—Q. R. City. A cubic foot of gold weighs 1200 pounds avoirdupois, and a piece of castiron of the same size weighs 450 pounds.

DANNY DEEVER—H. J. B. Benton, Mono County, Cal. This correspondent wishes to know where he can find the poem entitled "Danny Deever."

RIGHT TO SELL—A. N. City. The fact that the United States patent law gives an inventor the exclusive right to make and sell his invention does not give him the right to peddle such invention from house to house without a municipal license in San Francisco.

ROMAN COINS—Subscriber, Oakland, Cal. So many Roman coins have been recovered from ancient buried cities that they are not considered rare by numismatists at this time.

IRON BEDSTEAD—Reader, City. The iron bedstead of the present time is of very ancient origin for in the third chapter of the book of Deuteronomy, verse 2, is the following: "For only Og King of Bashan, remained of the remnant of giants; behold his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; it is not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon; Nine cubits was the length of it, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man."

WOOD FOR FUEL—S. City. The following gives the value of different kinds of wood as heat producers. These figures are from experiments made with air-dried wood: Shellbark hickory, 100; pignut hickory, 94; white oak, 84; white ash, 77; dogwood, 75; scrub oak, 73; white hazel, 72; apple tree, 70; red oak, 67; white beech, 65; yellow oak, 60; hard maple, 59; white elm, 58; red cedar, 56; wild cherry, 55; yellow pine, 54; cottonwood, 53; yellow poplar, 51; butternut, 43; white birch, 43; and white pine, 30.

MUSTARD—A Subscriber, Alameda, Cal. The following is given as a recipe for making French mustard: "Take of best flour of mustard, 2 pounds; fresh parsley, chervil, celery and tarragon, of each 1/2 ounce; 1 clove of garlic, 12 salt anchovies (all well chopped), grind together, add 1 ounce of salt, add grape juice or sugar sufficient to sweeten, with sufficient water to form the mass into a thin paste by trituration in a mortar. When put into pots, a red hot poker is to be thrust into each, and a little vinegar afterward poured upon the surface."

WHITEWASH—S. H. City. The following is the method of making government whitewash which is the best for outdoor purposes: This whitewash is made by slaking half a bushel of lime in boiling water, keeping it covered during the process; then strain and add a peck of salt dissolved in warm water, three pounds of rice put in boiling water and boiled to a thin paste, one-half pound of Spanish whiting and a pound of clear glue dissolved in warm water. Mix these well together and let the mixture stand for several days. Keep the wash thus prepared in a kettle or portable furnace and when using have it as hot as possible.

EXPANSION—Subscriber, City. According to the General Land Office of the United States there have been thirteen additions in the hundred years closing with 1906 to the original territory of the Union, including Alaska, the Hawaiian, Philippine and Samoan Islands and Guam, in the Pacific, and Porto Rico and Pine Islands, in the West Indies, and the Panama Canal zone; and the territory of the United States, including the non-contiguous territory, is now five times that of the original thirteen colonies.

Table with 4 columns: Territorial Division, Area Sq. Miles, Population, Purchase Price. Rows include Louisiana purchase, Florida, Oregon territory, Mexican cession, Gadsden purchase, Alaska, Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico, Pine Islands (W. Ind.), Guam, Philippine Islands, Samoa Islands, and Additional Philippines.

THE SMART SET

Mrs. W. L. Moore will be hostess today at a meeting of the Friday Afternoon Club, to be held at Piedmont Club house.

The marriage of Miss Marion Burness and William Foster took place in San Rafael on Wednesday. Rev. Dr. Alexander of this city read the service at 2 o'clock at the home of the groom's parents.

Miss Alice Dabney of Oakland entertained a dozen girl friends at Piedmont Park Wednesday afternoon in honor of Miss Carolyn Mellman, whose wedding will be Saturday's chief event.

