

The San Francisco Call

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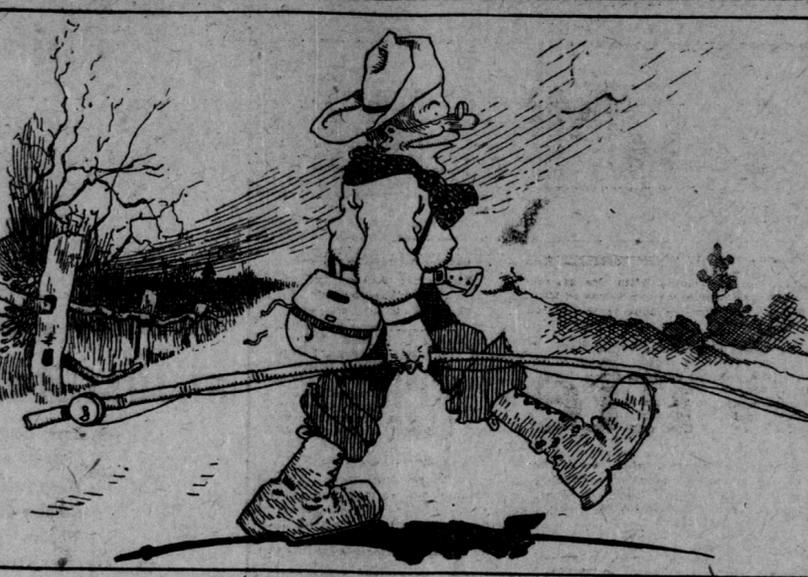
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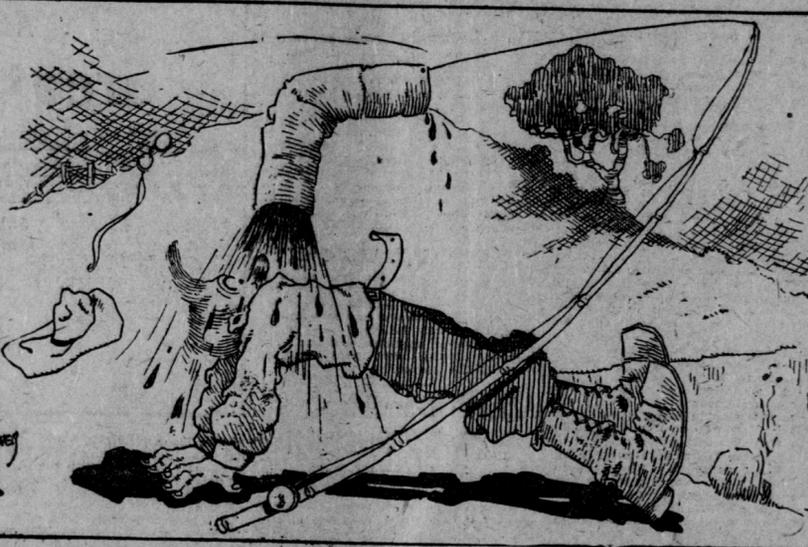
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The Vacation—A Continued Story. Chapter 5



HE TRIES FISHING WITH DISASTROUS RESULTS



THE MAKING OF PRESIDENTS

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It appears that Fairbanks has been tried and found wanting. It may be that the people do not care for vaudeville politics, even when mixed with a suspicion of melodrama and the limelight.

Within the republican party there is, of course, a division of sentiment of the sort that always exists and must always continue to characterize the opinions of any strong and important body.

Fairbanks was first put forward by the conservative wing, just to see how he would take with the country. He has not taken very well. His active enemies riddled him with shot, while the indifferent public were only amused at the absurd activities of the press agents, of whom Mr. Fairbanks maintains a multifarious staff.

In this situation the conservatives are turning to Philander Knox, senator from Pennsylvania. Senator Knox has not made himself ridiculous nor as yet afforded game for the American humorist.

Politicians who watch things at the east are saying that the real contest in next year's convention will be between Taft and Knox. A tremendous effort, backed by unlimited money, will be made to take the Ohio delegation away from Taft, and if it should succeed that would be fatal to his ambition.

An odd factor of the situation is that the conservatives find themselves in some degree handicapped by their own past activities. They have contrived, through the pervasive assiduity of their press agents and led captains, to create a certain body of "Fairbanks sentiment."

THE ONEROUS SURPLUS

ELLIS H. ROBERTS, formerly treasurer of the United States, writes in the North American Review on "The Wrong of the Great Surplus." The existing surplus in the treasury is nearly \$90,000,000, and Mr. Roberts contends that the people could use that money to better advantage than letting the government spend it.

At a bankers' state convention, two or three weeks ago, a general panic was predicted unless the revenues, as a whole, should be paid directly to the banks instead of passing through the treasury as now.

There is a great deal of force in this reasoning, but it will scarcely commend itself to the standpatters, who are ever on the watch for any movement that threatens even remotely the painfully constructed edifice of the tariff.

