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FUGITIVE BLAMES

Defaulting Union Official Writes Letter Telling Cause of His Downfall CLAIMS ROYAL BLOOD

Alwin Slewierski, secretary of Brewery Workmen's Union No. 7, who absconded some weeks ago with the funds of the order, has written a letter to the members of his union, in which he confesses the embezzlement and tells how he tried to recoup his losses at the racetrack, but only became more heavily involved. Slewierski's shortage is known to be as high as \$5000 and may be twice that sum.

In his letter the fugitive lays claim to royal ancestry and professes to feel keenly his disgrace. His offense was more flagrant than his pecuniary loss, extended into the relief funds sent to the union following the April disaster. The letter in part follows: A few months ago I found that I was short more than \$300. Perhaps I could have found some one who would have been willing to lend me a helping hand in my predicament, but I could not make up my mind to confide my troubles to any one—I could not find the courage. Finally it occurred to me that perhaps by playing the races I could rearrange my affairs.

As a descendant of a Polish nobleman, with princely blood in my veins, I would not have a spot on my honor. I then decided to run the risk of losing my honor and, if not successful, of being compelled to leave my poor wife and children, and commenced gambling on the racetrack in the hope of winning enough to replace the union's money. I bet \$100 on the first race and lost \$450 in the four times I visited the racetrack.

At the last meeting of Printing Pressmen's Union No. 24 a committee of seven, consisting of William McKenny, S. P. Kane, Frank O'Neill, George L. Berry, O. A. Hutchins, James McNamara and Charles K. Vist, was appointed to visit Printing Pressmen's Union No. 125 of Oakland with the object of merging the two unions.

Fourteen candidates were obligated at the last meeting of Painters' Union No. 13 and seventeen members admitted by clearance cards. N. Smith was chosen a member of the executive committee. The union is making extensive preparations for the annual ball and entertainment which will be held in Puckett's Cotillon Hall April 25.

CHINESE FOSTER PARENTS LOSE CUSTODY OF CHILD Judge Graham Finds Baby Is of Indian Parentage and Awards Custody to Home Finding Society

ORPHAN SOCIETY ELECTS BOARD At a recent meeting of the San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum Society the annual reports of the officers were read and elections for the coming year held. The new board of management for 1907 includes Mrs. William Ashburner, president; Mrs. William R. Smeberg, first vice president; Mrs. Kirkham Wright, second vice president; Mrs. D. W. Horsburgh, treasurer; Mrs. Fredrick MacCrellish, Mrs. A. F. Morrison, Mrs. John Moss, Mrs. F. G. Sanborn, Mrs. Charles Slack, Mrs. Nellie Stow, Mrs. A. Williamson, Mrs. C. S. Wheeler and Mrs. B. C. Wright.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

EDITED BY O. M. BOYLE

The Iron Trades Council met Monday night with D. McLennan in the chair. All absentees reported the progress of the eight-hour day movement and it was the consensus of opinion that the time was ripe for such action in the iron trades of this city. The secretary was notified to send out notices to delegates to attend the meeting Monday, February 25. Important business is scheduled and all delegates are requested to be present. There is a movement on foot to have Blacksmiths' Union of Oakland, No. 100, affiliate with the Iron Trades Council. It is also expected that Blacksmiths' Union of Point Richmond, No. 476, will join the council. Further reports on the progress of the eight-hour day will be made at the next meeting of the council.

President Cornelius was in the chair at the Tuesday evening meeting of the Women's Union No. 205. A donation of \$25 was made to the fund to aid Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. The local secretary President Cornelius to Sacramento to look after the eight-hour bill introduced in the Legislature to amend the street car law of the state. Cornelius will be absent from the city several days. Fifty-three applications was the record for one day.

Ship Machine Blacksmiths' Union No. 168 met the other night at St. Helen's Hall with J. H. McNally in the chair. Eight candidates were obligated and sixteen applications received. It is reported that 50 per cent of this organization in this city. Business Agent Sandeman is hopeful that it will only be a short time when every member will be in the union. Several speeches were made advocating the eight-hour day and the union voted as a unit on the proposition.

At the last meeting of Printing Pressmen's Union No. 24 a committee of seven, consisting of William McKenny, S. P. Kane, Frank O'Neill, George L. Berry, O. A. Hutchins, James McNamara and Charles K. Vist, was appointed to visit Printing Pressmen's Union No. 125 of Oakland with the object of merging the two unions. This committee appeared before the Oakland union Tuesday night and No. 125 appointed a committee to take the matter under advisement. The object of the merger is to bring about a uniform wage scale and shop practice in San Francisco and vicinity. The committee will make reports to their respective unions as soon as possible.

Blacksmiths' Helpers' Union No. 316 held its last meeting in the Labor Council Temple with J. J. Furey in the chair. Fourteen candidates were obligated and forty-five applications are awaiting action. The eight-hour day and the iron trades was discussed at length and the union believed the time auspicious for such a movement.

Fourteen candidates were obligated at the last meeting of Painters' Union No. 13 and seventeen members admitted by clearance cards. N. Smith was chosen a member of the executive committee. The union is making extensive preparations for the annual ball and entertainment which will be held in Puckett's Cotillon Hall April 25.

SCANDAL REVEALED THROUGH SUIT TWO MARRIAGES BY SHORE WANTS NEW CAR LINE

IN THE DIVORCE COURT Divorces were granted yesterday by Judge Trout to Sadie A. Peacock from George W. Peacock, to C. S. Hanson from Annie Hanson, by Judge Graham to Jane Sauvare from August Sauvare, to May Tighe from John T. Tighe; by Judge Hunt to Agnes M. Canham from W. F. Canham.

