

The San Francisco Call

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IRISH ON ASIATIC IMMIGRATION

It is hardly to be believed that the state fruit growers' convention, in session at Marysville, realized the full meaning of the memorial to congress on the matter of immigration which John P. Irish persuaded it to adopt.

We reject the theory of assimilation, holding that when nonassimilating labor engages in this noncompetitive work it relieves us of the strain upon our racial and national standards, which strain threatens the subversion of those standards in the task of assimilating the millions of European immigrants.

We cannot pretend to say what all this means, but as nearly as can be guessed it exalts or prefers a servile labor above American citizenship. Let us admit, for a moment, that the immigration from southern Europe does not always bring us desirable citizens.

Mr. Irish dwells upon the economic argument. We don't care a button for the economic aspect of the matter, although it might easily be turned against him. The case against Asiatic immigration rests on the objection to servile labor and the creation of a more dangerous race issue than that with which another form of slavery has already saddled this country.

To what extent is Mr. Irish interested in fruit growing? Does he appear at Marysville in that interest or as a representative of the Pacific Mail steamship company? We have seen him making himself useful in the latter capacity on more than one occasion, but he did not brag of it.

SUBWAYS FOR SAN FRANCISCO

THE subway and elevated road project mooted by Supervisor Sullivan and Isidor Jacobs is interesting and inspiring as a vision, but it has prophetic rather than immediate value. The congestion of urban travel in San Francisco is not yet so great that it cannot be adequately handled by the surface roads if these are competently equipped and served.

Indeed, the plans proposed for subways have all the appearance of haste. We do not believe, for instance, that a subway for Market and Valencia streets extending from the ferry house to Twenty-ninth street can be built for \$1,000,000; or for several times that sum. For one thing, the road would be laid in water all the way.

These things are not said in the way of discouragement. The time will come, perhaps sooner than we expect, when a subway system must be constructed, but we doubt very much whether the municipality will want to build it.

UNCLE SAM'S MANY DILEMMAS

UNCLE SAM, good old soul, is getting it hot and heavy from the preachers. They declare that he is many kinds of a Sabbath breaker. He lets his soldiers and his sailors play ball on Sunday; and listen to the Rev. Frederick J. Stanley, general secretary of the American Sabbath union, who said the other day in Chicago:

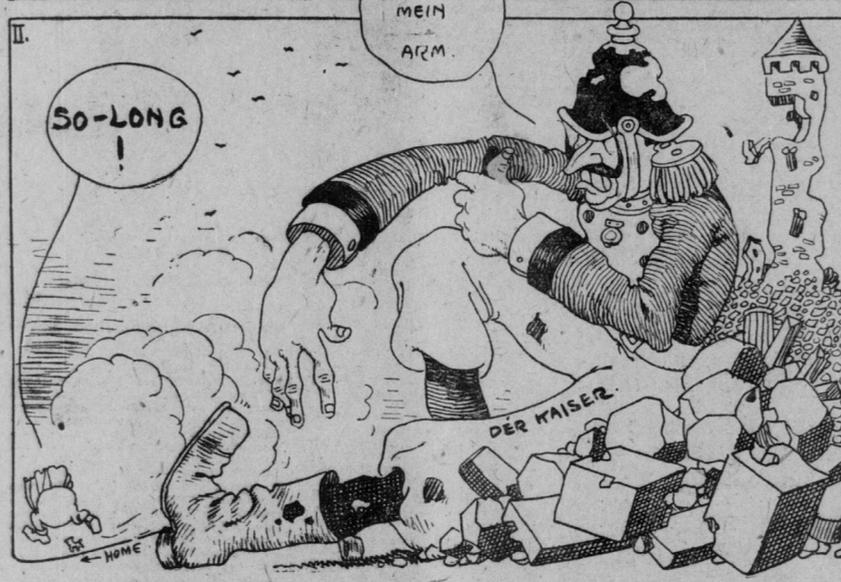
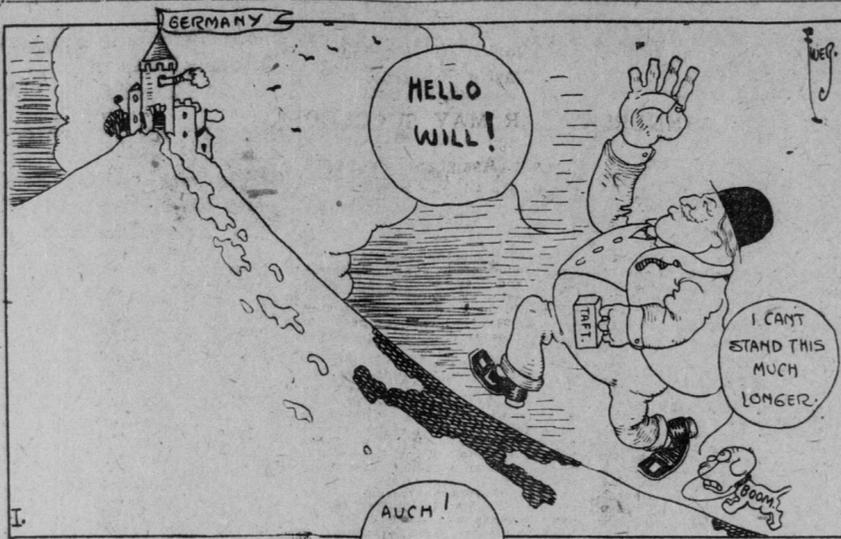
While you are at church on Sunday the postoffice employees are at work counting out the mail. You think it necessary that the mail carrier must collect four times on Sunday, so that your letter can catch the fast train.

