

The San Francisco Call.

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OUR WEALTHY ADVISERS.

LIKE John D. Rockefeller and Uncle Jim Hill, Henry H. Rogers, the king of Standard Oil, grows garrulous in his old age. He is a fountain of good advice. In Detroit the other day he contributed freely to the sum of wisdom through the medium of the Free Press, and among other things he complained:

I have been hammered for years. Every one takes a shot at Rogers at some time or other in his life. Of course, I don't like it. The man doesn't live who does not covet the esteem of his neighbors. But what can I do? Nothing that I could say would stop the torrents of abuse, so I say nothing.

What could the poor man do? Well, he might, for example, pay some respect to the decalogue and the laws of his country. Let him read what Ida Tarbell wrote and learn of her what he might have done but did not. Again we quote:

It is my belief that business in this country will always be conducted along co-operative lines. The old days of dog-eat-dog are over. But why should that cause uneasiness? Just look at this vast country; think of the millions upon millions of acres that lie arid and waste in the West. The mining resources of this country are at the present the richest in the world, but men who know tell us that the future will develop mineral wealth that will make the present look small and pitiful. Don't let the "trust" bugaboo scare you.

"Co-operative" is good. It is not co-operation but monopoly that Rogers wants. It is the co-operation of the cat and the canary, with the canary inside. And then the king of Standard Oil remarked in a melancholy tone, as of one who does not hope to be believed: "Mr. Rockefeller is a good man."

Of course he is a good and noble man. He can afford to hire lawyers to commit his profitable sins. Their most recent achievement is the invention of foreign holding companies as a means to beat the Sherman law against trusts. To be sure he is a good man. He has said so himself to a Sunday-school.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROMOTION.

MAJOR GENERAL LEONARD WOOD, commanding in the Philippines, makes certain recommendations in his annual report that will not promote his popularity in the army. Among other things he asks for the elimination of field officers who have grown too old for efficient service. He thinks that colonels who have less than five years to serve before the age of retirement should be promoted and retired at once. We quote:

A policy which tends to keep the list of general officers filled with men with only a year or two of active service ahead of them will take the initiative and energy out of the best army ever created. Either promote to high command for a reasonable time, or use such promotion as a reward for service, and retire the recipient, but don't fill the position of high command with men who cannot, on account of age and infirmity, hold the position to the advantage of the country in time of war, or whose time of service is so short as to cripple their initiative.

Presumably General Wood represents Roosevelt's sentiments in these matters. He is a close friend of the President and his own promotion was given in defiance of the rule or custom of advancement by seniority. The same policy of pushing forward young men to high command was followed the other day when Captain Pershing was promoted to a brigadier generalship over the heads of more than two hundred of his seniors in the service.

The rule of seniority as the single test is, of course, absurd and indefensible. No business and no enterprise could be successfully conducted on such a basis. Some regard should be had for it, but in the last resort promotion must depend on the discretion of the responsible appointing power.

WOULD HELP THIS PORT.

SAN FRANCISCO is largely interested in the matter treated by Secretary Taft in his recent address before the National Association of Manufacturers in favor of legislation to improve our trade relations with the Philippine Islands. If that trade is promoted in any shape this city will be in position to hold a large share of the gain.

Mr. Taft's address was based chiefly on the general lines of Roosevelt's policy of fair play for the islands. The President urged such legislation on the present Congress, but it failed of adoption.

If we establish free trade with the Philippine Islands in accordance with the President's recommendations, as we have already done with Hawaii and Porto Rico, it will mean that this port will be the entrepot for a considerable new trade in sugar, tobacco and rice. The increase in the sugar business might not be very large, because the cost of production and transportation from the islands is greater than that of making beet sugar in California. But the rice and tobacco trade would be given a great impetus that must help the business of this port in large degree.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Senator Platt would have it distinctly understood that his resignation in no way refers to a seat in the Senate.

The New York Independence League should have retained Ruef before that Grand Jury investigation was so far advanced.

Democrats of the Fifth Maryland District are bending every energy to show Congressman Sidney Mudd what there is in a name.

The visits of Fairbanks and Bryan to Minnesota may account for the recent distressing conduct of North Star State thermometers.

Whether or not Boston prohibited "spitting" or "expectorating" on her sidewalks, the new ordinance exhibits a disposition to remain not more than twenty years behind the rest of the country.

CONSIDER Ruef and his entertaining little ways. He is now set out on an excursion to manufacture public opinion. Plainly he believes that public sentiment is a commodity that can be bought and sold; that it is manufactured like pig iron, if you have the right machinery; that it goes to the highest bidder. Therefore he commands the noble army of grafters and all the friends of the grafters to get together and raise a shout in the hope of creating an impression that they are the people. If all San Quentin joined to all Folsom should undertake with clamorous and united voice to create a public opinion in favor of burglary, and should invite their friends and their hired men to join the movement, it might set men thinking, but would scarcely alarm them. It might amuse, but would not endanger the foundations of the republic.

