

The San Francisco Call

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

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ROCKEFELLER, THE MARTYR

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER presents himself. He will appear in the title role of "The Persecuted Man." He is the stuff of which martyrs are made. He has devoted his life to improving processes of industry and business, and now regards himself as the greatest American benefactor of his species. In return an ungrateful people is hounding him to his ruin. An innocent man, who protests he cannot afford to have oysters for dinner, he is asked to pay a fine of \$29,240,000. It is enough to make a good man take to the poorhouse.

By way of timely comment upon these pathetic protestations comes the report of Commissioner Herbert Knox Smith of the department of commerce, who marshals a crushing array of facts to prove that the net profits of Standard oil in 24 years were \$790,000,000 on an original investment of \$75,000,000. In that period the trust has absolutely controlled prices of petroleum and its products and has used its power to raise prices not only absolutely but relatively to the cost of crude oil. The methods of the trust are thus described in the report:

The cornerstone on which the Standard's power was first built up was railroad discrimination. The Standard was able to maintain in position this primary support of its domination down nearly to the present time—that is, until its system of preferential freight rates, secret or open, was exposed by the report of this bureau on the transportation of petroleum in May, 1906. Almost equally effective in maintaining the Standard's position have been its unfair methods of competition in the selling of products. The immense importance of the practice of price discrimination in restraining the business of competitors and augmenting the aggregate profits of the Standard will be set forth later. The Standard maintains bogus independent companies and thereby is able to escape the disadvantage due to antitrust sentiment, as well as to cut prices to the particular customers of competitors, without incurring a further loss of cutting prices to the entire trade in the locality.

We do not imagine that the facts set forth in this report will be regarded as news. They have been sufficiently well known for years; but their fresh presentation at this time in official form is timely in view of the recent protestations of innocence made by the Standard oil people and their covert allegation that they are being persecuted for political effect. It should be remembered that the charges set forth in Commissioner Smith's report have never been denied or controverted by the trust magnates, although they have been repeatedly published all over the country, both in official and popular form.

"A NASTY LITTLE BUSYBODY"

TWO widely separated planes of political thought and ethics are opened to view by a dispatch from The Call's Washington correspondent. Senator Murray Crane of Massachusetts represents the type of opportunist politician. Among the talent he is best known by the title "Mr. Fixit," by reason of a distinct genius for arranging a division of spoils under which the politicians get everything and the people get what is left. It appeared to Crane that the Ohio situation presented an ideal opportunity for the exercise of his peculiar talents. He was everybody's friend. Indeed, that is part of the business. He was a brother to men so little alike as Taft and Foraker. Why, indeed, should not Taft and Foraker be made brothers through him, or at least brothers once removed. There were offices enough for both. Taft might be president and Foraker senator, and between them they could make a governor. The thing was easy as falling off a log, and, above all, it was "good politics."

Taft turned down the proposition without hesitation. He was not making political bargains with men of the Foraker and Crane stripe or with anybody. If he could not have the support of Ohio in the national convention without buying it by a political trade, then he would go without.

Crane is no longer friends with Taft, or, indeed, with Roosevelt, who appears to have hit him off pretty closely when he described the junior senator from Massachusetts as "a nasty little busybody."

POLICEMAN AND BAILIFF

DISPATCHES from Washington outline a flamboyant program for the big policeman. His function as guardian of the peace in Latin America may be supplemented by those of bailiff for the collection of debt. All Europe is scandalized in sentiment and sore in pocket because the Central and South American republics default interest on their bonds, and their easy fashion of regarding a loan as finding the money is disapproved.