It may have been that the congregation left the church in a somewhat confused state of mind, for the Rev. John Balcom Shaw, a Presbyterian minister, remarked after Dr. Stanley had concluded: "I toured Egypt with 32 preachers, and was astounded that they should desire to go sight seeing or pack trunks all day Sunday. I spoke to one of them about it, and he said that commandment was abrogable."

Where doctors of divinity disagree The Call may not pretend to decide. But the Philadelphia ministers do not appear to agree as to the abrogability of the commandment. Witness:

Inasmuch as it has become notorious that Sunday, November 17, witnessed a flagrant infringement of the Sunday laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with the full knowledge and consent of the officers in charge of the naval station at League island, by a public dance and promenade of a great mass of people, probably estimated at 40,000, on the docks

On the Rush Home



DER KAISER.

of the American men of war, and inasmuch as this was in continuance of a series of infractions in the way of Sunday football and baseball; be it Resolved, That we, the Presbyterian ministers' association of Philadelphia, desire to call the attention of you, Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, to these facts, and to beseech you earnestly that you use both your official and your personal influence to maintain the said laws of this commonwealth on the part of these and all other federal officers and men within the bounds of our beloved state.

Recently a minister in Washington, D. C., characterized the officers of the navy as "irreligious men." Chiefly on the ground that they encourage the enlisted men to play ball on Sunday. The naval officers resent the charge bitterly and insist that many of them are good church members, but ships' crews cannot be kept up if the men are not permitted to play ball on the Sabbath. Indeed, they add that the men might be doing worse, and a ball game keeps them out of temptation. Thus we find that our dear old Uncle Sam has his work cut out to please everybody.

E. H. HARRIMAN, OPTIMIST

MR. HARRIMAN has his finger on the industrial pulse of the country. He knows what stuff is moving. He knows what there is to be moved. He is the link between markets and the producer, and he tells us that current industrial conditions are too solidly founded to permit a long continued depression.

"Underneath the whole situation," says Mr. Harriman, "there is industrial stability. There is too much work to be done and too great a capacity for doing it to allow a long drawn out depression. The country is too big and the people too sensible to allow the acts of a few men to shake their faith in the integrity of our great financiers and businessmen as a whole. The dawn of a new era of prosperity is here. The overstrain on each is being relieved and credit is once more being allowed to perform its normal work."

We congratulate Mr. Harriman on his return to confidence and a more happy state of mind. It was whispered not long ago that he saw a hard winter ahead of him and had ordered all new work stopped with wholesale discharges of workmen. Later it was learned that Mr. Harriman had reconsidered his future and wanted all the men he could hire for building and improving railroads. His condition is once more normal, his feet are again warm and in his present frame of mind he is a very agreeable person. The Call wishes him a merry Christmas.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Taft is certainly the biggest circulating Bill of this great and glorious country.

The harvester trust sowed its wild oats, and now it is reaping the harvest of prosecution.