Ruef's assault on public opinion is no more dangerous than a propaganda conducted from the penitentiary. It will not overturn the commonwealth nor provoke anything but laughter. If he wants a name for his proprietary organization he might fitly call it "The Looters' League." The junk stealers and the political thimble-riggers will flock with enthusiasm to his standard. It should make an inspiring and instructive host, although you might not like to meet some of them in a dark alley.

If we may be permitted to assist in Ruef's labor we ask leave to submit a tentative list of vice presidents for the first meeting of his league. It would be like this:

- S. M. Shortridge
Chief Dinan
"Gassy" Kelly
Henry Ach
George Boyne
Myrtle Cerf
Various Gallaghers
The Banjo-Eyed Kid
Ned Lanigan
"Kid" Sullivan
Martin Kelly
Herbert Sullivan
"Poker" Smith
George Keane
Mel Vogel
Ben Feheman.

Quite respectable names—some of them—as the least instructed will perceive. Escorted by a platoon of Gleason's dragoons they would make an imposing parade with Ruef at their head and a few transparencies expressive of their attachment to the ten commandments. They are not all pickpockets, and when they get together they will make public opinion hum. Indeed, the promised political function that Ruef proposes to hold should furnish a very instructive as well as entertaining list under the heading "among those present." Under Ruef's leadership the league should become a great moral engine for the amelioration of everybody's business. As an evidence of the moral awakening that we hear about, Ruef's meeting should settle it until the time when the Rogues' Gallery is ready to get together.

Direct Primary Election Law of Minnesota.

THE sixth and concluding installment of The Call's series of comparative direct primary election laws is devoted to the Minnesota system, the pioneer general direct primary enactment and a most simple and thoroughly effective corrective of abuses in public service.

By George A. Van Smith.

THE Minnesota law, while it has not been extended to the nomination of State officers, could be so extended by the amendatory introduction of a half-dozen words, and from the point of simplicity, directness and effectiveness is far in advance of similar laws. There is an attractive absence of red tape from its provisions. It recognizes the nominating election as a party function, and while it does not give the party or party organization any part in the conduct of the election, it does contemplate and provide a means for the preservation of party integrity. There are no petitions. Any citizen who possesses the legal qualifications for any office within the scope of the primary election law may become a candidate for that office on making an affidavit of his party affiliation and paying a small fee. It is not necessary for him to travel in person or to send agents far and wide over a district soliciting signatures to a petition. No man legally qualified is debarred from offering his services to the people.

The primary election is fixed for Tuesday, seven weeks before the general election. It is the first registration day, but electors failing to participate in the primary election are given two subsequent opportunities to register prior to the general election. The qualifications for participation in the primary election are identical with those prescribed for general elections. The tickets of the parties are printed severally, but are uniform in size and color. The voter, after registering, may ask for a party ticket, and if challenged must satisfy the judges on his oath that he is a member of the party whose ticket he has demanded. The essentials of this oath are that at the last general election he generally supported the candidates of that party and that he intends generally to support its candidates at the ensuing election.

In the Joke World.

"You kiss like an expert," said the pretty maid. "How do you know I do?" queried the mere man.—Chicago News.
"I would share your every sorrow," but I have no sorrows.—Cleveland Leader.
Mrs. Hoyle—I hear that your son had to leave college. Mrs. Doyle—Yes; he studied too hard, learning the football signals.—Puck.
"The ancients thought the world was flat." "Well, I don't blame 'em. They had no chorus girls, no cigaretttes, no bridge, no society journals. It must have been in those days."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Answers to Queries.

ARMY RIFLE—O. S., City. The new Springfield army rifle has a muzzle velocity of 2,800 feet per second, carries a bullet weighing 220 grains and a charge of 43.3 grains.
A PARADOX—W. G. F., City. As a figure of "paradox" is used in rhetoric to teach truth or produce an impression by an unexpected, grammatical or surprising turn of expression. It may be either written or spoken.
POSTAL RULES—F. V., Oakland, Cal. Under the postal rules the only thing that can be written in addition to the address on the wrapper for a magazine or newspaper is the name and address of the sender. A message, no matter how short, written on the wrapper, will submit the package to letter postage.

The Smart Set

AN event of importance for this evening is the dinner to be given by Mr. and Mrs. C. Fred Kohl at their home in San Mateo in honor of Miss Anita Harvey and her fiancé, Oscar Cooper. Much entertaining is planned for this handsome pair, the date of whose wedding is not yet announced.

