The San Francisco Call

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
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 POSTAGE { Daily.....$8.00 Per Year Extra / Sunday.....$4.15 Per Year Extra / Weekly.....$1.00 Per Year Extra

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MIXED PICKLES OF DEMOCRACY

CERTAIN democrats of Illinois implore Mr. Bryan to come off his high horse and soften his haughty attitude toward the insurgents of 1896, as well as toward the wing of the party in that state which Mr. Bryan described in 1904 as the "train robber democracy." The leader of this element, Mr. Roger Sullivan, can swing the state organization to his will, but Mr. Bryan wants to read him out of the party. Then there are the gold democrats, who got off the reservation in 1896, but are now willing to be reconciled if only Mr. Bryan will say "Bless you, my prodigal children. The fatted calf is on the spit."

On behalf of these Illinois heretics, Mr. Charles K. Ladd, in an open letter, makes this appeal to Mr. Bryan:

> The gold democrats agree with us in everything but the money question. That question is not now imminent. Then why not let them return even if they do own stock in a corporation?

There will be no amnesty. Mr. Bryan turns his back and tells Mr. Ladd he is connected with certain wicked corporations, and there is no place of repentance for such. In the meantime Sullivan does not know whether he is in or out. The last Illinois democratic convention declared its full confidence in Sullivan and in the same breath indorsed Bryan as the presidential candidate. To be sure, Mr. Bryan sent word that he did not want the indorsement unless Sullivan was repudiated. Sullivan is left in the air.

It was hoped that these and other perplexities of the party might be allayed by means of an old fashioned democratic banquet in Washington, with Bryan as the guest of honor. At the same groaning board were to be gathered Hearst and John Sharp Williams and Senator Bailey of Texas and Roger Sullivan of Illinois. It seems as if an announcement of the guest list ought to be accompanied by a reassuring notice that all the statesmen would be searched for concealed weapons before they sat down.

The best laid plans gang oft awry, as the poet did not say. Whether from fear of a compromising situation or not does not appear, but Louis Stuyvesant Chanler, lieutenant governor of New York, has sent regrets. He has a small boom of his own on the road and will not be chained to the Bryan chariot. Neither will Senator Rayner of Maryland be present to do homage, and Tom Johnson writes from Cleveland that he can not come.

All this is bad enough, but consider the perplexities of the seating committee when it comes to assigning places to Hearst, Williams, Bailey, Sullivan and Bryan.

PROTECTING THE PITTSBURG MILLIONAIRE

THE Pittsburg police are a meddling lot. It seems as if they had very little business to be interfering with the amiable industry conducted by an agent of the British aristocracy, who came to peddle introductions to the best London society and presentations to the court of St. James in exchange for the dollars (no clearing house certificates taken) of the Pittsburg millionaires. The situation parallels that described in one of McCutcheon's celebrated romances, like this:

> The conservatory for the moment was deserted. All the guests were crowding into the magnificent salle a manger, where sandwiches were soon to be issued.
>
> A slim, girlish figure glided into the dim conservatory. In the half light it could be seen that she had been weeping. Glancing about her she soon perceived a rare old chair in a secluded corner and sank wearily, though gracefully, into it.
>
> "I wonder if he will come?" she murmured.
>
> As though in answer the tall form of her lover strode out from behind a palm and clasped her in his arms. This being done he then looked deep into her tear dimmed eyes and whispered with words vibrant with tense emotion:
>
> "How much have you raised?"
>
> "O, duke! How can I break the news to you?"
>
> His face darkened.
>
> "I have raised only $412," she sobbed.
>
> "Cheer up," he answered, bravely. "You can try again."
>
> "And then we shall be married?" she asked, tenderly.
>
> "Yes, beloved, as soon as you get the money."
>
> "You are so brave, my hero," she sighed, gazing affectionately into his patrician features, dimmed here and there by a luxuriant outburst of beard.
>
> "Don't take clearing house certificates," he murmured, gently, as his manly face glowed with the love that thrilled his being.