Dewey, the hero of Manila bay, will be the hero of San Francisco bay when the fleet arrives.

Knox's announcement that he is out for the presidency will not make any change in the situation.

Now comes a scientist who says that man is evolved from a fish. No wonder some of us are such suckers!

A Chicago man has yeast germs in his blood and cannot recover. He will be rising in advance of Gabriel's trumpet.

The popular song, "Call Me Back Again," appeals to Aoki about this time.

Four thieves who had stolen junk from one of Editor de Young's lots were sent to jail yesterday. Now if they had stolen a street—

The fat ones having been eliminated, the new riding test now being formulated should not strike so much terror to the army officers.

The lumber salesman accused of embezzlement may be made to walk the plank and wind up by getting free board unless he takes to the tall timber.

The names of several dead men were found in the panel from which the next grand jury is to be drawn. The grand jury that has just adjourned was certainly made up of live ones.

A Year's Bank Robberies in the United States

THE annual report of Pinkerton's detective agency to the national bankers' association gives complete figures as to the number of bank robberies and attempted bank robberies in the United States from September 1, 1906, to September 1, 1907. According to this report, the robberies of members of the association totaled six and of nonmembers 58. There were eight unsuccessful attacks upon members and 26 upon nonmembers. The former lost through robberies \$12,643, the latter \$100,449.

By The Call's Jester

APPECIATION
When Smith set out for congress he Was filled with high ambition, Determined that he should adorn And grace his high position.

For Smithville's eyes were on him turned, And Smithville was awaiting The news of triumphs that would give The town a higher rating.

So Smith went into congress and, Made speeches long and fervent, And watched meanwhile to see if the Reporters were observant.

It pained him much to notice that They paid but scant attention— Unlike the scribes who glorified Him at the home convention.

And when great journals through the land Gave space to the proceedings, The name of Smith was mentioned there, But no word of his pleadings.

Poor Smith felt his ambition ooze For lack of approbation, And lost before the week was gone His air of ostentation.

But things were not so bad as he Had thought in his depression; The praise he longed for came and put Him back in the procession.

For when the mail arrived from home, There in the weekly paper Was evidence of his great worth That made him fairly caper.

The whole front page was given up To "Smith, our matchless leader"; And in the midst of all, his face Gazed out upon the reader.

'Twas easy then for Smith to see What allied the mighty journals; Content were they to take the shells— The weekly took the kernels.

W. J. W.

Answers to Queries

PLAYS—A. S. City. Any first class book seller will give you the information you desire about the plays named.

ELASTIC CURRENCY—M. A. B. Oakland, Cal. Elastic currency is described as that kind "which may be issued plentifully when needed and withdrawn when the emergency has passed."

CAMELLIA—T. W. M. Alameda, Cal. The Camellia is so called for a Jesuit priest named Camellia, a traveler in Asia, who first brought it to Europe from Japan. It is a native of China, Japan and the north of India.

sentenced during the year, their terms totaling 134 years and 6 months. None of these was sent from California. Two were sent up from New York for indeterminate terms and two are awaiting trial in the same state.

During the year mentioned 26 offenders who had operated against members of the association were sent to prison for terms aggregating 105 years and 2 months. Twelve were sentenced to indeterminate terms. One, A. Carpenter, was sent to San Quentin.

Four holdup men were sentenced to indeterminate terms and one sneak thief, W. Barrett, was given five years at San Quentin. Laws imposing heavy penalties, ranging from 20 years to life, for robbery with explosives were passed in Colorado, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri and Nebraska.

The Insider

Relates interesting anecdotes concerning the eccentricities of Calve, the great prima donna, who shows herself to be truly feminine

Why Calve Turned Back to Audience

NONE of the great prima donnas is more essentially feminine in her ways than Calve, though she does not, like Gadski, go in for knitting and sewing, nor, like Schumann-Hink, for household duties. In "Carmen" you remember how she played one scene all around a powder puff, another time making a fan the motif of her coquetties. One of the newest stories about the eccentric Calve tells how at one of her concerts she had raised her audience to a high point of exaltation and when she had sung her last number they called clamorously for an encore.

