

The San Francisco Call

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FORGET IT

THE instant activities of Mr. Gavin McNab are worthy of note. These operations are not as obvious as might be wished, but they are showing symptoms. Mr. McNab is the official voice of the democratic party in San Francisco, but people do say he speaks in whispers.

The Call is quite ready to accord full credit to Mr. McNab for a certain and sane public spirit, tempered, perhaps, by a canny regard for his own pocket. Mr. McNab will never go broke on patriotism.

Let it be understood at once that this is no "attack." Mr. McNab, like Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Harriman, is a "practical man," and as such we recognize his limitations. In plain sailing times we are not disposed to make mountains out of the little dinky bargains and huckstering that obtain in politics. These have been Mr. McNab's stock in trade. We are free to say that he has fulfilled his high function with fair regard for the rights of citizens.

For the present the story runs—we know not with how much truth—that Mr. McNab purposes to avenge the defeat of Mr. Theodore Bell last year by serving up the head of District Attorney Langdon on a platter. It is even stated that Mr. Bell is to be brought here from the country to tell the people of San Francisco whom they should elect to head the municipal department of justice. It is a tale difficult of belief, but it persists and is heard and sworn to on the street corners where politicians congregate.

Whatever may be Mr. McNab's intentions, whatever the program, The Call must for the present refuse to believe that Mr. Bell contemplates any such intrusion. We shall not believe it short of seeing Mr. Bell actually in the field as a missionary of private vengeance at the expense of San Francisco.

Keep out. We hope that Mr. McNab has no such purpose. The naked statement of the situation should be sufficient to convince him that it could only result in injury to San Francisco, with incidental serious damage to himself. There may be a time in politics to work out private revenges, but it is not now in San Francisco.

Forget it. There may be a time in politics when party regularity is of supreme importance, but assuredly that time is not now in San Francisco. It may be true or it may not be true that Mr. Langdon's candidacy for governor last year caused Mr. Bell's defeat, but, for the sake of argument, if we assume the affirmative, then Mr. Bell and Mr. McNab should lay the blame where it belongs—on Hearst, not Langdon.

Consider the lilies, how they grow. Let us imagine, if we can, a picture of Bell and Hearst in full alliance persecuting Langdon. That is the situation as it presents itself. Talk about strange bedfellows!

Day by day we see Hearst blackguarding Langdon, because the district attorney would not appoint some servant of Hearst to be mayor of San Francisco. He is resolved to rule or ruin. Yet, the government of this afflicted city shall not be made the football of personal revenge. There's a reason.

"It is always fair weather when good fellows get together." Join us, Mr. McNab. Think of what it would mean, the round world over, should San Francisco, laying all party politics and selfish ambitions on one side, unite on a single program for the common good. Let it be proclaimed that in the hour of trial San Francisco stood one and indivisible. That's all.

INNOCENTS ABROAD

THE presumption of innocence that lawyers cherish and nurse is for the moment doing some hard labor for the layman. Schmitz calls on the Native Sons of the Golden West to witness that he is innocent until the last crack of doom from the final court pronounces him guilty. Ruef, although he has pleaded guilty, still protests his innocence. Dinan is as white as snow until a jury shall find him a speckled beauty and the supreme court confirms the judgment. The unspeakable police commissioners insist that only they had the right to try Dinan, and in the absence of such trial the late police chief must be deemed innocent. In a word, there are no guilty men outside of the penitentiary. Dinan, Ruef, Schmitz, the whole procession of grafters, are innocents, because they are abroad.

Of course, the presumption of innocence is a purely legal device of very doubtful value. It does not obtain for a moment outside of the courts, and it is altogether artificial. As a matter of fact, the real presumption is all the other way. The proportion of cases in which innocent men are indicted is, not one in a thousand. The legal presumption survives only because we prefer that a hundred guilty men should escape rather than that one who is innocent should suffer the brand of felony. But in the social and business life of a community the plea has no validity whatever.

THE INTERNATIONAL POLICEMEN'S PLIGHT

THE international policeman, who so gayly takes up the work of minding his neighbors' business, is not especially prosperous in his newest undertaking to argue Fuzzy Wuzzy into a better frame of mind. Unfortunately, the one argument sufficiently convincing for the untamed son of the desert comes from the mouth of a machine gun, and even that seems to fail of a satisfying efficacy. France and Spain, having undertaken with a



A Good Sign

light heart to discipline the disobedient and untrifled Moor, with incidental pickings for themselves, find the job bigger than they imagined.