A gentleman from London—officially a gentleman—visited Pittsburg, professing to be the agent of the countess of Suffield, a British noblewoman of long lineage and short purse. This agent came to promote international romances like that described in the thrilling language of McCutcheon. The police took him up and rudely treated him as a bunko man. It appears to be the accepted police function in Pittsburg to protect a fool from the consequences of his own folly. When one reflects on the well known susceptibilities of the Pittsburg millionaire it is evident that the police should have their hands full.

JAPAN'S EXCLUSION LAW

BRIEF dispatches from Tokyo some time ago announced that Japan had put in force a stringent exclusion law against the immigration of Chinese and Koreans. Later and fuller details show that hundreds of these immigrants have been dismissed by their employers, acting under orders from the government, so that they may return to their homes or be deported. The Tokyo correspondent of the New York Evening Post thus sums up the situation:

> Here, then, we have a poor country like Japan, whose public works are kept up largely by borrowed money, and whose industrial expansion is fostered for the most part from the same source, undertaking to pay double the wages to its own nationals, rather than allow them to submit to the disadvantages of competition with foreign labor. The reason for adopting such a course, especially in the face of her former objections to it, must be far reaching and significant. Japan must in this way be assumed to have taken her stand for a principle which the whole nation regards as vital to its interests and honor. That Japan has the sovereign right to adopt this course which she deems essential to the welfare of her people, no other nation will question. But henceforth Japan may be expected to accord freely to other nations the same right in dealing with alien labor under similar circumstances.

The Japanese exclusion law was enacted years ago, but was never put in force until recently. In fact, the mutual exclusion clause in the existing treaty between the United States and Japan was inserted at the request of the latter. The difficulty that has brought about the recent enforcement of the law is wholly economic and not racial. The Chinese and Korean coolies were eager to work for 20 cents a day. The Japanese coolie demanded 40 cents a day, and as a workman he was inferior to the Chinese. Riotous conflicts between the Japanese and the foreigners became frequent and the government was called on to enforce the exclusion law.

This law and the action taken under it make the case for Japanese exclusion from the United States complete and impregnable. It is a much stronger case than that on which the Japanese action was based, because there was no racial antagonism between the Asiatic natives and the aliens who were excluded.

The Employer's Troubles

THE JAMESTOWN FAILURE

THE Jamestown exposition is a flat failure that promises to entail heavy losses to the national government. Indeed, now that the end is in sight, no secret is made of the fact that it was a bunko game from the start, and that the promoters of the show never had any idea they could discharge the debt to the United States from the receipts. A Washington dispatch describes the situation thus:

> The deficit of the Jamestown exposition will not be far from $3,000,000. The total receipts from entrance fees, space for exhibits and from concessionaries up to the date of closing will be only a little more than $1,000,000. The buildings, permanent and temporary, have cost more than $5,000,000. There are no figures to show the number of visitors. Admissions up to November 1 are reported as some 1,250,000, but this does not indicate the number of visitors. Many attended for more than one day, and probably many spent several days on the grounds. It would perhaps be fair to guess that not far from 600,000 people got more or less pleasure from a trip to Hampton roads. It is clear that in addition to the sum expended by the visitors themselves more than $5 a head must have come from other sources to pay for their entertainment. Barely more than 10 per cent of the government loan of $1,000,000 has been repaid. The rest stands as a charge against an utterly insolvent concern. Now that comment can work no injury it may be said that the affair was almost hopeless from its beginning. Its very location was against it. Had it not been that a visit to Washington could be made on the way to or returning from the exposition it is probable that the attendance would have been reduced by one-half.

We have here an ingenuous confession. "Now that comment can work no injury" there is no longer any objection to letting Uncle Sam know that he was made the victim of a bunko game, and that there never was any idea of paying off the loan. It is suggested now that the government work out the "dead horse" by taking the exposition property and making it over for purposes of the navy. Presumably that would mean another million or two spent in the business of throwing good money after bad.

