

The San Francisco Call

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

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THE POLITICS OF IT

THE Examiner gave half a dozen lines to the recent Sacramento primary and concealed them on a back page, at the bottom of a column. The victory of the Lincoln-Roosevelt league in that primary made the most striking piece of political news recorded in recent California history, but the Hearst papers could see nothing in it. Why?

The explanation is not obscure. Hearst has effected an alliance with Harriman for political purposes. In these days you will see nothing in the Examiner by way of criticism of the Southern Pacific company or the political activities of W. F. Herrin. The Sacramento primary and the remarkable victory of the Lincoln-Roosevelt league delivered a decisive blow at Herrin and the "organization." In the days before Hearst had concluded his alliance with Harriman the Examiner would have printed a page about that Sacramento primary.

Hearst's speech at Jamestown was a direct bid for support by "the interests," and they are responding generously. Colonel George Harvey is the editor of Harper's Weekly and the North American Review. He is the more or less illustrious proponent of Standard oil's defense, and the most conspicuous because the most noisy opponent of the Roosevelt policies. Colonel Harvey is now ready to take Hearst to his bosom. In Harper's Weekly he remarks, with unctious: "Indeed, we now find little that is objectionable and much that is pleasing in Mr. Hearst's papers." And he is filled with admiration for Mr. Hearst's "broad, sane and really strong utterance at Jamestown." Isn't that lovely?

Hearst has no editorial policy but slush. His meaning and intent are shown by the way he handles the news. He now suppresses or obscures the facts that might damage his allies, Herrin and Harriman. That is the politics of it.

UNSIGHTLY BILLBOARD ADVERTISING

THE billboards of a city should be made to yield a revenue to the public treasury. That plan is followed in Rio, Janeiro, with notably good effect. Such advertisements are taxed on space, and the consequence is great concentration, with improved artistic effect. In a word, the object is gained by putting brains in the advertising, and thus making it attractive by intrinsic merit. The Rio Janeiro system is thus described:

Every business "sign" in Rio de Janeiro is taxed. Every sign in a restaurant or cafe, similar to the placards one sees in our restaurants, must have a revenue stamp attached to it. Permanent signs are taxed on a permanent basis, and temporary ones on a stamp basis. "To rent" signs bear revenue stamps. Similarly billboards and notices on temporary inclosures of buildings.

The tax materially limits the extent of billboard advertising, and that is a positive gain to the community, in view of the unsightly features of these monstrosities. The revenue derived by the municipality from this source amounts to some \$40,000 a year, and San Francisco might very well take the hint as a means to help out a depleted treasury.

In Tacoma the movement to limit billboard advertising has taken another shape, but the object is the same—to relieve the city as far as possible from disfigurement. A local improvement society has instituted a campaign of education, with a purpose to convince advertisers that they are doing themselves no good by making the town hideous. A combination of this method with the Rio Janeiro plan might prove useful for the common good.

PROHIBITION FOR INDUSTRIAL REASONS

THE recent extraordinary prohibition movement in the southern states does not please the oldtimers, the mint julep colonels, for whom Marse Henry Watterson may be assumed to speak. This is the way he talks about the new prohibitions:

Along with their crazy prohibition law—the vile, illegitimate offspring of a liaison between the Puritans of religion and the blacklegs of politics—the result of a combine between populism, pure and simple, and a remnant of what has the impudence to call itself democracy—a duo between two discordant musicians, Hoky-Poky Smith, playing second fiddle to Tom Watson—loom into view the familiar troop of humbugs, of the old firm of Pecksniff, Chadband and company.

In fact, the movement is of another kind and does not find its impetus in pharisaism, as the blue grass colonels pretend. According to the most impartial observers the people of the south are voting for prohibition because they are convinced that the negro—their negro—cannot be trusted with whisky. It is in the interest of industrial progress and efficiency that Georgia, Mississippi and other states have voted prohibition.

ABUSES IN WEIGHING THE MAILS

IT is announced that the postoffice department will shortly begin the annual systematic weighing of the mails to determine railroad compensation for carriage. It may be timely to hazard a hope that the opportunity will not be seized, as has been the practice, to load up the mailbags with congressional documents and mutton pies, sent under frank. A carload of speeches by Congressman Mulligatway on the tariff, or a bale of printed wisdom on the fisheries dispute by the member from Podunk, may help materially to raise the average weight for which the government must pay on the assumption that Mulligatway's activities are normal. Then there was the queer but original plan of weighing the mails for seven days and taking its average for six days. The whole scheme, as it used to be, was devised to swindle the

Uncle Joe's Attitude



treasury for the advantage of the railroads. Possibly these abuses will be remedied or avoided in the forthcoming tests, but we have not heard that steps have been taken to reduce the rates paid for carrying the mails, which are still greatly in excess of those paid for express matter. If the government had its mail matter carried as cheaply as that of the express companies the postoffice department might show a profit instead of a deficit. Few forms of enterprise have shown such vast and disproportionate profits as the express companies.