The musical folk of Berkeley have been doing much entertaining of late, among recent delightful events being an evening at Professor and Mrs. F. E. Carrington's. Mackenzie Gordon sang, accompanied by Fred Maurer, which sufficiently tells how the guests enjoyed themselves.

On Sunday next Theodore Gier of Oakland will entertain the forty-four directors of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants' Exchange at the beautiful country place near Napa.

M. Lanet, the French Consul General, entertained six friends at an informal dinner at the Grandmont Country Club Wednesday evening.

Miss Josephine Moller and Miss Ernestine Moller, who have been in Europe several months with their parents, have not yet returned to their home on Prospect avenue, Oakland, but are the guests of their sister, Mrs. Frank E. Gilbreth, in New York.

Mrs. Gertrude Moller returned with her father some weeks ago, leaving her mother and sisters in the East.

Mrs. Linda Bryan is entertaining her mother, Mrs. Walter W. Felton, who arrived this week from Mazatlan.

Dr. and Mrs. Walter Frank Schaller, U. S. N., have returned from their wedding trip through Southern California and are living at Mare Island, where Dr. Schaller is stationed.

Mrs. Florence Darragh is at home after a visit to Fair Oaks, where she has been the guest of the Joseph Corryells.

Mr. and Mrs. Christian Rejs are spending the summer at their Menlo Park home.

Miss Edith McCabe and her mother are living on Thirty-first street, Oakland, where they will pass part of the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dunphy are leaving this week for their country place at Hopland.

Judge and Mrs. Wallace, with their daughter, Mrs. Sheehan, and the Elyland Wallaces, have taken a house in Berkeley.

The Louis Lane Dunbars have taken the flat of Mrs. Albert Gerberding, who is residing in Berkeley.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Corvill will leave shortly for a trip to Seattle and the Northwest.

Mr. John McGraw, who has been the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orville D. Baldwin, since the fire, is convalescing from a prolonged illness.

Allan Dunn, who is away on a brief trip to Omaha, will arrive home within a few days. Mrs. Dunn is visiting in Santa Barbara.

Miss Kate Morris left Wednesday morning for Los Angeles, where she will spend the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Havens and Mr. and Mrs. William Havens have gone to San Harbor, Me., the elder Havens' country home, for the summer.

The C. B. Wingates of Oakland leave soon for a short stay at Del Monte.

Mrs. Llewellyn of San Ramon has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Fred Stolp of Oakland, for a few days.

Friends of Edmond T. Dooley, a portrait artist of Berkeley, learned with some surprise today that Mr. Dooley utilized his vacation a few weeks ago to possess himself of a bundle of bride. Mr. Dooley and Miss Mary Conroy were married on June 4 at the home of the bride's parents at Eagle avenue and Chestnut street, Alameda. The Rev. L. Potter Hitchcock officiating.

Wanda Muir, daughter of John Muir, the famous scientist, was married Wednesday in Martinez to Thomas Hanna. Both are graduates of the State University. The Rev. Mr. Stoddard of Martinez, an old friend of the Muirs, who make their residence in Contra Costa County, performed the ceremony. Mr. Hanna is a civil engineer, who has recently been in charge of a large surveying operation in Tuolumne County.

The large, red-faced woman who was acting as chairman, being in some doubt as to what the sixteen ladies who had been talking in chorus for ten minutes were in favor of, rapped sharply upon the table and asked: "What is the sense of this meeting?"

"There ain't any," said a little man who had slipped into the hall unobserved. Then the door being open, he fled with a demoniac howl of triumph. —Chicago Record-Herald.

HE AND HIS FRIENDS. Tom—Well, what do you think of her? Dick—Nice girl; but isn't she a bit reserved? Tom—You bet she is. She is reserved for me.—Boston Transcript.

THE LIMEET.—"That fellow once stole my umbrella," "Did he?" replied the editor; "well, he did worse than that to me. He sold me a joke about it."

California grape fruits and choice candies, home stocked, town and residence office, 1230 Valencia st., and the Empire, Post st. and Van Ness ave.