The Jamestown experience will make congress very shy of spending national money on wayside expositions.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Paderewski is said to be a victim of feminiphobia. It is certain that he is a victim of barberophobia.

Not much of a demand for gold jewelry throughout the country, we are told. Gold jewelry—fudge! It's gold coin we want.

After listening to a hypothetical question 13,000 words in length, was Dr. Barton in a fit mental condition to testify as to Mrs. Bradley's sanity?

The democratic organs that are hammering at the president because he flipped a coin in deciding North Dakota patronage might profitably abide by the advice of a slangy monologist who is entertaining audiences here: "You're up against a rubber fence—bounce away, bounce away!"

Los Angeles has a school for holdup men. The average tourist who passes through the City of Angels leaves it thoroughly convinced that the landlords have taken a postgraduate course.

Turkey dressing, mince pie, plum pudding and the like keep the druggists busy and make the doctors hike. We thrash our arms in slumber and do a nightmare dance—and so do our sisters and our cousins and our aunts.

Eddie Bok's journal has a Chirstmas editorial signed "The Editor and the Editors." To the lay mind it would seem that the inscription "The Editors" would have included the editor. But it requires more than a lay mind to conduct some journals.

:: :: Smart Set :: ::

Cards are out for a tea Friday afternoon at which Mrs. John Mailliard will be hostess. It is to take place in the Mailliard home at Vallejo and Gough streets, and will be given in honor of Mrs. Sesdews, Mrs. Mailliard's cousin, who came from her home in Sweden recently for a visit here. Many of San Francisco's prominent society people have been invited, and between the hours of 4 o'clock and 6 on Friday nearly all the maids and matrons of the smart set will take the opportunity to meet the charming visitor.

* * *

Miss Sophie Borel, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Antoine Borel, and John Melgren Lewis will be married today in the chapel on the Borel estate near San Mateo. Only relatives and several friends will witness the ceremony, the arrangements for which, however, have been made on a very large scale. The wedding gown, which was brought from France, is one of the handsomest creations of satin and lace ever seen in the state. The bride will be attended by a maid of honor and four bridesmaids. The first will be her sister, Miss Alice Borel, and the bridesmaids are: Miss Anita Borel, Miss Lupita Borel, Miss Albertina Grove and Miss Irene Grove. Antoine Borel Jr., John Zeiler, Charles M. Fickert and Dr. R. F. Hale will be ushers. Aylett Cotton Jr. will attend Mr. Lewis as best man.

After the ceremony a banquet will be enjoyed at the Borel mansion by the wedding party and guests, who will number less than a hundred. Later the bride and groom will leave for a few days in the southern part of the state. They will return in time for the wedding of Miss Alice Borel and Aylett Cotton Jr., which is to take place a week from today. In about 10 days both the young couples will leave for France, where they are to spend several months. On returning home each daughter will receive as a gift from her father a handsome country home on the property adjoining the Borel estate.

* * *

Mrs. Hyde-Smith will be hostess at a luncheon next Saturday to which seven guests have been bidden. It will take place at her home in Fillmore street, and be followed by an afternoon at bridge. An informal tea will end the afternoon, and to this a few more friends have been invited, as is so much the fashion this year.

* * *

After a week spent at the Maynards' country place near Mountain View, Miss Sallie Maynard and Mrs. Thomas Magee Sr. have returned to town. They returned to San Francisco recently for the winter, after a six months' stay at the Harker home in Mill Valley.

* * *

Deep sympathy is being expressed on all sides for the sorrow that has come to the Shorb family. Dr. J. de Barth Shorb, the eldest son of Mrs. J. de Barth Shorb, died yesterday morning in his Los Angeles home, and although his health had been a source of worry to his own people for some time, the news of his death came as a great shock. Dr. Shorb came to San Francisco three months ago for medical treatment, but returned to the southern city several weeks ago. He was a prominent and clever physician, a graduate of the Pennsylvania college, and still a young man, and his friends and contemporaries felt that a brilliant professional future was before him. Dr. Shorb married Miss Glassell, a daughter of Andrew Glassell, one of the most wealthy residents of Los Angeles. The Glassells are of Scottish ancestry and one of the most distinguished families in America.