Now Europe, of course, wants to send men of war and big guns to levy on the easy going dons whose obligations sit so lightly on their shoulders, but this policy of coercion does not fit the Monroe doctrine, which, by prescription, has acquired an almost religious acceptance in this country. Still less does coercion fit the Drago doctrine, which, being younger than the Monroe rule, has not yet acquired the dignity of an article of international faith. But many miles of editorials have been written about it, and it has therefore become thoroughly respectable. Drago would forbid the collection of debt by exterior force. The doctrine is very popular in Latin America and Turkey. Uncle Sam does not go quite that far. He thinks that debts ought to be paid, and although he does not like to see them collected with a European club he tenders his good offices to straighten out the financial tangle. He will do as he did with Santo Domingo, where he procured for himself an invitation to take charge of the custom house and pay off the creditors. What inducements were offered in procurement of this invitation is not very clear, but it is certain that out of hocus pocus came solvency.

Some such program is indicated to allay the hunger of European

Trapping the Fox



creditors of other Latin republics. The weary Titan who assumes the burden of a world power carries grievous obligations on his shoulders. If he keeps on accumulating doctrines he will need a bigger stick. If to Monroe you add Drago, Uncle Sam will be minding his neighbors' business most of the time. And all these doctrines breed corollaries like rabbits. This is the white man's burden.

THE GOSPEL OF GHOSTS

THE gentle art of chasing spooks takes comfort and encouragement from the psychic research of Professor Hyslop. It is a time honored, melancholy aspiration that would commune with the dead. There lies the real interest—the pathetic longing of the bereaved for converse with those who have gone before.

Time out of mind mankind has believed in ghosts and denied the belief. It was a French professor who answered a question, "No; I don't believe in ghosts, but I fear them." From the Witch of Endor downward through the ages the belief persists.

It is not so long ago since an English land owner asserted proprietary rights in the ghost of Amy Robsart, the unhappy spouse of Dudley, earl of Leicester. This English land owner, trusting not wisely but too well, bought Cumnor hall through the good offices of a glozing real estate agent, who, among other attractions of the place, included the ghost of Amy Robsart. But the specter came not, and the purchaser, being out and injured thereby, brought suit for damages. The English law courts refused to assess the value of a spook, taking what Professor Hyslop might call a grossly materialistic view of the transaction.

Professor Hyslop does not promise us ghosts in that sense or fashion. They are a vague and unsatisfactory folk to whom he would introduce us. They seem to lack the sense of identity. They are a prey to dumb forgetfulness, and such speech as they have seems flavored with modern slang. It is not a very cheerful gospel that Dr. Hyslop preaches.

SNAP JUDGMENT ON THE MINERS

IT is a quiet day that does not bring forth one or more histories of land frauds. One day the scene is laid in Plumas county and the next in Imperial valley. From the mountains and the deserts of California we constantly hear of fraudulent entries. It is pretty much the same all over the whole Pacific slope and Rocky mountain region.

It is impossible to believe that fraud of this magnitude could be so common and so persistent were there not collusion in the general land office. We know that such collusion has existed in the past and we suspect that it continues to this day because the frauds persist.

Let us take a glance at the current history of Plumas county frauds. The latest news is that a special agent is in the field gathering data for the interior department. But we learn at the same time that mining men and others, who may want to file protests against locations that they regard as fraudulent, must do so before September 7 or be forever foreclosed of that right. Who enacted this statute of limitations we are not advised, but the whole thing has a suspicious look and requires explanation. We know from sworn testimony that the timber thieves have had allies in the land office of the past and we should like to be assured that they are not there still.

:: Gossip in Railway Circles ::

COMMISSIONER FRANKLIN K. LANE'S ruling that the Southern Pacific will have to abandon its practice of charging state toll on freight arriving in the city via the coast line either will have to be fought in the courts or there must be a change in the tariff. Southern Pacific officials have not made up their minds fully as to the course they will pursue. Peter F. Dunne of the Southern Pacific law department says his company will be guided in its course by the Santa Fe, as that company is vitally interested in the matter. Edward Chambers, assistant freight traffic manager of the Santa Fe, is discussing this said:

"The Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe are considering whether to go into court in opposition to the order of the Interstate commerce commission in the state toll case. While the order is directed against the Southern Pacific company, it will, if put into effect, compel the Santa Fe to absorb the state toll on all its business in order to have its rates into Sacramento the same as the rate via the coast line of the Southern Pacific. It goes without saying that the Southern Pacific also will have to absorb the state toll on all of its business that comes over from Oakland, so as to have its rates via all its routes on an equal basis. This means the cancellation of the state toll charges so far as the consignee is concerned."