GOING AHEAD WITH GRAFT INQUIRY The Grand Jury will meet tomorrow afternoon and according to current report will complete the investigation of graft cases already commenced and almost finished. Following the committee adopted at the time Rufus and Scherer, the men most frequently indicted by the jury, began the tactics of halting the jurors into court after each bill had been returned, the prosecution will not be any new indictments until the body is ready to adjourn sine die. Superior Judge Dunne is expected to give his ruling on Monday next on the demurrer filed by Schmitz and Rufus to the indictments returned on the restaurant graft cases. This demurrer attacked the legality of the Grand Jury.

ROMANCE HAS HAPPY SEQUEL David Ripman and Silma Simlan were married yesterday by Police Judge Weller with a ceremony of his own invention. The Judge was appointed to the bench recently and had never before officiated at a wedding. He simply told the couple to join hands, to promise to love each other and then announced to them that they were man and wife. The bride had followed her sweetheart from Chicago. She feared that he had deserted her, but if he ever had such an intention he certainly had reconsidered, for he was as happy a bridegroom as ever loved a maid.

PRYSON PRESIDENT OF NEW LINE

Heads the California Northwestern and Will Resign as Spring Valley Officer RAPID WORK ON ROAD

The election of Captain A. H. Payson yesterday to succeed E. E. Calvin in the presidency of the newly organized Northwestern Pacific Railroad was followed by the announcement that the former will retire shortly from the presidency of the Spring Valley Water Company.

There was some surprise in railroad circles when the news became known that Captain Payson was to take charge of the consolidated lines. It was understood that the management of the Northwestern Pacific was for the first year to be with the Southern Pacific and the next year with the Santa Fe. In pursuance of this plan Calvin was elected president about one month ago and W. C. Edes of the Southern Pacific was appointed chief engineer to construct the gap between Willits and the terminus of the old San Francisco Northwestern.

It is said that the conferences between the telegraph operators of the Southern Pacific and the management, which have been going on for some time, have all been of a harmonious character. The men are asking for an eight-hour day, a monthly wage of \$75 and extra pay for Sunday and overtime. The principal hitch seems to be in granting the eight-hour day. The operators claim that it has been several years since an agreement with the road has been signed. Conditions in living have increased and the men feel that they must receive more remuneration. It is more than probable that a new agreement will be signed in a day or so, and while the operators may not get all they ask their pay will be increased.

San Francisco is not the only city where the steamfitters and plumbers are warring. In New Orleans the trouble has assumed a more acute stage than in this city. James M. Cummings, the general organizer for the steamfitters, has organized a union which has so struck terror into the hearts of the plumbers that it was necessary to send the international president, John Alpine, to the Crescent City. Each of these organizations claims jurisdiction over the steamfitters and each is determined to have them. Mr. Cummings will endeavor to build up a strong union, but he will not ask any one to sever his connection with the plumbers. Where the steamfitters are already in the plumbers' union they cannot be forced to leave. It is optional with them while they are in the plumbers' organization. The whole tangle is caused by the rulings of the American Federation of Labor.

THE COAST SEAMEN'S JOURNAL has this to say of the new headquarters of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific: The Sailors' Union of the Pacific has established headquarters in San Francisco a meeting hall, a library, a reading room, a social organization—labor, fraternal or commercial might well be proud of. In the matter of convenience the new headquarters are up to date in every particular. In all other respects, in provisions for the comfort, amusement and instruction of the union members are equal, by those of any similar institution in the country. The building that adorns the walls, the ship models, representative of the highest art in the line, and above all, the splendid library of standard works, make the sailors' union headquarters a place proud of every seaman has a good reason to be proud of.

Members of the Mission Promotion Association and other improvement and commercial clubs have taken up the subject of a new streetcar line to connect the Mission with the Bay Shore districts. A conference was held yesterday between representatives of the associations and officials of the United Railroads at which the traction company was asked to apply for a franchise from Mission street and Brazil avenue to the site of the proposed Southern Pacific station on the Bay Shore. The railway officials were favorably impressed with the idea.

It was suggested that the new line should run from Mission street and Brazil avenue to Sunnydale and Leland avenues and thence to the site of the proposed Southern Pacific station on the new cut-off near Leland and San Bruno avenues. It was suggested also that a new car line be established, to run along Army street to the water front. It was argued that the increasing volume of traffic in these sections and the growth which it was expected would follow the completion of the new bay shore cut-off would necessitate the construction of new car lines. The routes were not mapped out definitely, but are left to the United Railroads for determination.

REPUBLICANS TO MEET OAKLAND, Feb. 13.—The Republican city central committee will meet tomorrow evening at rooms 207 and 208, Albany block, 1256 Broadway, to organize and elect officials.

Doctors Prescribe LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF Beef because of its strength (it is the most concentrated form of beef made), its freedom from fat (even the most delicate invalids can assimilate it) and its absolute purity. Remember the blue signature on every jar.

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Centerpieces In the same department as the foregoing (our famous Art Section), we shall exhibit this morning TINTED CENTERPIECES, stamped on canvas, ready for embroidering. A variety of floral and other devices are shown. Size 27 inches..... 85c Each Size 36 inches..... \$1.25 Each

Tooth Brushes The sanitary variety—those tooth brushes that don't get foul. They are perforated at the back, and hence, after you have used them they drain automatically, and this keeps them always sweet. Any drug store will ask you 25c and even more for this tooth brush. You can have the NEWMAN & LEVINSON SANITARY BRUSH for 15c

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