

"The Man With a Country"—he is a Californian, and the patriotic method by which he has distinguished himself makes an inspiring article in

The Sunday Call

# THE CALL



Rome's women had much to do with Rome's greatness. A clever article by a student of Roman things, with some striking illustrations, appears in

The Sunday Call

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## Trial of Mayor Schmitz Is to Begin Today Committee of Seven Ready to Take Action

### SITE FOR BIG POWER PLANT IS PURCHASED

New Company Enters Field Against Bay Counties Corporation

### PLANS KEPT SECRET

Large Tract of Desirable Land Is Secured in East Oakland

### HAS A STRONG ALLY

Western Pacific Railway Is Said to Be Interested in Enterprise

OAKLAND, May 19.—With millions of capital behind it and in close alliance with the Western power company, which it to give battle to the Bay Counties and the Standard for the transmission and sale of electrical energy, has located a site in this city for a power station, which will be one of the main supply headquarters on a line stretching from the Sierras to the sea.

Quietly, and under cover of individual names the Western power company has purchased a large tract of land in East Oakland on Brooklyn basin, where the plant which is to mark one of the important links in the chain of power stations which this gigantic corporation has planned is to be constructed. The site is on what is known as Sessions basin, just east of the north arm of the estuary into Lake Merritt and adjoining the holdings of the American magnesite company at the foot of Sixth avenue.

#### MAIN DISTRIBUTING POINT

The site has been selected as the main distributing point for Oakland. The company has extensive plans for the development of its main sources of supply, which will be located in the Sierra Nevada mountains not far from where the main line of the Western Pacific crosses the mountains through Beckwith pass.

The enterprise is closely identified with the Western Pacific interests in New York city. At the head of the new company is Edwin Hawley and other representatives of capital which are concerned directly in the Gould railway development. It is declared by those who are informed concerning the new company's movements in Oakland that the Western power company proposes to compete with the Standard and the Bay Counties for business and to extend and virtually parallel one or both of the other lines. This means that Oroville, Marysville, Sacramento, Stockton, Oakland and San Francisco will be supplied with power by the new company.

#### WILL CHEAPER POWER

So far as this city is concerned, the invasion of the field by the new corporation means the further cheapening of electric power as well as the assurance of a tremendous increase in that form of energy for all industrial and commercial purposes. It is a noteworthy fact that the site on Sessions basin which has been selected is on the line of the Western Pacific into Oakland just where the new road starts to cross from East Oakland. This has given rise to a repetition of the rumor that the Western Pacific proposes to use electricity for a great part of its motive power. So with the Western power company so closely allied there is apparently good grounds for this current talk in railway circles.

The purchase of the Oakland site, which covers several acres, represents an investment of a sum said to be above \$150,000 for the land bare of improvements. The secrecy manifested as to that transaction is not equal to the efforts made to conceal the detailed plans as to the line of the company into this city. It is confidently believed by engineers who have been informed generally as to the new move that the line will come in by way of Sacramento, feeding across the country, and probably touch at de-

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### POLICE SEEKING MAN WHO LEFT BOMB IN CAR

Detectives Take Issue With Those Who Advance Hoax Theory

### PLANS WELL LAID

Explosion of Infernal Machine Would Have Dealt Death

### FOES ARE IN ACCORD

Both Railroad Officials and Carmen Pretend to Make Light of Affair

Whether a wanton conspiracy to kill or a dangerous plot to intimidate prompted the placing of a black powder bomb in car 1507 of the Sutter street line near the ferry loop on Saturday afternoon was not determined by the police department yesterday. In fact, the police were divided in opinion, and so are the United Railroads and the carmen's union, the parties most interested, who, each from a different point of view, call the bomb affair a hoax.

If the bomb were set with deadly intent it would have exploded at the ferry loop and killed or maimed not only passengers on the car and the car crew, but persons in wagons and pedestrians hurrying to or from the ferry. It would have caused a repetition of the bomb disaster of the Sutter street strike of 1887. The police are working on the mystery, but no arrests have been made, and Bernard F. Humphreys, conductor of the car in which the machine was found, has been released from custody.

#### TAKING A DARING RISK

A strong argument against the hoax theory is that none but a desperate man would have carried such a machine through the city. Had its bearer by any chance fallen into the hands of the police he could not have escaped a long term of imprisonment, regardless of attempts to demonstrate that he was only planning a causeless fright. The hoax theory is a conservative one to take after the bomb has been soaked in cold water and the candle, fuse and powder uncoupled.