This looks well in print, but the mere fact that the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe are in consultation over a matter in which the Santa Fe only can appear as an intervenor means simply

Personal Mention

W. B. Short of Paris, Ky., is at the Savoy.
George E. Butler of Needles is at the St. Francis.
S. Coombs of Fresno is staying at the Imperial.
J. B. Menardi of Reno, Nev., is at the Fairmont.
George F. King of Eureka is at the Majestic.
W. A. C. Goldstein of Reno is at the Majestic.
T. H. Burley of Tacoma is at the Baltimore.
A. M. Wilson of Los Angeles is at the St. James.
D. T. White of El Paso, Texas, is at the Fairmont.
C. B. Gay of Waterloo, Iowa, is at the Majestic.
Alfred Lowell and Mrs. Lowell are at the Dorchester.
Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Reed of Redding are at the Savoy.
John J. Buckley of Providence, R. I., is at the Hamlin.
Lieutenant H. F. Spurgin, U. S. A., is at the Fairmont.
Ezra Bowen, a Santa Cruz capitalist, is at the St. Francis.
Dr. C. A. Nahl and Mrs. Nahl of Hobart Mills are at the Baltimore.
J. W. Jones and Owen Epperly of Sacramento are at the St. James.
Former State Senator Thomas Flint of San Jose is at the St. Francis.
R. E. Waterman and Mrs. Waterman of Goldfield are at the St. Francis.
William Bush and Mrs. Bush from Alpine tavern are at the Savoy.
E. L. Wright and Mrs. Wright of San Jose are at the Baltimore.
Dr. C. A. Herrick of Jackson, accompanied by Mrs. Herrick and their son, is at the Jefferson.
C. F. Borah of Louisiana, a brother of United States Senator Borah of Idaho, is at the Fairmont.
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. McGuire, with their son, are at the Savoy. They came from Alpine tavern on Mount Lowe.
S. L. Blake, a large mine owner of Weaverville, is at the Imperial. He is here to purchase a large quantity of mining machinery.
Captain T. R. Day and wife, Colonel H. B. Moon, Mrs. Moon and their daughter arrived from the Philippines by the transport Crook yesterday. They are at the Jefferson.

that the two lines will revise the present tariff so as to make the coast line rate equal to the other routes, including the state toll, and it may be accepted as a fact that the lines also will slightly raise the rate to other terminal points so as to put San Francisco on a parity with the other terminals in the state.

E. L. Lomax, general passenger agent of the Union Pacific, has issued a circular in which he tells of the glories of fishing in Yellowstone park. He adds that his only sorrow is that he cannot send some of the trout he caught to his friends in California because of the law which prohibits any one sending fish out of the park. According to his statement Yellowstone park is a paradise for fishermen.

The conference between the committee of the Harriman lines, consisting of W. S. Palmer, R. H. Ingram, M. J. Buckley and E. Buckingham and that of the engineers was concluded Saturday. An agreement has been reached over the interpretation of the Chicago schedule with reference to the railroad unions in Oakland.

The many friends of Dr. A. W. Morton, chief surgeon of the Santa Fe in central California, are much concerned over the injuries he received in the stage accident near Eureka. Officials of the railroad company were in telephonic communication with him yesterday and were informed that there was no cause for alarm.

J. A. Duckworth, who has been the ticket agent of the Australian-American line in Sydney has returned to this country and will represent the Santa Fe as city passenger agent in Kansas City.