There is, to be sure, a certain simplicity and forthright logic, characteristic of the French people, about the proceedings, which are conducted under the rule, "Whenever you see an Arab shoot him." It is a warfare conducted on general principles. It is learned, for instance, from the dispatches, that "whenever the men on the cruiser Glory sight groups of Arabs they open on them with shell fire," presumably in generous accord with the principle that Voltaire attributed to the British when they shot Admiral Byng—"to encourage the others."

All this "hurts business." The shop keepers are barricading their windows in Fez in expectation of a revolution, and, although we are assured that "later calm was restored," one may fear that the situation is of the kind that makes capital hunt the nearest hole.

Brother Hafiz appears on the horizon with a new Moorish army—more meat for the machine guns. General Brude, commanding the army of pacification, fears that harsh measures may be required. The only peaceable Moor is the dead Moor.

It is sufficiently clear, therefore, that when constabulary duty is to be done in Africa the lot of the international policeman is not a happy one. He is for the present a dilapidated and bedraggled peace officer. He has lost his helmet and fears his club will be taken away from him. Keeping the peace of Morocco is a hard game.

It must always be borne in mind that under The Hague rules this Morocco affair is not war. Call it anything else you please—a punitive expedition, a delimitation of boundaries or an adjustment of international relations, but war—never. France and Spain have invited themselves to a free fight in the interest of peace, and they are not quite sure that they like the job. Indeed, it seems as if the police might yet be compelled to call out the militia.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The scores that American infantrymen and artillerymen are making at target practice will do more than a Hague conference toward promoting peace.

The old police commissioners could not go out without filing a protest. Well, it eased their minds if not their consciences and didn't hurt the new board.

An Oakland woman who is in litigation over property says that the law is too slow for her. It all depends upon the viewpoint. The graft-

ers of San Francisco are finding it too speedy for them, and are trying every legitimate and illegitimate means of delay.

Lieutenant Colonel Bellinger has promised to quit smoking cigars on the transport dock. Another vexed question of state's rights amicably settled.

Calhoun is trying to work on the sympathies of the new board of supervisors. It's a cheaper method than he employed with the boogie board, but it doesn't seem to be so effective.

Gossip in Railway Circles

THE actual interchange of switching arrangements in Oakland between the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe, similar to that in effect in San Francisco, will be inaugurated on August 30. This will be a great benefit to the businessmen of Oakland, for from that date industries with private spur tracks will be able to have their cars switched from or to any line with the same facility that is enjoyed by other modern cities. According to railroads in this city there has been a great increase in business in Oakland during the last year.

As a result of the decision of the interstate commerce commission on the state toll case, the transcontinental lines which carry freight which finally reaches San Francisco by the bay ferry route have requested the commission to grant them authority to waive the state toll charges in San Francisco in order to put them on a parity with the coast division of the Southern Pacific. The commission has complied with the request, and on and after August 26 no state toll will be charged by any route into San Francisco in connection with transcontinental traffic. The arrangement, however, will not affect local business. This does not mean that the state will no longer collect this toll, but that it will be paid by the transportation company and not by the consignees of freight.

C. S. Pee, passenger traffic manager of the Southern Pacific, entertained at luncheon yesterday W. B. Leffingwell, who recently has been exploring Alaska, New Zealand, and the Hawaiian islands and has been putting his observations into print. There is hardly a publication printed in the English language which has not had some of

George Fraser regrets exceedingly that his aggregation of baseball stars

Personal Mention

D. Gordon of Los Angeles is a guest at the St. James.

Assemblyman S. Bray of Austin, Nev., is at the Jefferson.

J. B. Johnston, wife and son of Fresno, are at the Savoy.

A. V. Lesenby and family are at the Imperial from Fresno.

A. L. Parsons of Fresno, Ill., is staying at the St. James.

W. B. Leffingwell and wife of Chicago are at the Fairmont.

J. P. Blank of St. Louis is at the Majestic, accompanied by his wife.

Dr. J. S. Browne of Sacramento registered at the Jefferson yesterday.

A. L. New, wife and son of Los Angeles, are guests at the St. Francis.

J. W. Clark and H. B. O. Daniell of La Fayette, Ind., are at the Hamilton.

A. Edward Hawkey, a prominent merchant of Detroit, is a guest at the Hamilton.

Jack O'Sullivan, a mining man of Reno, registered at the Hamilton yesterday.

S. S. Reynolds of Los Angeles and Charles Gates of Santa Ana are at the Baltimore.

H. H. Day, of the New York brokerage house of Day & Clarke, is at the Dorchester.

Samuel Platt, United States attorney at Carson City, Nev., is a guest at the St. Francis.