NOTE AND COMMENT

That 1,000 per cent profit is enough to make Russell Sage turn in his grave.

Madame Anna Gould—ex-Castellane—is reported engaged to a prince. Perhaps she thinks the higher the better.

Taft hopes, upon arriving home, to find that there is truth in the old saying, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder."

A few days more and the man who likes his canvasback cooked 15 minutes will be sneering at the man who thinks 16 is right.

Missouri furnished corn cobs last year for 26,206,934 pipes. Now let's hear from the state that contributed the most cabbage for cigars.

The king of Spain had to submit to a surgical operation the other day. Considering that three doctors took part and that he is still alive, his ailment could not have been very serious.

A citizen discovered the other day that he had been going around for two years with a fractured skull. Other residents of San Francisco have worse head troubles than that and will never discover it.

Exchanges commenting on the recent utterances of Dr. David Starr Jordan and Professor Edgar L. Larkin accuse the former of wanting to abolish marriage and the latter of favoring the killing off of two-thirds of the human race. No doubt both gentlemen consider themselves entitled to damages from the papers that mixed them.

Stuyvesant Fish has not made any reply to the charges made against him by J. T. Harahan. While he is waiting for it Harahan would do well to put in a week or so at Muldoon's.

A San Francisco woman applied for divorce the other day, alleging that she had endured 31 years of continual torture. One would think that she would have gotten used to it in that length of time.

The Houston Post tells of a tomato vine at Avalon, Cal., that is two years old, 23 feet high and 35 feet in width. Carry the news to Burbank. Even he never knew of a tomato vine living beyond one season.

It is said that Policeman Flynn was intoxicated when he took \$400 from a counterfeiter who had been arrested. Anyway, he was sober enough not to take any of the prisoner's bad money.

President Roosevelt took to the woods on Tuesday when the packers were preparing his household effects for removal to Washington. There are troublous things that even the big stick can not cope with.

The vice president of the Standard oil company warns the public to discredit any statements given out regarding the corporation unless signed by one of its officials. The average mortal fails to see why such a signatura should make a statement truthful.

Personal Mention

W. H. Price of Vacaville is at the Dale.

R. S. Kierech is at the Baltimore from Oroville.

O. V. Allen of Goldfield is a guest at the Majestic.

E. N. Bender of Montreal is a guest at the Fairmont.

H. Fauchenholt is at the Hamlin from Los Angeles.

Gilbert Winters of New York is registered at the Hamlin.

Alfred L. Castle of Honolulu is staying at the St. Francis.

Henry Fielding of St. Paul is registered at the Grand Central.

H. Gardner, a mining man of Fairview, is at the Jefferson.

E. J. Roos registered at the Jefferson yesterday from Waterloo.

M. Daly, a mining man from Reno, is registered at the Dale.

Ellwood Kallgren of Santa Cruz is a guest at the Grand Central.

J. E. Stratton and J. R. Wren of Watsonville are at the Dale.

G. S. Cutler, a prominent banker of Callstoga, is staying at the St. James.

Julius Hecht, a Los Angeles capitalist, is registered at the Grand Central.

J. M. Phelan, a mining operator of Boise, Idaho, is staying at the Hamlin.

E. Willis, who is in town for a few days from Del Monte, is at the Jefferson.

Lieutenant R. A. D. Ford of Philadelphia has apartments at the Imperial.

C. D. Danaher, a Tacoma lumberman, registered at the St. Francis yesterday.

L. Goldwater and Mrs. Goldwater, who are here from Los Angeles, are staying at the Majestic.

John S. Bradstreet, an architect of Minneapolis who has returned from the orient, is at the Imperial.

J. R. Locke and Mrs. Locke of Stockton, who are spending a few days here, are at the St. James.

E. W. Adams, a door and window sash manufacturer of Dubuque, Ia., is a guest at the St. Francis.

A. F. Lippincott, Mrs. Lippincott and Miss Louise Lippincott of Philadelphia are at the Fairmont.

W. Greb of Gothenburg and A. Hammarberg of Stockholm, who are touring the world, are guests at the Fairmont.

H. Romans, a dry goods man, has returned from Los Angeles to reopen his business here. He is staying at the Baltimore.

Peter J. Bilan, W. S. de Turk, E. J. Camm and Rev. John Partridge of the Knights Templar are at the St. James from Petaluma.

By The Call's Jester

CULINARY HINTS

Sauerkraut should be cooked as soon as possible after it has been picked. It should be eaten with frankfurters—and discretion.

Always remove the can from the peas before cooking.

Ham sandwiches are greatly improved by placing a slice of buttered bread on either side of the ham.