Dr. Shorb's mother went to Los Angeles with him from San Francisco and his sister, Mrs. James King Steele, left this city for Los Angeles last night.

* * *

A charming reception was given last night by Mr. and Mrs. William Corbin at their home in Buena Vista avenue. Their guests of honor were Mr. and Mrs. Wayne B. Corbin, who were married in this city a fortnight ago, and returned from their honeymoon on Monday.

Mrs. Corbin was assisted in receiving by the bride, and by Miss Winifred and Miss Juanita Corbin. About 60 guests attended the affair, for which the large drawing rooms were decorated prettily with cut flowers and ferns. Ices and coffee were served in the dining room and the evening proved to be a most delightful one.

Mrs. Wayne B. Corbin was Miss Josephine Vernauer. Her husband is a nephew of William Corbin. They will make their new home in this city.

Direct Primary

Law arouses interest of the voters in all parts of the State and they write to The Call seeking information on measure.

By George Van Smith

THE direct primary idea has taken root in every part of the state. Everywhere the people recognize the direct primary as the gateway to their political freedom. The widespread and intense popular interest in the direct primary constitutional amendment, which will be submitted to the voters at the next general election, has alarmed the machine. The machine men know that the enactment of a comprehensive direct primary election law will be their death warrant. They are fighting the direct primary idea, as the machine men of other states have fought it, by the dissemination of false information. One of the most insidious methods of machine attack lies in spreading the theory that under the direct primary system unscrupulous manipulators can defeat the purposes of the law and the will of the people through a multiplicity of candidates. Thousands of earnest, thinking men have been deceived by this artifice. The Call started the fight for direct primary legislation in California, and naturally enough citizens perturbed by their fears of the dire consequences which they have been told may result from a direct primary law turn to The Call for information. This paper is besieged with inquiries from all parts of the state, of which the following letter is characteristic:

Editor Call—Sir: Can you inform me whether the various direct primary laws now in vogue provide methods for narrowing each party's choice to one candidate by other than a plurality vote, and if so, how? If a plurality vote at the primary and a plurality vote at the general election are sufficient, might not unscrupulous men defeat the people's will by introducing a multiplicity of candidates so that a man might get a plurality at the primary and at the general election and yet be distinctly distasteful to the majority?

The Call's correspondent has fallen into a not uncommon error. The plurality candidate assumes dangerous proportions in the minds of men who have not compared carefully the possible plurality candidate nominated by direct vote of the people with the minority candidate nominated by delegate conventions. Not once in 500 times are the nominees of delegate conventions the choice of an original majority of the delegates, much less of a majority of the electors who voted at the primaries. The minority rather than the plurality candidate is the rule applicable to delegate conventions, which make up their tickets by a system of trades or swallow piecemeal a program made up by the party boss.

Two methods designed to meet in part the objection suggested by The Call correspondent have been advocated, and one of them, the nominating petition, has been incorporated into the direct primary laws of Wisconsin and Oregon. The other, the so called "Mary Ann" or second choice system advocated by Senator La Follette, has not been tried. Advocates of the petition plan base their advocacy on the theory that with certain restrictions thrown around the petition, as affecting the proportion of the required signatures that may be secured in any single election district, comparatively few aspirants will seek partisan nominations and that the petition in itself is a sort of guaranty of the character of the candidate. They contend that while a bad man or an undesirable man might secure in a single district signatures tantamount to pledges to support the candidate that kind of man could not secure pledges through an election district of any considerable area.

