

The San Francisco Call

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BROWNSON MADE A BAD BREAK

THE president's letters on the Brownson episode will not please that noted humorist, Senator Perkins, who, in a recent valued contribution to contemporary literature, found it absurd that a doctor of medicine should command a ship, even though that ship were only a floating hospital.

The fact is that Admiral Brownson lost his temper and made a spectacle of himself. He resigned from the service in a huff, because he could not have his own way. This is a wholly false conception of the duty of a commissioned officer of the United States.

Brownson's course would be inexcusable even were he right in his position concerning the command of hospital ships. As a matter of fact, he is conspicuously mistaken and disastrously wrong headed.

It is regrettable that the country should have lost the services of Admiral Brownson. He was a good officer until he was taken with the swelled head. Requiescat.

Doubtless the affair will be made the basis of attack on Roosevelt by the small potato dealers in congress. They are an amusing folk, but the country has them pretty well sized up.

MR. DE YOUNG'S GROUND HOG CASE

THE Chronicle sounds a quavering note, something between a peep and a yelp of pain, because the Lincoln-Roosevelt league is no friend of the organization.

The San Jose Times warns Taft not to monkey with the Lincoln-Roosevelt league, and points out why he should take care not to entangle himself with an organization which proposes to work for republican success in California by arraying republicans against each other.

We have been expecting something like this. If one should kick Mr. Herrin he need not be surprised to hear a cry of pain from the Chronicle. It is the customary yelp in such case made and provided for the defense of rascals.

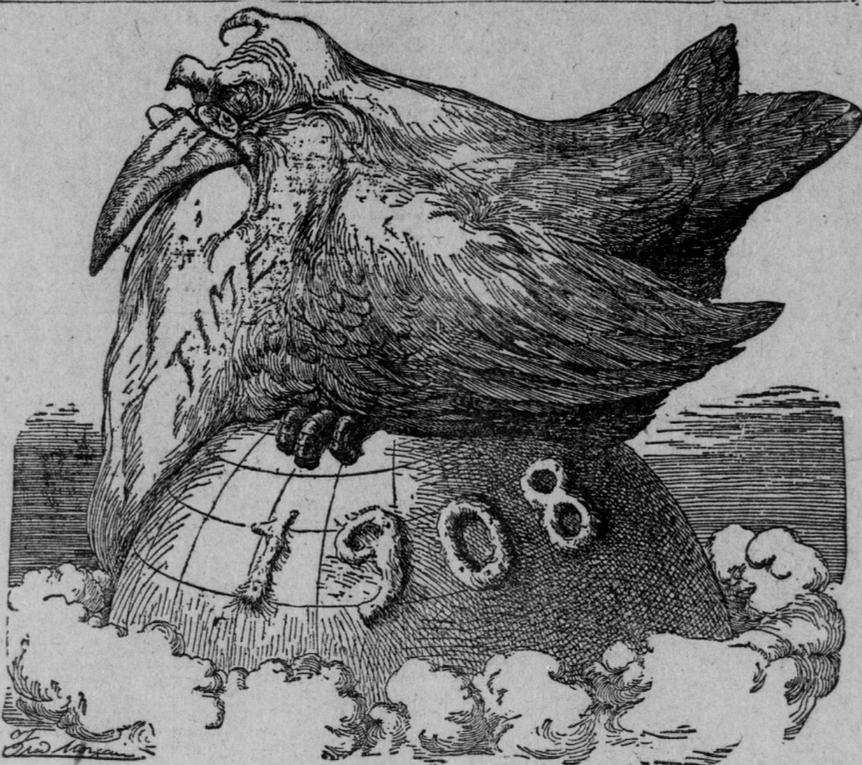
THE STUFFED MAN OF WAR

IT is announced, with how much truth The Call is unable to say, that Hiram Maxim has invented a new motive power that will drive a torpedo at the rate of sixty miles an hour or a submarine torpedo boat at the same speed.

Whether Mr. Maxim has perfected his deadly engine is not recited, but it is known that he is concerned about such matters as means to destroy his fellow creatures. He is the inventor of rapid fire guns and wicked explosives in variety.

It is certain that Mr. Maxim does not hate his fellow man, notwithstanding the strange channel in which his great talents run. If he were asked why he gives his valuable time to inventing mischief he would probably take refuge in the ancient gag that he was

Great Expectations



PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER.

By The Call's Jester

CONSOLING
Now Harry Thaw is on the rack
And Yarmouth is in trouble.
While Corey wants his first wife back,
And Hartie's suit has had a whack
That burst it like a bubble.