Mrs. Walter Martin returned on Monday evening from New York, where she had been for several weeks. She went directly to her home at Burlingame, where it is possible that the Martin will remain during the winter. Their attractive new home there will be completed about the end of November.

Among the passengers sailing on the Coptic yesterday was Dr. Tucker, a nephew of James Ellis Tucker and a son of Bishop Tucker of Virginia, who has been spending a brief time at the Bourn country place at St. Helena. Dr. Tucker goes to China, where he will remain for several years. He made many friends during his stay here and his departure is regretted.

Mrs. S. P. Stow and Miss Margaret Stow, who have been abroad for over a year, have returned to California, arriving on Friday at their Santa Barbara home. Both Mrs. Stow and her husband's daughter, Miss Peggy, who she is familiarly known among her friends, are very popular in San Francisco and it is hoped that they will soon come here for a stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirkham Wright are among those who have recently gone to Byron Hot Springs for short visits. Peter Martin reached New York yesterday and Mrs. Martin will sail November 4 for Europe. They will go first to Paris for a stay, but will go a little later to the south of France, where it is probable they will remain during most of the winter. They expect to return to San Francisco in the next summer, although they may change their plans and come out sooner.

Lieutenant Emory Winslow, U. S. N., Mrs. Winslow and Miss Patricia Congrave left last week for the East and will go almost directly to New York, where Lieutenant Winslow will consult a specialist about his condition. He received in Cuba and from which he still suffers greatly. He has been granted three months' leave but will be ordered shortly to appear before a retiring board. The duration of their absence is indefinite and may be prolonged should Lieutenant Winslow's condition prove serious.

Miss Elizabeth Morrison, who has been at her pretty cottage, "Bonnie Brier," in Fruitvale, most of the time since the fire, will leave November 3 for New York and will sail for Europe Saturday last with Miss Marian Angellotti and Miss Elizabeth Brier.

Miss Alida Ghirardelli, who has been in Paris for the past four years studying art, has returned to San Francisco, arriving here Sunday. She is being gladly welcomed back by her many friends, who are hoping that she will decide to remain here.

Judge and Mrs. W. C. Van Fleet left Saturday for the East and expect to be absent until about December 1. They will go first to Chicago, and after a visit there and in adjacent towns for a short time, to New York.

Mrs. Lawrence S. Adams, who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. William Goldsborough, in Berkeley during the summer, has gone to her home at Norfolk, Virginia, where her husband, Naval Constructor Adams, U. S. N., is stationed.

Mr. and Mrs. James Watkins are at Sausalito, where they are guests at Holyoaks. Captain William Banning of Los Angeles and Catalina has just made an unusual trip up the coast in his steamer Cabrillo, the passenger boat employed between the mainland and Catalina Island, and which has been brought here for a general overhaul. Captain Banning is accompanied by a party of men friends, among his guests being James Mellus, whose wife is being visited by her mother, a handsome daughter, Miss Grace Mellus, is so well known and such a belle in San Francisco society as well as in her home city. Although the Cabrillo encountered much rough weather and fog on the trip, members of the party declare they had a delightful cruise. Captain Banning brought with him his big touring car and will do much motoring while he is here.

By Rose O'Halloran.
In the earlier dusk of this season the planets are becoming more noticeable in the evening sky than for some time past, and in a few days four can be observed before 8:30 p. m. On October 31 Venus, in the greatest luster it has attained during the year, will linger in the west for an hour and a half after sunset. Though telescopically in crescent phase, decreased distance gives to this segment a size apparently greater than that of the gibbous form visible in the summer months. Being now only about 33,000,000 miles distant from the earth, these are the most brilliant days which it may be viewed by the unaided eye, even in the effulgence of afternoon sunlight. On the meridian at 2:15 p. m., it will be well for those who wish to discern it to look rather higher than its measured position—27 degrees above the south point of the horizon—so as to counteract the seeming enlargement of sky spaces when low down. Two-thirds from the zenith will be best; and, also to compare the search with the star, if in advance, that the eye may be accustomed to the field of survey. At twilight in the first week of November it will form a triangle with the reddish star, Antares, and the planet Mercury low down in the west, and on the 29th of that month both planets will have passed to be evening stars, being at inferior conjunction with the sun.

Denounce William R. Hearst as Corporation Man.

IN ACCEPTING the Democratic nomination for Governor of New York Mr. Hearst places the stamp of his approval upon the long line of Democratic leaders from Jefferson to Tilden. He stops short with Tilden. It is a dead stop and will attract attention. Tilden was the greatest corporation lawyer that ever led the Democratic party, either in the State of New York or in the nation, yet Mr. Hearst approves of him. Mr. Hearst's admiration for dead Democrats is boundless—from Jefferson to Tilden he has no objection to avoiding responsibility in the name of Hearst—Springfield Republican.