Detective Tom Gibson, who is familiar with explosives, asserts that the machine was especially deadly, and that if it had been set with the terrifying purpose of wholesale assassination it would have accomplished its end but for lack of proper ventilation in the case, because of which defect the fuse could not burn.

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Gene's Dread

### Developments of Chairmen Praises Day in Graft Situation Work of Police Department Attorneys Scheme to Block the Proceedings

Mayor Schmitz may be taken into custody on the strength of new indictments or the order of court, placed under the charge of Elisor Biggy during the progress of his trial and quartered as a fellow prisoner of Ruef's in the Fillmore street house, which was formerly his home.

In case of Schmitz's incarceration the courts will be called upon to determine whether he is in a position to administer the affairs of his office from prison, and if a negative decision is given the board of supervisors will, under the charter provision, appoint an acting mayor.

Mayor Schmitz's trial on the charge of extorting money from French restaurant proprietors will begin this morning in Judge Dunne's court, every indication being that his attorneys will employ the same methods adopted in the Ruef case to delay the trial at every turn.

The conclusion of the graft investigation, in so far as the grand jury's inquiry is concerned, will be practically concluded this week.

The committee of seven mayoral advisers will meet at 10 o'clock this morning and begin in earnest the work which it has so far merely contemplated. The situation is so complicated and there are so many interests involved in the general problem of restoring peace with the least possible trampling of toes that the members of the committee have done a good deal of thinking and talking among themselves without arriving at any definite plan of action.

When the case of Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz, charged with the crime of extorting money from French restaurant owners, is called for trial in Judge Dunne's department of the superior court this morning it will open what promises to be one of the greatest legal battles in the history of San Francisco criminal jurisprudence.

### ELISOR BIGGY MAY GET NEW BOARDER TODAY

Judge Dunne, It Is Thought, Will Order Schmitz Into Custody

### RUEF IS INDIGNANT

Declares That He Does Not Want Mayor Placed in His Rooms

### KEANE IS ANXIOUS

Fears That Boodling Executive Will Break Down in Courtroom

Eugene Schmitz, listlessly pacing another room in the same prison house as Abe Ruef, and having the same elisor and guards to remind him of their mutual ignominy as trapped boodlers, is among the pictures of possible discomforts attending the mayor following the beginning of his trial today.

As the codefendant with Ruef in the indictments charging them with extortion in the French restaurant cases, Schmitz can be ordered into the custody of Elisor Biggy at the discretion of Judge Dunne.

It is believed, however, that the graft prosecutors will not rely on this fact in asking for the appointment of an elisor for Schmitz, but will base their application to the court, on the inability of the mayor to furnish bail on the new batch of indictments which are expected to be returned against him today.

These new indictments are said to be the result both of the revelations made by Ruef in his testimony before the grand jury last week and the testimony of other witnesses earlier in the investigation. The jury has been delaying some of these indictments for corroborative testimony similar to that contributed by Ruef, but the revelations of the latter make it possible to return a much greater number of true bills than was at first counted upon by Finney and Langdon.

#### RUEF MAKES OBJECTION

Ruef's prison house will be used to detain Schmitz for the reason that the graft prosecutors do not believe the municipality should be put to greater expense than is necessary pending his trial. The house, which is at Fillmore and Green streets, was the home of the mayor before he affected a taste for the much talked of Levantine rugs and other elegancies of his present residence at Vallejo and Pierce streets. It was in this house that Schmitz built the plush lined treasure chest, the discovery of which led Ruef to call him a fool.

Ruef declared yesterday that he would not consent to share the same apartments with Schmitz. "They'll have to keep him out of my sight if they bring him here," said Ruef. "I've got quite enough of Schmitz and his kind."

Schmitz, on the other hand, is displaying quite as positive an aversion of Ruef.

"Ruef was responsible for all the gross things of my administration," he declared yesterday. "His weak mentality and sordid ambitions are so well understood by every one who knows him that his present pretensions are absurd. No one realizes this better than I do, unless it is Ruef himself."

Schmitz, who is declared by his confidants to be on the verge of nervous breakdown, will have need for all his reserve fortitude when his trial begins today on the indictments charging him with extortion with Ruef in the French restaurant cases.

#### SCHMITZ GROWS RESTLESS

Schmitz passed a restless day of preparation yesterday for the ordeal he is to undergo and gave every indication of a man racked by doubt and conflicting emotions.

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