

The San Francisco Call

JOHN D. SPRECKELS Proprietor
CHARLES W. HORNICK General Manager
ERNEST S. SIMPSON Managing Editor

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Delivered by Carrier, 20 Cents Per Week, 75 Cents Per Month. Single Copies 5 Cents
Terms by Mail, Including Postage (Cash With Order):
DAILY CALL (Including Sunday), 1 year, \$8.00
DAILY CALL (Including Sunday), 6 months, \$4.00
DAILY CALL—By Single Month, 75c
SUNDAY CALL, 1 year, \$2.50
WEEKLY CALL, 1 year, \$1.00
FOREIGN Daily, \$3.00 Per Year Extra
POSTAGE Weekly, \$1.00 Per Year Extra
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RENT PROBLEM SOLVING ITSELF

ONE of the most pressing problems in San Francisco since the fire has been that of rent. On this question house owner and house seeker will ever be at variance. The former believes that whatever price he names is just, and that the law of demand and supply applies to houses as to any other merchantable commodity; on the other hand the lessee declares that it is unjust to take advantage of circumstances, as houses are a necessity, whereas a man can do without a good many things not within the reach of his purse.

Complaint has been made—and, it is believed, in specific instances with justice—that some house holders have taken too great an advantage of circumstances and have asked far too high rentals. This has had an ill effect, but assurance can now be given that the day of exorbitant rents has passed and that people who desire can find houses at reasonable rates. There is scarcely a day that new houses are not ready for occupancy, and despite the cry about high wages and high materials there has been no appreciable cessation in the work of building flats, cottages, hotels and lodging and apartment houses.

The number of new hotels nearing completion is surprising. The most encouraging sign is that future landlords say their places can be filled as soon as the doors are opened. On Ellis, Eddy, Jones, Stockton, Sutter, California and other streets hotels are being constructed and some of the smaller ones will soon be ready for guests.

San Francisco will always contain a large percentage of population averse to the trials and cares of house keeping, and this class will find housing in hotels. The reason for this is not far to seek. The "help question" is getting more difficult yearly, and it is natural that people who can do so should avoid the inconveniences arising from poor help or no help at all by seeking hotels. This necessity compels the builders to erect fine and attractive buildings, and some now under construction will compare favorably with any in the country.

The fact that our hotels are liberally patronized shows that the city has a population rich enough to enjoy luxury. San Francisco, with the exception of two big houses, was formerly handicapped in the matter of hotels of the first class, but what it lacked in big downtown houses was made up in expensive uptown establishments. The new San Francisco will not be wanting in hotels, and by their construction it may be assumed that the builders and the lessees expect a large transient population, or, in other words, a return of that trade which always came here during the late winter and spring months.

With hotels springing up in the old quarter for the accommodation of the fairly well to do, and a new town rapidly building in and about the Mission, San Francisco shows wonderful vitality. There has been nothing like it in the world. There is only one parallel and for that we must go back to the time of Charles II of England, during which London was devastated by fire. Burnett, commenting upon its rebuilding in the history of his own time, says that all Europe was amazed by the fact that in four years all evidence of the conflagration was wiped out, the belief having been that there was not money enough in all England to pay for such a task.

It is only a year since the devastation of San Francisco. North Beach has been rebuilt on a far better plan and scale than before the fire. Kearny street will soon be a compact line of fine structures. Montgomery street will be better than ever, and the character of the buildings now being erected on California and on the streets north of that thoroughfare is in the highest degree creditable to the city.

As London was the marvel of the age after her great fire, so will San Francisco be at the expiration of another year through the remarkable work accomplished in effacing the traces of the greatest calamity in all history.

DINAN, SCHMITZ & CO.

THE excuses made by Police Chief Dinan for tampering with veniremen called for the Schmitz jury are pitiful in the extreme and supply evidence of the blunted sense of morals natural to an environment whose tone is that of the penitentiary. The moral difference between Ruef and "Kid" Sullivan is merely one of degree. Dinan may be known by the company he keeps.

Dinan's impudent plea that "the other side" was doing the same thing reveals his point of view. He does not consider himself an officer sworn to uphold the law and promote the cause of justice, but a partisan at liberty to assist men accused of crime and throw obstacles in the way of the state. By his own word he puts himself squarely in opposition to the people of the state of California asking for justice through the courts.