SOLDIERS AT WAR AMONG THEMSELVES

PERHAPS it's a way they have in the army. Lieutenant Colonel Ayres finds his services dispensed with. He is retired. The army surgeons say it is Bright's disease, but there are some who suspect that Colonel Ayres got himself disliked when he called his brother officers "crocodiles."

case of the Keokuk school teacher. "I understood," remarked the visitor, "that Mr. Blank was dismissed because he was too loquacious." "No, sir," explained the school trustee; "we uns allowed it were because he talked too much with his mouth."

The retirement of Colonel Ayres for physical disability, is the sequel of a somewhat confused military episode that began at West Point, when Mrs. Ayres criticised the commanding officer because he ordered that the cadets' overcoats be removed from the shoulders of certain young ladies, who wore them as protection from the rain during a parade at the post.

This is not by any means the first time that Colonel Ayres has had trouble with his military superiors. While he has an unusually brilliant record for gallant service in the field, yet he has had a way of getting into hot water. We may not assert that there is any relation between these traits and the diagnosis made by Major Guy Edie of the examining board that retired Colonel Ayres. This is the diagnosis:

Among the physical ailments mentioned specifically by the surgeons was chronic Bright's disease, a hardening of the arteries, and, in the way of motor action, an accentuated motion of the elbows and knees.

These are impressive, mouth filling words, but there will be some to say that the Keokuk school trustee might have sized up the situation more closely.

WAKED UP THE WRONG PROFESSOR

IS the white fly dead? Apparently it is officially dead and there is war over the remains, but Professor Woodworth of the University of California declares that the white fly is not scientifically dead and may have to be killed all over again.

Horticultural Commissioner Pease swears on a stack of bibles that the insect has been eradicated by his labors at Marysville, chiefly in the way of defoliation. As a consequence of this process of plucking the trees it is the official theory that the baneful insects die of starvation or are consumed by fire along with the leaves.

"The management of the past campaign," says the professor, "has been fundamentally bad and its history is chiefly useful in pointing out how not to do the work." He characterizes the work of Pease as "strenuous but misdirected"—what the vulgar call coarse. He speaks with fine contempt about fighting flies with a saw and a whitewash brush, and adds that "we should begin all the work anew, avoiding the mistakes of the past campaign."

We must attribute the acidity of Professor Woodworth's remarks to a severe and exacting scientific conscience and not at all to any feeling due to the commissioner's charge that Woodworth was guilty of plagiarism from the work of the distinguished Gossard, but we are ready to bet a big red apple that by this time Pease is sorry he spoke. He waked up the wrong professor.

In the Joke World

The Doctor—To make my point clear, let me give you this sentence from Henry James. The Professor (interrupting)—If you do I shall take an appeal.—Chicago Tribune. Pat—The next war o' them chaufeurs as runs over me'll be sorry for ut. Thomas—And why's that? Pat—I've got a tin o' nitroglycerin in me pocket.—Punch.

Western Union Slowness Receives Another Rap

EDITOR Call—Dear Sir: In your issue of the 24th Inst. I notice that A. R. Kanaga complains of the Western Union's slow delivery. He says that with an ox team which can travel three to five miles an hour he can beat a Western Union telegram.

I very much doubt his assertion. I claim that the Western Union can do and does much better than that. I filed a telegram at Indio, Cal., Sunday at 11 a. m. notifying my people that I would arrive on the following Monday morning. Sitting at my home on Union street, Oakland, the following Tuesday at 5 p. m. the telegram arrived and the boy had the audacity to charge 10 cents for delivery. It took the telegram 54 hours to travel 610 miles. I do not believe Mr. Kanaga could beat this record with a mule team, much less with an ox. It is strange how some people are so fond of finding fault and always complaining about trifles. J. P. BARATA, Oakland, July 25, 1907.

Railroad Gossip

JULIUS KRUTTSCHNITT, director of maintenance and operation for the Harriman lines, left yesterday afternoon for home by special train, going by way of Niles canyon to Tracy and then on east.

George Fraser, not disheartened by the successive and crushing defeats which the baseball team of the Transportation club has received from every team it has encountered, has determined to try conclusions with the embryo Deweys and Paul Joneses that flourish on Goat Island. Fraser has sent the team of the training school a challenge to play it on its own grounds. It is understood that the challenge has been accepted, but as the ferry boats do not make Goat Island a port of call Fraser is negotiating with the secretary of the navy to have a man of war detailed to carry over to the island the Transportation club baseball team, the friends, the relatives and also their admirers. There is an impression abroad that Fraser intends to make this baseball game one of the most exclusive social features of the summer season.

Bruce Norton, traveling passenger agent of the Union Pacific at Fresno, is in the valley and says that the San Joaquin valley was never more prosperous. "Why, do you know," he remarked, "that as an evidence that we are rich, the sum of \$100,000 has been spent during the last 30 days on automobiles in the city of Fresno? Every man who has a 40 acre vineyard now buys a runabout, a man with 80 acres purchases a \$4,000 touring car and one with 120 acres has a runabout and also a touring car."