The "Mary Ann" or second choice scheme contemplates securing a majority nominee in the following manner: When the elector marks his ticket he is expected to indicate his first, second and third choice among the candidates for the several offices. If the candidate who as first choice receives the greatest number of votes fails of a clear majority the second choices are computed and that candidate who by a combination of first and second choice votes has a majority is to be declared the party nominee. This scheme is generally regarded as carrying the idea of direct nomination to an illogical conclusion. In the judgment of a majority of direct primary students it would not serve the purpose for which it was designed, but on the contrary would serve to defeat the purpose of the direct nominating legislation with which it might be incorporated.

The fear of plurality candidates is little more than a kind of stage fright usually brought on by skillful work on the part of the interests which have everything to fear from the enactment of decent primary laws. "Plurality candidate" is the buncombe that has been unloaded by the machine men in every state that has attempted to secure direct primaries. Viewed in a comparative light with the convention system the unworth of the plurality cry is clearly demonstrated.

About 33 1-3 per cent of the republican voters of San Francisco participated in the last primary election. Delegates representing the wishes of fully one-half of the republican voters of San Francisco and certainly of a majority of those republicans who had participated in the primary election left the convention. Those delegates, aside from the fact that they unquestionably did give voice to the wishes of the majority of the republicans of San Francisco, constituted in themselves a minority amounting to nearly one-half the convention. The majority nominated Ryan. Conceding him a most liberal estimate and even basing the estimate on the vote he actually polled at the general election, he was not even a plurality candidate but the nominee of a hopelessly small minority. The plurality candidate cry is machine poison more or less skillfully spread for consumption by the unthinking or uninformed voter.

Answers to Queries

VOTING—J. B., City. Aliens who have declared intention of becoming citizens of the United States are permitted to vote in the following states before taking out their second or final papers: Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin. Such, however, must have resided in the state a stated time before an election—varying from six months to two and a half years.

* * *

FIVE HUNDRED—Player, City. In the game of five hundred the widow always contains three cards. When four play the game the sixes and fives and two of the fours, usually the clubs and spades, are added to the pack so as to make it up to 43 cards, including the joker. This gives each player ten cards and leaves the necessary three for the widow.

* * *

RICH MEN'S ADDRESSES—W. G., City. It is a rule of this department to furnish the addresses of rich men when the question is accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

* * *

LITTLE LOTTA—M. A. D., Santa Rosa, Cal. Lotta Crabtree, once a favorite actress in San Francisco, is now a resident of New York city, 59 West Fifty-first street.

By The Call's Jester

SMITHITIS

"What's wrong with you?" the doctor said,
"Is far beyond my knowledge.
No such disease is in the books
Nor taught in any college.

"The thing may have a Latin name
Or Grecian designation—
Or Esperanto may describe
Its nature and location.

"At any rate, I'm baffled quite,
But nothing I'm neglecting
By way of taking many notes,
The symptoms all reflecting.

"For sight of what I'll write of you
The magazines will clamor,
And fame will come at double quick—
While other doctors hammer.

"No doubt the ailment will have more
Vogue than appendictis,
And to commemorate your name
I'll call the thing Smithitis."

"Hurrah!" the patient said; "and I
Will share the fame and glory.
I'll have my picture taken; that
Will add much to the story."

"I fear," the doctor said, "that you
Have formed a wrong conclusion.
One in your weakened state of mind
Is open to confusion.

"You can't expect a man to cure
A thing that's new to science.
Go peacefully—be glad to bid
Obscurity defiance."

W. J. W.

Conditions in California

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

California temperatures for the last 24 hours:

Eureka	Minimum.....44	Maximum.....60
San Francisco	Minimum.....51	Maximum.....63
San Diego	Minimum.....54	Maximum.....78

Reports received by the California Promotion committee from Vallejo say that work has begun on the Mare island jetties.

The big new orange packing house at Thermalito, in Butte county, Cal., has been completed. The graders and all machinery will be run by electricity, which will also be used for lighting the plant. Thermalito is the center of a thriving orange district.

The interior work is progressing rapidly on the Land building, at Bush and Sansome streets, San Francisco. This is a reinforced concrete structure, 97x97:6 feet. For the present it is four stories in height and it will later be increased to seven.