The right to investigate the status and affiliations of veniremen belongs to every man accused of crime. It is equally in the just province of the prosecution to engage in such work. It is unfortunate that anything of the sort should be necessary, but the dubious course of certain superior court judges in stuffing the panel with unfit persons has made the practice unavoidable. Schmitz has a perfect right to engage in this work at his own expense. In the same way the agents of the prosecution may obtain information concerning the lives and friendships of candidates for the jury. All this is legitimate.

It is not legitimate for a police officer to take sides openly

Isn't It Peculiar—No. 1



with a man under indictment, much less to use his subordinates in the pay of the city to hinder the course of justice.

The people of San Francisco are very weary of Dinan, but they can easily understand why Schmitz balks at fulfilling his promise to remove the chief of police. They are a brace of rogues making common cause.

DR. WHEELER SHOULD EXPLAIN

PROFESSOR HUGO K. SCHILLING and President Wheeler of the University of California cannot slough off the charges made by former Instructor Centner with the explanation that they do not care to enter into discussion of the matter. The charges are made in a public way by a responsible person and they are so grave as materially to affect the discipline of the university. The incident will not be closed by an easy assumption of superiority. If injustice has been done the people of California, who pay the salaries of Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Schilling, want to know the facts. The action of the university authorities may have been altogether justified, but the public has the right to know why they acted. If they continue silent people will begin to believe the charges of gross favoritism made by Mr. Centner. We have no desire to prejudice the controversy, but we ask for an explanation.

Governor Hughes' demand for a recount law and Hearst's loss of interest in the subject were not unexpectedly coincident.

Personal Mention

George W. Perry of Reading is at the Imperial.
Hermann Kobbe of Pasadena is at the Majestic.
Benjamin Latz, a Portland merchant, is at the Dorchester.
George Henderson of Eureka registered at the Jefferson.
W. E. Guerin of Portland registered at the Fairmont yesterday.
W. B. Russell of Watsonville will be at the Imperial for several days.
J. D. Church, a businessman from Klamath Falls, is staying at the Hamlin.
Governor Gillett returned to the Palace yesterday, after an absence of two days.
A party of mining men from Nevada, including A. D. Nash and Volney T. Hoggset, are at the St. Francis.
O. I. McClelland of New Orleans, who has been spending two weeks at Lake Tahoe, returned to the Hamlin yesterday, on his way home.
The floor area of St. Peter's, Rome, is 227,069 square feet, being the greatest floor area of any cathedral in the world.

California Club's Music Department Reports an Encouraging Season

By James Crawford

No section of the California club is more popular than the one devoted to music. Its capable and energetic director, Mrs. Marjorie-Campbell, provided many treats for the club members and their invited guests during the season of 1906-7, and on each occasion the attendance was large, both numerically and in appreciation.

"Through the generous responses given by the city's music talent," said Mrs. Campbell the other day, "the section has been able to offer to the club and its guests some very interesting programmes. The warm human sympathy engendered by our common interests created an atmosphere at once receptive and responsive. Heretofore the section had given many programmes, in which only its own members participated, but in the confusion of events during the last year those members were widely scattered, so I thought it wise to give entertainments by professionals. And they gave us their best."

Among the artists who responded to Mrs. Campbell's request were: Mrs. J. E. Birmingham, contralto; Mrs. M. E. Blanchard, contralto; Miss Helen Heath, soprano; Mrs. Arthur Flickensher, soprano; Mrs. Thomas Nunan, soprano; Miss Isabel Kerr, mezzo soprano; Miss Belle O'Connor, mezzo soprano; Miss Irma Brockman, soprano; Mrs. Grace Rollins Hunt, pianiste; Mrs. E. E. Young, pianiste; Mrs. W. J. Batchelder, pianiste; Miss Helen Crane, mezzo soprano; Miss Alda McBride, soprano; Miss Florence Hyde, violiniste; Miss Olive Hyde, pianiste; Miss Grace Freeman, violiniste; Alfred Coswell, baritone; John Caddington, baritone; Horace Kinney, tenor; Walter Chauncey Campbell, basso; Marshall Giselman, pianiste; the Mansfeldt club, pianistes, under the direction of Miss Eula Howard; the Grand Freeman string quartet; Harry L. Perry, basso; Mr. Waldrop, pianiste; Arthur Cunningham, baritone.

With the foregoing array of home talent a wide field was opened for the interpretation of music covering centuries of composition. The work for the coming season has not yet been arranged, but Mrs. Campbell can be depended upon to keep the programmes up to the high ideals that the California club has always maintained.