To ascertain whether fish is too far gone to be fit to eat, taste it. Ice cream makes delicious fritters if cooked on a coiled stove.

Never boil a porterhouse steak. Better results are obtained by making it into hash.

There is much diversity of opinion regarding how long game should be kept before using. A great deal depends upon what class of neighbors you have. In some neighborhoods the only way you can be sure of it is to eat it as soon as you get it.

Save the strings from the string-beans. A bit of oard often comes in handy.

Onions or cabbage should be cooked in the cellar, with the doors tightly closed.

Do not delude yourself with the idea that the best place to get mint for mint sauce is at the mint. Go out to the julep bed and pick it fresh.

Keep the vinegar tightly corked or it will sour on you.

Butter, pepper and salt will be found a pleasing addition to baked potatoes.

MAKES A DIFFERENCE

"Faps, do you really believe that story about 'Josh and the whale'?"

"Certainly do, my son."

"I mean, do you believe it when you are talking to yourself, or just when you are talking to me?"

FAIR WORSE

"Livförsäkringskaskad" is Norwegian for "life insurance company." They have been called shorter and uglier names than that in this country.

Answers to Queries

CARDS—A. S. C., Oakland, Cal. The invention of playing cards has been attributed to various nations. They are said to have been known in India from the earliest ages; the Chinese claim them as the invention of their emperors, and they are also traditionally ascribed to both the Arabians and the Egyptians. Historical mention is made of cards in Germany in 1375; in Italy in 1399 and in France in 1393. In an ancient history of the garter there is an extract from a wardrobe account of Edward I, dated 1377, in which a game called four kings is mentioned. As Edward, before his accession to the throne, resided for some years in Syria, he may have learned to play cards in that country and introduced the game in England. Cards were introduced into Europe in the fourteenth century, having been brought to Viterbo by the Saracens in 1375. In the treasury books of France there is an entry of "60 sols paid to Jacques Ginguonnet for three packs of cards for the amusement of the king (Charles VI)" in 1393, one year after the king lost his reason, which led to the erroneous statement that playing cards were invented for his amusement. Playing cards were used in France in 1340, before Charles ascended the throne. During the reign of Elizabeth, Edward Darcy obtained a patent for making playing cards. Up to 1867 all cards had white backs. In that year John Berkenthout took out a patent for dicing, flowering, etc., the backs of playing cards.

GOLDEN JUBILEE—N. N. City. If you mean the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the admission of California into the Union of states, that was September 9, 1900.

KINDNESS—M. M. City. If at some time a relative did you a kindness and you returned the kindness, there is no occasion for you to send a present.

The Insider

Rejoices over freedom from worries such as fall upon heirs of millions which poor relations and others have tried to attach

Worries Attached to Davis Fortune

PERHAPS you would not care to inherit a million if it caused you as much annoyance as such an inheritance has given two San Francisco heiresses. A few years back a California pioneer, Jacob Z. Davis, brother in law and partner of another millionaire, Boyd, died and left a will in which his fortune was bequeathed to his late wife's niece, Elizabeth and Belle Muir, the latter the wife of Architect John M. Curtis. There was nothing unusual in such a bequest, for the girls had always lived with their uncle and aunt and were more like daughters than nieces. But, oh! what a buzzing among the eastern poor relatives when they heard cousin Jacob had died and left millions, and none to them! Besides the will contests that followed other worries troubled the sisters. The family physician, not satisfied with the regular fee of attendance on the aunt and uncle during their last illness, brought in a bill several yards long—with a suit attached. Other like accounts came in, besides requests for charitable purposes and that sort of thing. Many a time the heiresses wished they were poor and unknown. But time passed and they began to think everything was going nicely and that surely every cloud has a silver lining, when last week came one Laura Tracy in a renewal of the contest for the Davis millions. Atop of this comes the opening of the Bertha Dolbeer will case, in which the husband of Elizabeth Muir, William G. Mogan, has found one of his greatest worries. Now oughtn't we poor mortals who work for our living and think ourselves lucky if we can tip a waiter a quarter and stave off a tailor's bill a few weeks, be content with our lots?

Melancholy Sights at Bottom of Bay

What a melancholy sight the bottom of San Francisco bay must present! A diver recently told me of going down to the City of Chester, sunk many years ago at the mouth of the harbor by one of the large China steamers. He descended with a stout heart and a mind inured to the tragedies of the sea, but when he saw two sisters of charity sleeping quietly in their berths, and near by, a man on his knees, swaying back and forth with the motion of the tide, and a dim, mysterious light over all the somber objects, his heart failed him, and he gave the signal to be hauled above. The San Rafael lies there, too. She went down in 1901, sent to the bottom by a collision with another steamer in the fog. The relentless tide runs over her cozy cabins and beautiful stairway, dank with the passage of time. The San Rafael was not a double ender and so the situation while she endeavored to turn on her trips was a little strained. Sometimes she had to go nearly to Mission bay, weaving in and out among the many craft in the harbor before she could get fairly started. Every one would scout the idea of danger, but nevertheless books were not brought out nor was the conversation unconstrained till the boat had accomplished her turn and was safely plowing her way to the bright shores of Marin county. And there he also, caught in the seaweed, the City of Rio Janeiro, the Escambia, the May Flint and the Caleb Curtis, the last a pilot boat sunk in a blinding fog. Truly the bottom of the bay is paved with memories.

