

A dozen of San Francisco's most successful duck hunters tell their best stories of the marshes and decoys in

The Sunday Call.

Members of the commission just back from the north tell of the strange dangers of the Alaska boundary survey in

The Sunday Call.

VOLUME C.—NO. 148.

SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1906.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Boss Ruef at Bay Removes Langdon

“WITH the fullest sense of the responsibility resting upon me, I name among such corrupt and criminal officials Mayor Schmitz, Acting Mayor Gallagher, and each and every one of the eighteen members of the Board of Supervisors. I have the evidence to prove these allegations and at the proper time and place, as the law prescribes, District Attorney Langdon and myself, as his assistant, will lay it before the new Grand Jury. It is to prevent such exposure of their infamy that Ruef, Gallagher and the Supervisors, in their panic fear of the felon's cell, have taken this utterly illegal step.”—FRANCIS J. HENEY.

Takes the Office Himself and at Once Ousts Heney

Antics Regarded as Confession of Guilt.

Prosecutors Will Not Be Deterred by Usurpation.

This Man's Hand Grips the Throat of San Francisco



With unparalleled audacity Abe Ruef ordered the suspension from office of District Attorney Langdon late yesterday afternoon, had himself appointed in Langdon's place and straightway dismissed Francis J. Heney, who had been selected as Langdon's deputy for the purpose of sending to the penitentiary the grafters who have been preying upon the city of San Francisco. Following the dismissal of Heney Ruef named Marshall B. Woodworth, former United States District Attorney, as his deputy, and announced that he would at once begin an investigation into the charges of graft made against himself, Mayor Schmitz and their official family.

To carry out his purpose he stated that he would take the Grand Jury in hand today, summon Heney and Detective William J. Burns before the inquisitorial body and compel them to divulge all the evidence they have gathered.

Heney and Burns, instead of retreating, have thrown themselves into the fight with increased vigor, and from now to the end it will be a relentless warfare.

Ruef's action was predicted exclusively in The Call two days ago, when this paper stated that in his desperation the administration boss was contemplating the removal of Langdon as the only means of checking Heney's relentless prosecution.

Ruef's sudden turn upon his enemies, his tremendous effrontery, with its rapid series of highly dramatic episodes, failed to disconcert the men who have slowly but surely forged link by link the chain of evidence which is destined to stretch to the prison cells at San Quentin. The frenzied antics of the brazen boss are regarded as the agonizing screams of the felon as he feels the powerful finger of the law closing in upon his guilty throat.

Ruef Sits in State Before Hirelings.

Surrounded by his official hirelings, Ruef sat in state last night at one of the city's most fashionable cafes. His retainers, grouped about a long table, gazed in admiration and applauded every reference to what Ruef regards as his glorious coup. Champagne warmed the blood and loosened the tongues of the merrymakers. The feasting lasted far past the hour of midnight. But underneath all the pompous vanity of the boss was an undercurrent of alarm, an overwhelming sensation of dread.