Dr. H. J. Stuart announces an invitation concert by his pupils this afternoon at the Knights of Columbus hall. The program comprises vocal and instrumental selections by Mrs. Josephine Aylwin, Miss Viola Van Orden, Miss Lenore Burke, Miss Leola Stone, Miss Camille Frank, Miss Louise Smith and several other talented students.

It looks as if the clever Pasmore sisters—Susanne, piano; Mary, violin, and Dorothy, cello—will not return to San Francisco for some time, if at all, so favorably are they treated by the Berlin critics and public. Of their debut in the German capital one writer says: "They form an admirable trio, both of feminine and of artistic quality. It is an unusual thing to hear three real sisters in a trio, and it is quite extraordinary to hear them play an entire program of chamber music works from memory, especially when it contains such a big and difficult number as the Brahms."

Oscar Hammerstein has proved his progressiveness a great success with Bertram Shapleigh's "Nachtlid," singing it at all of her concerts. It was always redemanded with storms of applause and the Dutch papers spoke in glowing terms of this song and of Mme. Nevada's "unforgettable" rendering of it.

That the composers of today are not idle is proved by the receipt of 415 compositions which have been offered for performance at the coming "Tonkuenstler" festival at Dresden, beginning June 23. The preferred works are by members of the organization, the majority of whom are little known here.

The American farewell tour of the world renowned pianist Vladimir de Pachmann will begin in September next under the personal direction of Arnold Somlyo.

In the Joke World

"Dresses and hats; dresses and hats!" we exclaimed, in an effort to be wittily philosophical. "It is the eternal feminine."
"No," corrected our exact friend; "it is the external feminine."—Judge.
The curtain went up on the Siberian scene.
"Those howls sound very real," commented the critic. "That is a real thing in howls, best I've ever heard."
"Ought to be," responded the stage manager. "That's our angel. He's busted."—Louisville Courier-Journal.
"There's a man at the door, pa," called little Willie from the lower hall, "who wants to see the boss of the house."
"Tell your mother," called pa.
"Tell Bridget," promptly called his mother.—Philadelphia Press.
"That politician seems willing to extend the olive branch to his enemies."
"Well," was the answer, "it looks like an olive branch to start with, but by the time he gets through trimming the leaves and twigs off it it turns out to be an ordinary big stick."—Washington Star.
She—Pa says he will never consent to our marriage.
He—Then we shall have to elope.
She—There! I knew pa was wrong. He said you had no business ability, and yet the first thing you proposed to do is to save him the expense of a stylish wedding.—Pick Me Up.
The way our modern weather goes is certainly a bore.
It snows and melts, and melts and snows.
And snows and melts some more.—Washington Star.
"She thinks her husband is a veritable lion."
"Does she know?"
"Sure she is the king of beasts."—Houston Post.

Club Women Review the Work Accomplished During the Past Year With Satisfaction

By Mary Ashe Miller

THE close of the club year has arrived with the end of May and there are to be practically no more gatherings of the different women's organizations of the city until late in the summer or early in the fall. It has been a hard year for the clubs, reorganized after the fire under all manner of painful conditions, and with the most adverse circumstances facing them. There has been a deal of pleasure in the club work and life of the winter, however, and the situation has done much to promote kinder feeling and greater harmony among the club women. None of the clubs has disbanded and none of them has failed to "make good" at whatever line of work it has engaged in. Although dues have been in most instances remitted for at least half the year, there seems to be no financial stress or difficulty, although there have been in some of the clubs considerable expenditures. The greatest difficulties at first seemed to be in locating the members, getting their addresses and finding suitable meeting places. Most of the clubs must have a place to set up their household gods. There are certain "bits of things" which every woman, in clubs or out, must have, and an aggregation of women carry out the ways of their sex quite as faithfully as a single member. So the home instinct was one of the first felt by the club women, and there was traveling hither and yon until an abiding place for the winter at least was found. A number of the clubs have been permitted to use the various comfortable rooms in the annex of the Calvary Presbyterian church on Fillmore and Jackson streets, and there are many expressions of grateful appreciation of the courtesy heard among the club women. Excellent programmes of music, addresses or other pleasurable features have been provided which have been especially enjoyable in the absence of many of the intellectual pleasures usually enjoyed in San Francisco. Civic work has occupied much

time for those who are interested in that branch of club work, and dramatic and whist sections, orchestras, literary work of all types and many other interests have gone to make the year of rehabilitation which has just passed one of both pleasure and profit to the club women of San Francisco. There are many weary ones in the club world now, however, and the vacation season of two or three months will be a relief and rest to the extent of affairs. Many who have had the interest and welfare of their organizations so deeply at heart.