Thomas Monroe Sheppard, a manufacturer of Northampton, Mass., is at the Fairmont.

Mrs. William Austin Stevens arrived from New York yesterday and is registered at the Savoy.

M. J. Monette, the Goldfield millionaire, arrived at the St. Francis yesterday from Los Angeles.

Ralph E. Rose of Healdsburg, the champion hammer thrower of the world, is at the Imperial.

Rev. William O'Riordan of Ireland, who is touring the western states, registered at the St. James yesterday.

Paul Engerstrom and wife reached here from Los Angeles yesterday and took apartments at the Baltimore.

Fred M. and Frank A. Gough of the Diamond match company, are registered at the Fairmont from Chicago.

Clinton B. Hale and wife and daughter of Santa Barbara are at the Fairmont, accompanied by Miss Ellen B. Chamberlain.

William T. Hook, proprietor of the Ely copper flats, Nevada, which are controlled by the Guggenheim interests, is at the Jefferson.

Leffingwell's articles. He said that he had 10,000,000 readers, that he was enabled by a week's stay in New Zealand to turn out 400,000 words on the island and that he was not through yet. He declined to say how many million words he intended to write on Alaska, but intimated after he had enjoyed luncheon with Pee that he would be ready to throw off a few billion words on California. Leffingwell said that he wished it to be understood that he was an author as well as a journalist.

There will be no delay now in the work on the road leading to the Dumbarton bridge, as on last Wednesday there was unloaded at Newark two carloads of rails. The roadbed has been graded and the ties laid, so that it will not take long to put the steel in place.

The California association of traffic agents will give a ladies' night at the rooms of the Transportation club next Friday evening, when F. W. Prince will lecture on the recent trip to Lake Tahoe. The pictures taken on that occasion will be exhibited.

The Transportation club baseball team will meet the Olympic club team this afternoon. Both sides are prepared to do their worst.

W. Wainwright has taken charge of the local office of the Grand Trunk line. He is a son of the second vice president of that road.

Guy L. Blair has been appointed general freight agent of the San Francisco and Portland steamship company in this city.

The Insider

Discusses vacancy in the social leadership of San Francisco and sets history right as to the death of California soldier in civil war

Mrs. Darragh May Succeeded Mrs. White

THE marriage of Mrs. Shorb-White and Captain Buck means something very serious to San Francisco society. It means nothing else than that society with the big S will be without a leader. If this engagement had been announced last year the name of Mrs. Malcolm Henry might have been suggested as a substitute and successor to Mrs. Shorb-White, but Cupid and Hymen have put an end to that suggestion. "What are we going to do?" This is the absorbing question, the same query that troubled everybody in the inner circle when Mrs. Monroe Salisbury passed away. Mrs. Salisbury was the leader par excellence, and it seemed as if no one could be found to fill her place successfully as an organizer of dancing clubs and launcher of debutantes. Then came Mrs. Ynez Shorb-White, a younger woman than Mrs. Salisbury, but gifted with just the right qualities for social leadership. There is no doubt that Mrs. White's marriage and departure for the Philippines next spring means a sad gap in her particular sphere.

If an unmarried woman, young, rich and gracious, were to be chosen to be the dictatrix of our society, I should suggest Miss Maye Colburn, who has the genuine gift of generalship. But it has been hinted to me by a number of those claiming to be "on the inside" that Mrs. Thomas Benton Darragh will be Mrs. White's successor. She is dowered with brains, executive ability, blue blood and social position, and is physically and intellectually able to cope with such an office as czarina of San Francisco's smart set.

Colonel Baker Fell at Balls Bluff

"Did you read that article in one of the weeklies about Colonel E. D. Baker?" The old timer passed up his order for another and carefully filled his pipe and pressed the tobacco down with a saffron hued finger tip. "I see the author says that Baker was killed at Stone River. Now, Stone River is in Tennessee, and, as I remember the affair, the colonel was killed at Balls bluff, which is on the Virginia side of the Potomac. It is only a slight error, but just as well have it right. Baker, by the way, had only just received his commission of major general on the morning he was killed. The blood stained paper was found in his cap.

"He was at the head of the California battalion, recruited in the east of men who had been in California. As Balls bluff was fought in 1861 and Stone River in 1863 the colonel had died more than a year when the latter battle occurred. Since we claim Baker out here, I think we like to know everything about him that any one can remember, don't you? Did you ever hear that story about Baker, how during the battle he told his men to lie down after their volleys. They objected, because he wouldn't lie down himself. 'When you are a United States senator,' he answered, 'you won't lie down, either.'"