Queen Victoria Liked Prima Donna

Looking at Calve when she is acting one of her great parts nobody would fancy that she did not wish to go upon the stage, but wanted to become a nun. It was a kind fate, masquerading as a hard-hearted mamma, that made a grand opera star of the would be nun. Calve studied under M. Puget before she went to Marchesi. Though it is popularly supposed that Calve has had more heart affairs than any other prima donna, her reputation in that respect did not affect the late Queen Victoria's fondness for her. Calve explained that fondness as "I suppose it is because I do not know the prince of Wales." It was the queen who asked Tosti, the composer, if he did not think Calve would make an ideal Marguerite. "Un peu trop d'embonpoint por ce role," objected Tosti.

Victoria rather resented the slur on weight, for she was not thin herself. "Mais cela n'empeche pas le sentiment," she retorted.

Goes to the Falls and Lost in Woods

Calve is the most determined woman in her profession, and her managers are kept in a constant state of nervous worry in consequence of her vagaries. I am told that when the concert company was in Buffalo last year nothing would satisfy Calve but a trip to Niagara falls. The manager remonstrated. He was afraid that the concert would not take place if Calve went on any side trips, even though the falls were but 20 miles away. Apparently Calve gave in, but the next thing the manager heard was that the singer and her maid had slipped off on the early afternoon train and would not return until dinner time. The concert was to be given the next night and all seats were sold.

The day and night wore on and no Calve, so when morning broke off went the manager to Niagara. He searched everywhere for the recalcitrant star, who, he discovered, had left the hotel at sunrise and paid her bill, also taking her baggage. Returning to Buffalo, Calve was still missing, and the manager's only resource was to hire detectives in bunches and send them around the country in a vain hope that Calve might be found. Finally the singer was located, about seven miles from the falls, in the heart of a forest, where she and her faithful maid were playing babes in the woods. Calve managed to placate her manager, however, and sang that night at her concert.

Smart Set

MISS DOLLY MacGAVIN'S tea for her guests in the reception room beyond the ballroom. The dancing will begin at 10 o'clock and last until long after midnight. A supper will be served at 11 o'clock.

Before the Greenway ball tonight Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wilson will be hosts at a dinner to 18. It will be given at the Fairmont hotel and Miss Kathleen de Young will be guest of honor. Afterward hosts and guests will attend the dance.

Colonel and Mrs. W. R. Smedberg and Miss Cora Smedberg, who have resided in San Rafael since the fire 13 months ago, have decided to come to town for the winter, and will take possession of apartments at the Hillcrest soon. The Smedbergs' old home in Larkin street was destroyed by fire.

Supreme Justice F. M. Angellotti, during the absence of his wife and daughter, who are traveling in the south, will make his home in San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kirk, who have been living in their beautiful San Rafael residence, "Miller Hall," they closed their country home after the death of Mrs. Kirk's sister, Miss Miller, but will reopen it shortly and entertain more or less informally this winter.

One of the season's largest bridge parties will be given this afternoon by Mrs. Cyrus Walker in the handsome Walker home at Jackson and Gough streets. Twenty-five tables will be played, and an informal tea will follow the game.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Page, who have made their home at Belvedere for the past two years, will close their handsome home there and come to San Francisco for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney B. Cushing and their daughter, Miss Dottie, will spend the winter in their home in San Rafael.

Baron and Baroness von Schroeder and their daughters, Miss Janet and Miss Edith, will remain on their ranch near San Luis Obispo until after the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. McCutchen, who have spent the past two years on the continent, returned to San Francisco last week, and are being entertained extensively. They have secured apartments at the St. Xavier for the winter. Mrs. McCutchen's mother, Mrs. Whiting, has given up her apartments in Pacific avenue, and will spend the winter with her daughter and son in law at the St. Xavier.

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: San Francisco, Minimum 51, Maximum 63; San Diego, Minimum 54, Maximum 74.

Bank clearings for the week ending Thursday noon, December 5, 1907: San Francisco, \$30,785,920.04; Los Angeles, 7,290,965.06; Oakland, 1,304,437.05; San Jose, 370,944.86; Stockton, 544,515.28; Sacramento, 788,351.41.

Total clearings for the week in six California cities, \$40,585,442.23. Colusa county is taking steps toward extensive construction work. Plans and specifications are now under way for seven county bridges of steel and concrete.

The exterior is approaching completion on the Prospect investment company building at Battery and Merchant streets, San Francisco. This is a reinforced concrete 45x137 feet. Two stories are now being built and a third will be added later.