FINANCIAL COMPLICATIONS
"Say, old man, lend me ten. Smith
Owes me ten, and I'll give you an order on him."
"Wouldn't do me a bit of good. I
Own him ten."

ELECTRIC POWER FROM WIND
According to Consul General Richard
Guenther of Frankfurt, German papers
state that in Germany wind motors as
power generators for use in agricultural
and industrial pursuits are rarely met
with, but that in Denmark their use
has increased very greatly.

THE COURTS DISAGREE

THE recent decision of Judge Bordwell of the Los Angeles superior court in a billboard nuisance case is the cause of plentiful criticism almost uniformly unfavorable.

It was hoped by the promoters of the "city beautiful" idea that the court would be convinced that billboards as they exist in Los Angeles are a "public nuisance," and a hurtful one at that.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The night riders of Kentucky are rendering valuable aid to Carrie Nation.

The nearer the fleet draws, the more willing Japan seems to accede to American demands.

Ink that fades is recommended for the use of bank officials who discuss financial secrets by mail.

It's up to Wellman to hasten to the Arctic and see if the earthquake up there jarred the north pole loose.

The Oakland woman whose husband threw a clock at her should get a divorce in double quick time.

Admiral Brownson's resignation

Answers to Queries

WAR DEBT—C. L. City. At the close of the Japan-Russo war the debt of Japan was \$1,250,000,000.

DRAMATIC CLUB—Ambitious, City. You do not have to take out a license to organize a dramatic club.

OF LEGAL AGE—Reader, Oakland, Cal. In California a woman is entitled to her inheritance when she attains legal age, which is 18 years.

TWO BUILDINGS—Subscriber, City. The extreme height of The Call building is 327 feet. The extreme height of the tower of the wrecked city hall is 325 feet.

FIVE HUNDRED—D. City. In the game of 500 the joker is a trump and can only be played when trumps lead or when a party is void of suit.

TRADE MARK—F. G. H., Visalia, Cal. For such information as you desire in relation to trade marks, ad-

The Insider

Relates an anecdote by witty clubman who refuses to make trial for laurels less gifted men have annexed as after dinner orators

Why Witty Clubman Refuses to Speak

THERE is one of our clubmen, a man of brains and ableness, of nimble wit and pleasing elocution, who in spite of these advantages refuses to contribute after dinner speeches on any occasion whatever.

"It was just before the Christmas holidays, and their class in the primary school was expecting a visit from a certain director who always made a point of questioning the children on one thing—what to do in case of fire.

After a pause for the chuckles to die down, he added: "The application's any way you like to take it."

Chair Maker Deputy Is Odd Character

I am always ready to aid the Sunday supplement editor with subjects close at hand and offering a chance for striking pictures. One of these subjects, quite as picturesque as any of those offered by the yellow syndicates, is a deputy sheriff of Marin county, known to some as "The Chair Maker of Lagunitas."

The man is a character. I hope he won't mind my drawing the public eye to him in this wise. He is a public character, anyway, by reason of his office.

A year or so ago the deputy sheriff had no cottage. The home was planned and in process of erection, and during that phase of its existence its owner lived in the open.

The Smart Set

SAN RAFAEL society people and San Francisco people as well are beginning to be interested deeply in the new Country club, the building of which was begun some time ago.

At a reception given by Mrs. John C. Spencer in Palo Alto yesterday afternoon the engagement of her daughter, Miss Alice Spencer, to Claude S. Downing was announced.

Mrs. Ernest L. Huster was hostess at a luncheon last week in honor of Mrs. Robert White, who returned recently from abroad.

Mrs. and Mrs. Clarence Carrigan are guests of Mrs. Carrigan's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Goodrich and daughters of El Cerrito spent the holidays with old friends in Berkeley, returning yesterday to their home in southern California.

Mrs. K. H. Withrow, Miss Marie Withrow and Miss Evelyn Almond are in Paris, where they have a delightful apartment on the Rue Fourcroy.

Mr. and Mrs. Aylett Cotton Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis were guests

Experts Seek to Solve Wood Preservation Problems

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—A series of experiments were recently begun by the government which should add to the knowledge of wood preservation.

Among those who have held that steaming and vacuum were essential in increasing the absorptive qualities of the wood, opinions have differed widely as to the length of time the steaming and vacuum should be applied.

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 48.....Maximum 54
San Francisco.....Minimum 46.....Maximum 56
San Diego.....Minimum 48.....Maximum 58