Last Tuesday was the closing meeting for the year of the California club and the reading of the annual reports and the installation by Mrs. E. L. Baldwin of the officers for the coming year occupied the entire afternoon until nearly 8 o'clock. The president, Mrs. J. W. Orr, who was unanimously re-elected, read an exhaustive account of the arduous task of the past year, giving a resume of the difficulties encountered, the work accomplished and the aims of the club for the future. There was a note of satisfaction and confidence in this report that was distinctly encouraging to the members of the club, realizing as they did that Mrs. Orr was in a position to speak authoritatively as to the exact state of affairs. In closing Mrs. Orr said: "The attendance at regular meetings has steadily increased, and we now feel that our faith is justified in believing that the California club through its baptism of fire has been consecrated anew to the purpose for which it was founded—to create a center of thought and action among the people for the promotion of whatever tends to the best interests of the city and of the state."

literature and drama. Mrs. Will Madden, leader; whist section, Mrs. Charles Madden; Grothwell is the leader. It has been found necessary to abandon the dictions of parliamentary law, art, physical culture and current topics until the club is in the new headquarters.

On Monday of last week the retiring board of directors of the California club were entertained at luncheon by Mrs. J. W. Orr, the president.

Under the auspices of the Council of Jewish Women and the California club Dr. Felix Adler of New York, founder of the Society of Ethical Culture, educator and author, will give two lectures in San Francisco late in June. Dr. Adler was educated for the Jewish ministry, but his attitude toward the Jewish beliefs so changed that he found it impossible for him to carry out his plans for that work, and he finally organized in New York city a society for ethical culture, based upon the principle of the promotion of right living and the supremacy of moral ends. His society has given practical expression to its aims by establishing workingmen's schools, a system of district nursing, a free kindergarten and a number of other institutions.

The regular monthly meeting of the Albert Sidney Johnston chapter, U. D. C., will be held at the residence of Mrs. Coyle, 36 Jackson street, this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The Clonian club closed its session for this season on Tuesday, May 28, with the annual meeting and breakfast. The newly elected officers for the coming term are: President, Miss Emma Campbell; first vice president, Mrs. O. Bacon; recording secretary, Miss Daisy Kittredge; corresponding secretary, Miss Elsie May Gorham; treasurer, Mrs. E. G. Eisen; auditor, Miss Alice M. Way. At the breakfast which followed the election of club officers covers were laid for 32. Corn flowers and yellow shaded candelabra lent an artistic touch

to the tables. Mrs. S. C. Irving, presiding as toastmaster, introduced the following speakers: "Greeting to the Club," by its retiring president, Mrs. J. H. Robertson; "Club History," Mrs. J. G. Cadman; "Our Officers," Mrs. E. Blake; "Our Members, Old and New," Mrs. F. H. Reed; "The Future of the Club," Mrs. John Leals; "Good Fellowship," Miss Gorham. Attractive vocal selections from Mrs. de los Mages, Mrs. Clafuda R. King and Mrs. Torres added to the pleasure of the afternoon. The club will devote its attention to the study of Spain during the next year, the program to be arranged under the supervision of Mrs. Joseph Fife.

Mrs. Ramon E. Wilson will lecture at To-Kalon on Tuesday, June 4, at 8 p. m., on Sierra, a place where she resided many years. This will close the club year.

San Francisco colony No. 10, New England Women, had its final meeting for the year last Friday afternoon at Calvary church. After the installation of the newly elected officers several plans for the next year's work were discussed, but left open for decision until the first meeting in September, which will take the form of a New England dinner at Piedmont park. All women of New England birth or ancestry are cordially invited to join the organization.

The officers of the Equal Suffrage league of San Francisco for the ensuing year will be as follows: Mrs. Lillian Coffin, president; Miss Selma Solomons, Mrs. Charles J. Newman and Dr. Minora Klippe, vice presidents; Mrs. Gamage, treasurer; Mrs. Hathaway, secretary; Mrs. H. Otis Brun and Mrs. Dorothy Harned, auditors; directors—Miss Carlbel David, G. W. Owen, Mrs. Moore and Thomas Hayden. The league was adjourned until the first Monday in August. Its membership numbers 97, 18 of whom have recently joined.

Women's clubs throughout the state are invited to communicate news of their organizations to this department of the Call.