The Insider

Tells of Poet Sterling's Plea for the Lordly Forests and of Mrs. Riggs' Battle with Londoners to Fight off the Fame Thrust on Her

Spirit of Bohemia Pleads for Groves

I HAVE just been looking over the book of "The Triumph of Bohemia," George Sterling's Bohemian club midsummer jinks drama, and I recommend its perusal to the department of forestry. President Roosevelt's plea in his message for the preservation of our forests was not more urgent nor was it better expressed than the Spirit of Bohemia's argument. "O men," cries the Spirit, when the woodmen justify their desecration of the groves, "pleading the need of homes for men and other prosaic defense:

"O men! O latest men within this land, Harken my words: 'Ye, year by cruel year, Lay desolate the lordliest groves of earth, And in great woodland chambers of the gods Do sacrilege. The living miracle That Nature, careful for a thousand years, Did so contrive with wisdom to perform, Ye in a day undo. Did forests know What ravage was designed them by your minds They in one moan more solemn than the sea's Would sound their lamentation and affright All men and lands. Imagine ye, forsooth, The patient gods will sit forever calm, Bearing to see their fairest seats profaned, And these their altars tumbled from the sky?"

Shies at Honors England Offers

In England, I hear, Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin Riggs is kept busy denying the authorship of "Mrs. Wiggins of the Cabbage Patch." On her arrival, within a week or two, she found the London book stalls advertising the "New Chronicles of Rebecca," by the author of "Mrs. Wiggins." This reminds me of Gertrude Atherton's comment, at a local dinner, on "Mrs. Wiggins"—that it should have been called "Mrs. Cabbage of the Wiggins Patch," an ironic reference to the resemblance that it bears to "The Birds' Christmas Carol."

Ventura Writes of Adelaide Ristori

L. D. Ventura has an article in the August Bookman on Adelaide Ristori, introductory to a coming volume of her letters. Professor Ventura is a resident of our city, and was the founder of the Polyglot club, which was quite flourishing before the quake. I have not heard of the club since, therefore I judge that the shock was too much for it. Miss Grace Llewellyn Jones was one of the active members. Its object was the study of literature in foreign languages, and at the occasional public meetings the more talented of the members used to show what they could do in the way of reading in Italian, French or Spanish from the dramatists and poets of those countries.

Spanish Dance Too Sinuous for Society

One of Santa Barbara's smart setters has organized a club to perpetuate the sinuities of the Spanish dance. The members will learn how to wriggle a la Carmencita and Otero. At least, they will endeavor to learn. It is not so easy to master—or should one say mistress?—a Spanish dance. Matildita, formerly ballet maitresse at the Grand opera house, told me that of all her private pupils there were few who could do a Spanish dance properly. "They can move the legs," she shrugged her plump shoulders, "but the ar-r-ms!"—ah me, it is impossible to translate in common words the sarcasm, the irony contained in that little monosyllable as she said it, "the arms, they do not know how to use." She waved her own with matchless grace. Stout as she had grown, she could still move those arms of hers with a grace that was not possible to impart at so much per lesson to her pupils.

"There is one society girl—she is rich and she wants to learn one little pas, but," and here the shrug, "she will not move the arms as they should go. She can move the body right, and the legs and the feet, but the arms"—the shrug showed the poor society girl's chance to master a Spanish pas seal was nil.

However, some of our society girls can do fancy dances quite as well as a professional. There is Mrs. Lansing Kellogg, for one. She, in spite of her proportions, is light on her feet—and those feet are small and exquisitely shaped. Her elder sister, Mrs. Walter Dean, when a girl, was a pupil of old Professor Lunt, and was one of his stars. Bessie Garvey, who later married Banker Wilcox of Connecticut, was another star of the old Lunt academy.