Blue Pencil Used on Steffens' Work

Although Lincoln Steffens is half owner of the American Magazine, in which his articles on the graft powers of San Francisco are appearing, it is said that these writings are not being published in their entirety. The other half owner of the periodical has censured them so severely that the plain, unvarnished truth as shown in Mr. Steffens' work has never yet been published. It is announced that in the near future Mr. Steffens will publish a book containing the articles in full.

The Smart Set

Mrs. Ernest H. Palmer, who are in Boston, will leave soon on a visit to this city. Before her marriage Mrs. Palmer was Miss Evelyn Wallace and was a beautiful girl with much talent as a singer. Her voice has thrilled every audience before whom she has sung, either in this country or abroad. Mrs. Palmer's stay in this city will be of short duration and only her closer friends will have an opportunity of hearing her sing.

During Mrs. Palmer's visit here she will be the guest of her sister, Mrs. Richard Derby.

Mrs. Arthur G. Fisher, wife of Lieutenant Fisher, Fourteenth cavalry, came from Monterey yesterday with her sister, Miss Barbara Small, and is at the Small home on Broadway. Lieutenant Fisher has been at the annual small arms competition at Fort Sheridan and is on his way to the coast.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Ruggles have taken a house at Mill Valley for several months.

Robert P. Troy and wife, who have been staying at Hotel Edfax during the summer, have taken the Redwood villa in Mill Valley for the autumn months.

Mrs. George H. Cruz has recovered from her illness and is again able to receive her friends at her hospitable home, 2252 Green street.

Mrs. James Carolan and Miss Emily Carolan, who have been at Lake Tahoe for the past month, are at Hotel Rafael.

Mrs. W. L. Merry and her daughters.

Mrs. H. A. Tilghman and Mrs. S. W. Bryant, have returned from Sausalito and taken a residence at the corner of Baker and Divisadero streets. Miss Blanche Merry, who is visiting her father, Minister Merry, in Central America, will return to this city in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Coppee Thurston, who have been visiting friends at Ross Valley, will return early next week to their home in Denver.

Joshiah Myrick Jr. and Mrs. Myrick of Los Angeles, who have been at Hotel Tallac for the past month, arrived here yesterday and are at the Majestic. They will spend several days here before returning to their southern home.

The A. J. de Lamarea have returned from the east and have taken a residence at 1515 Central avenue, Alameda. Mr. de Lamarea went to the encampment of the Knights Templar, which has just been held at Saratoga. He is the generalissimo of the Golden Gate lodge of this city. Besides Mrs. de Lamarea, Charles L. Field, the grand commander of the state, and Mrs. Field were in the party.

The marriage of Miss Marie Elizabeth Langhorne and Richard Eddy Hammond will be celebrated tonight at the residence of the bride's father, J. P. Langhorne, at 2419 Pacific avenue. The bride will be attended by her sister, Miss Julia Langhorne.

The marriage service of the Episcopal church will be read by the Rev. Dr. Morgan of St. Luke's church. Only relatives and a number of friends of the bride and bridegroom will be present.

THE RED FLAG—Subscriber, City. The red flag which is used by various revolutionary bodies is commented upon by William T. Harris, A. M., L. L. D. in "Our Country's Flag" in the following words: "In 1792 the revolutionary people of Paris, France, adopted the red flag as their symbol. By a strange unaccountable choice, the red flag has since become the standard of all revolts. The red flag is unique among symbols. It is the only banner known to history that stands for no cause in particular, that symbolizes no positive creed, belief or hope. It is the banner of destructive overthrow of things as they are at the moment, not the symbol as they ought to be in the future. Even the black flag of piracy stands for a positive desire."

RECONSIDERATION—H. E. City. When a motion has once been made and carried in the affirmative or negative it is in order for any member of the majority to move for the reconsideration thereof.

COUSINS—A. S. City. In a number of states of the union the marriage of first cousins is unlawful but the law is silent as to marriage between second cousins.

BEAUTY—G. F. W. Pescadero, Cal. Well! "That's nothing. I won a silk hat on the last election myself."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Answers to Queries

In the Joke World

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 57.....Maximum 64

San Diego.....Minimum 64.....Maximum 74

Number of cars of green fruit shipped from California points during past week: 223. The 200 acres of asparagus on Victoria island, which has been under water for four months, proves to be unharmed. The asparagus industry is becoming one of the most important in the delta country.

The prices for building material in San Francisco are now very generally lower than during the period preceding the fire. Common brick are from \$3 to \$3.25 per 1,000. Cement which sold for \$20 before the fire can now be had in San Francisco for \$17. Pine lumber and lime are cheaper also now than in the spring of 1906.