Langdon, Heney and Burns hold that the removal of

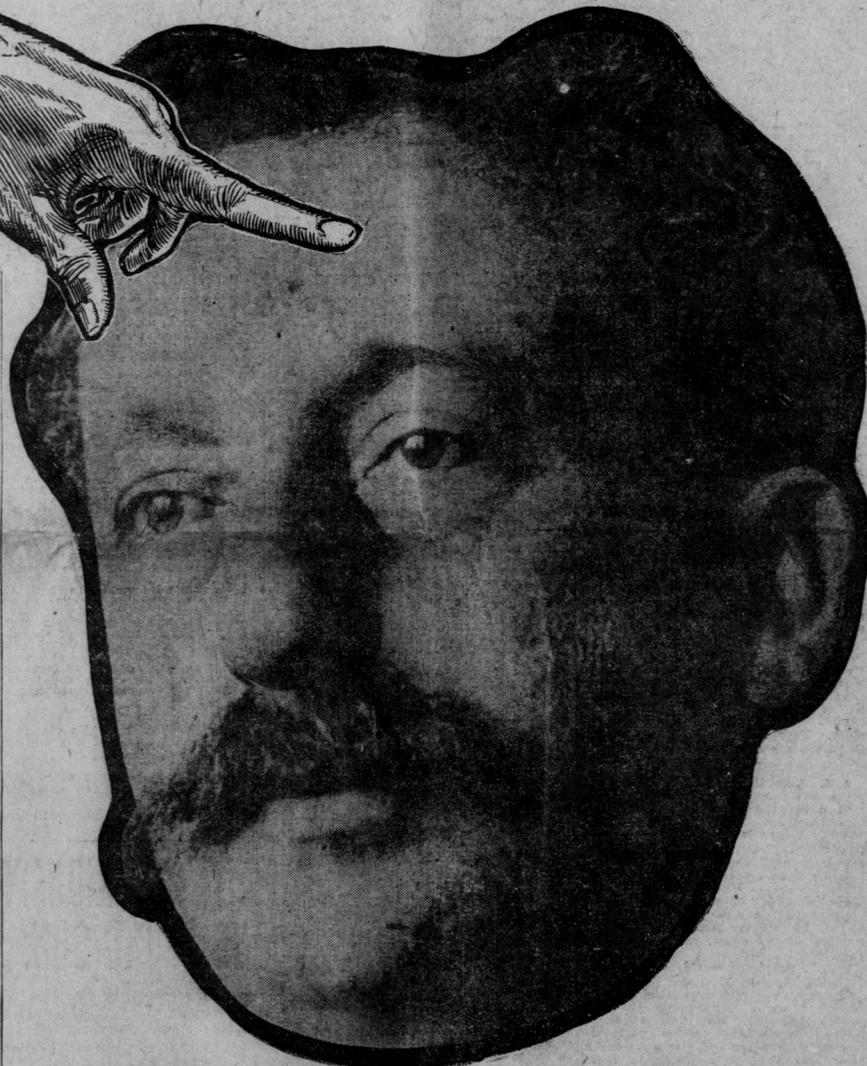
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COLUMNS 1 AND 2.

Langdon Says His Removal Is Unconstitutional.

No person in California believes that my alleged suspension is due to neglect or inefficiency. No dissent is necessary before the people. It is plain that my removal is deemed necessary by Ruef and Gallagher to prevent an honest, searching investigation of conditions that prevail in municipal affairs in San Francisco. Their plan will come to naught, however.

As District Attorney I shall pursue this investigation to the end. I deny the legal right of the Mayor or the Board of Supervisors to suspend or dismiss me. The provision of the charter purporting to give that authority is clearly unconstitutional. The citizens must determine whether or not they will countenance this high-handed proceeding in a community which is supposed to be governed by the law, and not by the will of a boss and his puppet.

WILLIAM H. LANGDON.



Abraham Ruef, District Attorney.

“Supreme Court Will Grant Writ Disposing of Farce” ---McNab.

Mr. Langdon has not been suspended as District Attorney. This performance, as well as being indecent, is simply horse play. The charter confers no power on the municipal government to suspend or remove a county officer. When the constitution of the State was amended by adding section 8 1/2 of article 11 it provided that in the framing of freeholders' charters for consolidated cities and counties provision might be made for the time of elections of county officers, the terms for which they were elected, their salaries, the numbers of their deputies and the salaries of their deputies. In construing the civil service case, which was an attempt on the part of the charter of San Francisco, adopted under this amendment to the constitution to apply civil service to the county offices, the Supreme Court held that the constitutional provision was limited to its exact language as to county officers, and no other power, except that expressed in the section, was conferred on charter makers, and charters could not be extended to include any other.