:: The Smart Set ::

MR. GEORGE F. COOKE, wife of Colonel Cooke of the Twenty-second infantry, stationed at Fort McDowell, is visiting relatives in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Wakefield Baker and her children returned yesterday from a visit to Santa Barbara, where they enjoyed motoring about the county and the many social attentions shown them.

A pleasurable surprise came to the friends of Miss Grace M. Seaton and Robert M. Gardner when their engagement was announced Friday evening by the father of the bride elect, George W. Seaton, at his home in Corte Madera. Robert Gardner formerly was assistant cashier of the Western national bank, but has transferred his interests to the Safe Deposit and Trust company of Los Angeles. He will terminate his visit here in a couple of days and journey to his southern home. No date has been set for the wedding.

A reception will be given at the home of Mrs. Austin Sperry, 2100 Pacific avenue, Thursday afternoon from 3 to 5 in honor of Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery and Mrs. Maud Wood Park. Mrs. Avery is the first vice president of the National woman's suffrage association and first secretary of the International suffrage alliance. Mrs. Park is first president of the Massachusetts college of the Equal Suffrage league. An invitation to meet these two distinguished women, who are so prominently identified with suffrage, is cordially extended to club women and others who are interested in this line of work.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Desmond, Mr. and Mrs. W. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Welch and Master John Welch, who have passed their summer vacation at Guerneville, on Russian river, have returned to town.

Dr. and Mrs. M. E. Blanchard, who, with their children, have been rusticated at Carmel by the Sea, have returned home. During their stay Mrs. Blanchard entertained her friends with

her splendid voice and last Sunday, at the old Carmel mission, she sang most beautifully "Bach and Gounod's 'Ave Maria.'" She was accompanied on the violin and organ by Misses Sallie and Therese Ehrman of Carmel.

Mrs. Locke-Paddon has left for a visit to her mother in Edinburgh. She will tour Europe before her return in December.

Mrs. Jessop, wife of Lieutenant Jessop of the navy, has left Fort Baker, where she has been visiting, and taken apartments at Vallejo, where she will pass the winter. Lieutenant Jessop is on duty at Mare Island.

Mr. and Mrs. James Merritt Littlehale, the latter formerly Gertrude Elliott, have returned from their wedding trip to Santa Barbara and are living at the Hotel Jefferson.

George D. K. Foute and Mrs. Foute were among the well known people who sailed on the Warren Saturday for Manila.

Captain R. E. Wyllie of the coast artillery also was a passenger on the Warren.

Dr. John Murtagh and Mrs. Murtagh of the army, who have been so hospitably inclined and so popular while stationed at Fort Mason, left yesterday on the Logan for the Philippines. They expect to be absent for some time.

Misses Mary and Frances Watson of Pierce street have returned from Los Angeles, where they were extensively entertained. They will leave shortly for Lake Tahoe to pass the remainder of the summer.

Captain A. J. Hepburn of the navy and Miss Hepburn are down from Mare Island and are on board the United States fish commission steamer Albatross, now anchored off Sausalito. Captain Hepburn will leave about the end of September for the Philippines, accompanied by Dr. Smith, director of the United States food fisheries. During his absence Mrs. Hepburn will visit relatives on the eastern coast.

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:
Eureka.....Minimum 52 Maximum 62
San Francisco.....Minimum 55 Maximum 65
San Diego.....Minimum 63 Maximum 70
Duties on goods received at the San Francisco custom house for the past week, \$167,036.90.
Reports received by the California Promotion committee from Anaheim say that top prices are being realized on a large crop of potatoes.
A prominent educational institution has recently acquired 27 acres in one of the most charming locations in Pasadena. An elaborate group of buildings will be erected. Construction on the first, which is to cost \$50,000, will begin in a few days.
The foundation work is completed on the Edger building, at Sixth and Market streets, San Francisco. This will be a class A structure, 10-12 feet, with an L of 75 feet at the rear, and four stories in height. The facing will be brick and terra cotta. The building will cost \$275,000, and will be ready for occupancy in January.