W. S. G. Harris, a locomotive engineer on the Southern Pacific, has invented an automatic safety device for boilers which will serve as a warning to the engineer when the water is getting low. H. J. Small and other officials of the Southern Pacific think highly of the invention, which will be installed on all the locomotives used on the Harriman lines. The frequency with which boilers blow up on account of low water makes Harris' device highly regarded, and it is thought that he will acquire a snug fortune from his invention.

C. M. Redfern, chief clerk of the geological department of the Southern Pacific, intends to spend his vacation in strange lands and will go into the Yaqui country, Sonora, Mexico. He is taking many weapons of offense and defense along with him.

The Insider

Relates an anecdote of the late George Knox, showing how he rose from digging ditches to affluence as an established linguist

Incident in Life of George T. Knox

GEORGE T. KNOX, for many years a notary of this city and at one time captain of the McMahon grenadier guards, who recently passed away, was one of those who came to San Francisco in '49. He had not definitely determined what he would do, so he tried his hand at everything which brought him an honest dollar.

The English speaking man, who was one of San Francisco's early days' lawyers, then turned to Knox and asked him several questions the answers to which satisfied him that the man with the shovel was a linguist and a scholar.

"I'm astonished to see a man of your attainment at this kind of work. What are you working here for?" asked the lawyer. Knox replied, "An ounce a day." An ounce in those days was equivalent to \$16, a day's wages for ordinary labor.

The lawyer told Knox to leave the trench, and added, "I want you to work for me making translations. It will pay you better." Knox accepted, and in time formed an acquaintance with the French population, which, as the city grew, was of great advantage to him.

Charles Josselyn Admirer of Ouida

IF Californians had been asked to contribute for a fund to ease the declining years of Ouida, to whom the British government has just awarded a pension, I know one man who would be ready with his mite. This is Charles Josselyn, who has often expressed admiration for Mlle. de la Ramee's writings.

Unfair Pay for a Child Laborer

A NEW industry for child laborers has been discovered by a little girl who, though she has rich parents, likes to earn an honest nickel with her own chubby hands once in awhile.

When questioned further, she explained: "I took the fleas off Tip"—the neighbor's black spaniel. "Five cents a dozen; I removed three dozen."

The Smart Set

MRS. YNEZ SHORB WHITE has arranged the dates of her assemblies for this coming winter. These popular dances will take place on the evenings of the following Fridays: November 22, December 13, January 17, February 7 and February 28.

A delightful bit of news has reached the friends of Miss Claudine Cozzoni, whose engagement to Charles A. Warren Jr. Mrs. A. R. Cozzoni has just announced. For some days past the engagement of this interesting young couple has been an open secret.

Mrs. C. A. Gillette, wife of Major Gillette, formerly of the army, is now enjoying all the delights of camp life near the Mammoth Hot Springs hotel, in Yellowstone park, accompanied by her children. Major Gillette, before his resignation was forwarded to Washington, D. C., was considered one of the ablest engineers in the service.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Snell of San Francisco were the guests last week of Mrs. J. F. Ford at Redwood City.

Mr. and Mrs. Wittred D. Chapman, Miss Chapman and Sherwood Chapman are visiting at Del Monte.

Sumner Hardy and Prentiss Gray have been enjoying the tennis courts at Del Monte.

Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Hallman, I. W. Hallman Jr. and Frederick M. Hellman are passing the week at Del Monte.

Personal Mention

John Hay of London is at the Fairmont. E. C. Roberts of Treka is at the Savoy. Dr. H. Hunt of Los Angeles is at the Majestic. Carl C. Schroeder of Cincinnati is at the Hamlin. Henry Wisemann of Seattle is at the Baltimore. T. J. Field, a Monterey banker, is at the St. Francis. W. H. Foster of Youngtown, O., is at the Fairmont. Henry W. Field of San Luis Obispo is at the St. Francis. Walter Knight and Mrs. Knight of Napa are at the Fairmont. Dr. C. L. Rion, U. S. A., and Mrs. Rion are at the Jefferson. W. E. Bowden and wife of Leadville, Colo., are at the Jefferson. A. L. Ward and Mrs. Ward of Los Angeles are at the Imperial.

Conditions in California

The California Promotion committee wired the following to its eastern bureau in New York yesterday: California temperatures for the past 24 hours: San Francisco.....Minimum, 55.....Maximum, 68 San Diego.....Minimum, 58.....Maximum, 70

Reports received by the California Promotion committee indicate great activity in railroads building in many sections of the state. Duties on goods received at the San Francisco custom house for the past week, 1907, 000; increase over last year, 22 per cent.

The Sacramento valley grain crop will far exceed the normal this year. Some of the barley land is going 30 sacks to the acre. The average is 24 sacks. Ordinarily 18 sacks is considered a good yield.

The eight story reinforced concrete Boyd building at California and Drumm streets, San Francisco, is nearing completion. The false work has been removed and the concrete presents a striking example of the possibilities of concrete work. This cornice is one of the first in the country to be cast in wooden forms.