Therefore, as no power is given by the constitution to the charter to authorize any part, or the whole, of a municipal government to suspend or remove a county officer, the attempt to do so is an idle act; in fact, it is not an act. The Mayor might as well issue a proclamation suspending twelve Superior Judges. I am confident that the Supreme Court will readily grant a writ disposing of this farce. It would seem that it is still true that whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad.

GAVIN McNAB.

Abe Ruef Glories in His Infamy While His Heelers Applaud.

Smiling and exultant, with a jest constantly on his lips, Abe Ruef sat in his office last night, making merry over the shame into which he had plunged San Francisco. No sense of reproach gave him a moment's concern, no thought was given to the conviction in the public mind that he had virtually made confession of guilt. The removal of District Attorney Langdon and appointment of himself to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3, COLUMN 1.

Action Is Illegal and Outrageous Gravest Crisis in City's Life

By Francis J. Heney.

The course of Acting Mayor Gallagher and the Board of Supervisors in suspending District Attorney Langdon from office and appointing Abraham Ruef Acting District Attorney in his place, followed by Ruef's removal of myself as Assistant District Attorney, is not only illegal, but is so revolutionary in character that it may well be doubted whether these unconvicted felons have not suddenly gone insane.

Charges Are Ridiculously False.

The only purpose of Langdon's suspension on trumped-up charges, ridiculously and notoriously false, is to bring to a halt the proceedings now under way in Judge Graham's court, to impanel a new Grand Jury, before which District Attorney Langdon, assisted by myself, propose to present evidence which in my opinion will justify the indictment of the leading officials of the city administration and their "boss," Abraham Ruef, for crime.

With the fullest sense of the responsibility resting upon me, I name among such corrupt and criminal officials Mayor Schmitz, Acting Mayor Gallagher and each and every one of the eighteen members of the Board of Supervisors. I have the evidence to prove these allegations, and at the proper time and place, as the law prescribes, District Attorney Langdon and myself as his assistant will lay it before the new Grand Jury. It is to prevent such exposure of their infamy that Ruef, Gallagher and the Supervisors, in their panic fear of the felon's cell, have taken this utterly illegal step.

Conspiracy Cannot Possibly Succeed.

This action will be resisted as a matter of course. The law of California is not so impotent that such a criminal conspiracy can possibly succeed. Who ever heard of such a proceeding before in any civilized community? Here is a case where the District Attorney and his assistants have been actively engaged, as the whole State knows, in gathering evidence of official crime in the municipal administration, and just on the eve of presenting it to the Grand Jury, whose impanelment has been ordered by Hon. Thomas F. Graham, the presiding Judge of the Superior Court, to take place tomorrow, the very men who are about to be brought to the bar of justice to answer for their crimes, to wit, Acting Mayor Gallagher, the Board of Supervisors and their "boss" and manager, Abe Ruef, have the desperate audacity to attempt to remove the prosecutors from office and have one of themselves in the position of prosecutor. History furnishes no parallel.

Complete Confession of Guilt.

Does any reasonable man doubt that this is a complete confession of guilt on their part? It is the right of the citizens of San Francisco to know the facts of this dastardly attempt to overthrow all law and to overturn the very foundations of orderly government. It is the province of the duly elected officers of the law to vindicate the majesty and sanctity of the law. But it is none the less the duty of the men of San Francisco to stand up and sustain the hands of those who are trying to enforce the law and punish official crime.

Public opinion is a mighty force in a republic. We are now to find out whether morality, decency and manhood are dead in San Francisco. We are facing a graver crisis today than we were on the morning of the 18th of last April, with all its horrors.

Graham's Probity in Public Scales, Says Heney.

"The eyes of San Francisco are upon Judge Thomas Graham," declared Attorney Heney last night after he had given out the statement in which he characterized Ruef, Schmitz and the Board of Supervisors as unconvicted felons.

"Judge Graham will have opportunity tomorrow to illustrate to the people of San Francisco whether he is arrayed on the side of law and order or on the side of crime and municipal corruption. He cannot dissemble. There

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3, COLUMN 4.