No boss ever controlled an organization more absolutely than Mr. Hearst does his so-called Independence League. Declaring against corporations and corporation methods, he has not alone used the device of incorporation to avoid responsibility in business, but has employed it to cooperate his ownership of an alleged political party. The Independence League is an incorporated body, ruled by a board of directors, without whose approval the rank and file are helpless to carry a single purpose or decision into effect. It is not a self-governing organization; it recognizes no such thing as the will of the majority, and it is run to suit the whims of its boss. It is an autocracy ten times more absolute than Tammany, and with Tammany it is now engaged in "purging" the Democratic party of the last traces of popular sovereignty and popular rights.—New York Tribune.

That man Hughes has got the investigation habit. He simply cannot quit probing any man with such objects as "The Investigator" has been investigating. An investigator who didn't investigate? Hearst's American called him just four days ago. Since then Hughes has called Mr. Hearst's newspaper corporations, with results that are registered in the confusion, the equivocations and the impotent anger of his opponent.

For all Hearst's brave talk about the "legitimate" corporation is one thing and the predatory corporation is another. Hearst's retreat, however, had only a single thing's asylum behind the fortifications of "the legitimate" corporation. Hughes has routed him out of that shelter. He has shown that Hearst adopted the corporation form to evade liability for damage suits; that he used it to dodge taxes, and in fact that the corporation is a device for corporations behind which he masks; and that his corporations have made no annual reports, thereby

Era of Graft in San Francisco.

THE root of the trouble in San Francisco is, of course, the shameful misgovernment of the city. The public offices are held, for the most part, by vicious and corrupt men, and these men themselves are but the handy tools of a corrupt and vicious boss. The Mayor was a poor elected in a theatrical orchestra when elected. He has drawn his office Superintendents and Commissioners taken from the lowest walks of life—men whose conversation is a mixture of profanity, vulgarity and vile grammar—boast of their suddenly acquired money. The Police Department is rotten with corruption. It is very humiliating, too, to those who sincerely sympathize with the struggles and aspirations of the laboring man, to know that these shameful officials obtain their power by the votes of workmen. They do not in any sense represent the union men of San Francisco, who are industrious men and not thieves, but they do succeed in spreading abroad the impression that labor is worse than capital when the opportunity is given to steal. The worst enemy union labor ever had in San Francisco could never have done its cause the injury inflicted upon it by the giving of power by the votes of workmen. The people have every duty of an honest man and a good citizen.—San Francisco Star.

If Ruef is responsible for the government of San Francisco, the people of California have a chance to see what kind of a government they would have in the State if the control of Ruef is extended by the election of his creatures to office. The people have a sample of boss rule in San Francisco. Do they want it for the entire State? Red Bluff People's Cause.

New Steamship Line to United States.

CONSUL GENERAL G. E. ANDERSON reports the establishment of a line of steamships between Brazil and the United States. He writes: "In spite of predictions to the contrary, the new direct service between the United States and Brazil by a Brazilian steamship company is to be inaugurated by the steamer Coyaz, formerly known as the Castro Alves, leaving Rio de Janeiro for New York, calling en route at Bahia, Pernambuco, Ceara, Maranhao, Para and Barbados. The service is to be monthly, and there are already plans afoot for exporters to the United States, according to the expectations of Brazilian shippers. The result of the inauguration of the service, however, is doubtful. The ships to be employed are small and their accommodations are not such as to offer any improvement over present service. The large number of stops will militate against through service, although it may attract considerable local business. The Lloyd Brasileiro, the company owning and operating the vessels, is a subsidized concern. It is a strong organization when considered with its Government support, and it will doubtless make a great effort to establish a permanent and satisfactory business. Its coasting fleet, which has for a considerable time enjoyed what amounts to a monopoly of the coasting trade, is a strong one. "Merchants complain that the high freight rates obtaining on goods from the United States to Brazil generally continue to act as a deterrent to trade in general. The conference rates on goods from the United States to this part of South America are nearly twice as high as freight rates for exports to the United States. While there may be particular reasons why charges should be some higher, there is no reason for so great a difference as exists, and if the inauguration of this new Brazilian service will create the result of lowering the rates somewhat it will have accomplished much for the foreign trade of Brazil and the United States."

In Mohammedan countries women are not admitted beyond the doorways of mosques.

Townsend's Cal. glace fruits and candied cream nuts. Post and Van Ness, and 1295 and 1297 Valencia street.