The Smart Set

AN interesting wedding will take place Wednesday next, when Miss Gladys Dodge and Thomas Southernland Sutton will be married in Oakland. The ceremony will take place in the large drawing rooms of the new Key Route hotel, where Mrs. Dodge and her daughter have their apartments. For this occasion the rooms will be lavishly decorated with huckleberry, roses and ferns, which will make an effective setting for the wedding party. Miss Dodge is the daughter of Mrs. Alice Thompson Dodge, and an extremely pretty and popular girl. She and her mother have traveled a great deal during the past few years, returning only a few weeks ago from an 18 months' tour of the orient. Her engagement to the well known young businessman was made the subject for much entertaining both here and in Oakland, and their many friends are hoping that their new home will be made here. The wedding will be attended by almost a hundred friends and will be followed by an elaborate supper. Mr. and Mrs. Sutton will leave immediately afterward for a month's wedding trip to the southern part of the state.

Several small affairs were given last week in Ross valley in honor of Mrs. George H. Ross, who left yesterday for a visit to some of the eastern states. Mrs. Roe expects to be back late in November.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carrigan and Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Bullard are touring the western part of Marin county in Mr. Carrigan's motor car. They will be gone nearly two weeks.

On Sunday last Captain Lucian Young, U. S. N., and Mrs. Young and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Deane left San Francisco by motor for St. Helena, where they were the guests of Captain Brice at his ranch there. They returned to the city early on Monday morning.

For the past week Miss Helen Thomas has been the guest of Captain and Mrs. Huxford in their home at Alcatraz, and probably will spend another week at the popular post before returning to San Francisco.

A visitor here from Santa Cruz who is being much entertained by Mrs. Francis Davis, who is the guest of Miss Cherry Bender in San Rafael. Mrs. Davis will spend next week with her sister, Mrs. Porter Asha.

Miss Edith Turner after several months at Colorado Springs has gone to Los Angeles, where she is the guest of Miss Doble.

The directors of the Extra Nons collition club have issued invitations for their nineteenth season. The club, as always, is a strictly select organization, composed of 150 of San Francisco's young people, whose gatherings are famous for their jollity. The dances will take place at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel and are announced for the following evenings: Friday, October 25; Friday, November 23, and New Year eve (Friday, December 31). The board of directors would seem to assure a brilliant and successful season. The directors are: Sanford G. Lewald, James C. Hayburn, Walter H. Robinson, George G. Fraser, Alan Magnin, Robert H. H. Edward Lynch, Francis H. Davis, Oscar Bauer, David E. Torres, G. Hazelton Wilson, Dr. William A. Ellis and Dr. Joseph F. Meagher.

The charming wife of State Senator Lukins was Mrs. Hyde-Smith's guest of honor Wednesday afternoon last at one of the season's prettiest bridge parties. It was given in Mrs. Hyde-Smith's new home in Fillmore street to about 30 enthusiasts of the game. The informal tea that followed, the charming Mrs. Hyde-Smith presided over, made a delightful ending to the afternoon.

After three weeks in Santa Cruz, where she was the guest of Miss Josephine Lindley, Miss Edith Cutler has returned to San Francisco. She was hostess at a card party a few days ago in honor of Miss Edith McCabe, whose marriage is one of October's events.

Officers' quarters, barracks, storehouses and other necessary buildings for the accommodation of each place of two companies of the signal corps are to be constructed at the brigade posts at Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley, Kan., and Fort D. E. Russell, Wyoming. Two signal corps companies are to be stationed at these points as soon as brigade organizations are maintained at them, as is now contemplated at some time in the near future.—Washington Star.

Conditions in California

The California Promotion committee wired the following to its eastern bureau in New York yesterday:

Table with 2 columns: California temperatures for the last 24 hours. Locations: Eureka, San Francisco, San Diego. Minimum and Maximum temperatures listed.

Cars of green fruit shipped from California points during the week, 330.

The first contract has been let for the construction of the San Diego and Arizona railroad, connecting the Imperial valley, Yuma and districts beyond with the harbor of San Diego. This will be a direct line to the sea from the rich and rapidly developing agricultural region of Imperial county.

Work is now finished on the St. Xavier apartments in Pacific avenue between Webster and Fillmore streets, San Francisco. This is a five story brick and stone structure 62x130 feet. The cost was \$230,000.