

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1908.

TAFT WINS IN CONFLICT FOR DELEGATIONS

Eight More Votes Pledged to Secretary of War During Last Week

Illinois, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia Contribute Two Each

Primaries in Massachusetts Promise Support and Total Strength Is Now 202

COLUMBUS, O., April 4.—On the face of the returns Secretary Taft's list of instructed delegates was increased by eight during the week, making his total 202.

As a matter of fact, however, his gain was much greater. During the week he won two from Speaker Cannon's home state of Ohio, two from Virginia and two from West Virginia.

The result of the primaries in Massachusetts assured him the support of 25 of the 32 delegates from that state, with the probability that the entire delegation will fall into line.

The delegates themselves will be chosen at the conventions on April 17, but as the makeup of the conventions is known, the Taft men feel that they are justified in their claims.

URGES SHIP SUBSIDY Secretary Taft Points to Possibilities of Oriental Trade

CHICAGO, April 4.—Secretary of War Taft spent his second busy day in Chicago with another round of receptions and speeches, winding up with the banquet of the Commercial Club of Chicago at the Congress hotel tonight.

In all his talks he carefully avoided politics. About 300 members of the Commercial club attended the evening function. Taft was given a hearty reception when he was introduced.

The bulk of Taft's speech was devoted to a discussion of conditions in the orient. He led up to this by discussing briefly the progress on the Panama canal.

"Four hundred and sixty millions of people," he said, "on the other side of the Pacific will soon be within comparatively easy reach of both coasts of the United States. The question is whether we are going to take advantage of the condition favoring us in competition for all this trade."

The secretary referred briefly to the energy and anxiety that Japan and Germany are showing with reference to the Chinese trade and urged the propriety of a ship subsidy for a line of steamers between the Pacific coast, Japan and China.

"If the protective principle is wise," he said, "it is wise to expend government money in the development of internal waterways. I am unable to see why the improvement of our merchant marine by subsidy is not justifiable, provided the subsidy is open to all who will comply with its provisions."

HUNTER'S CANDIDACY STARTLES COMMITTEE Superior Judge Given Ovation and Will Be Supported for Congressman

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE CALL EUREKA, April 4.—The Humboldt county central committee was greatly surprised this afternoon when G. W. Hunter, for 20 years superior judge, announced his candidacy for congress to succeed Representative Englebright.

He received an ovation and the committee immediately gave unanimous endorsement and voted that the delegation shall be for Hunter first, last and all the time.

No man had the least intimation of Hunter's intentions. While awaiting a report of the credentials committee Hunter was asked to speak. Like a clap of thunder in a clear sky came the announcement. Hunter said he favored Taft, and paid a tribute to Roosevelt and his policy.

Hunter is affiliated with no faction, and took no part in the chairmanship fight today, when Frederick W. Georgeson was chosen to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. C. Bull Jr.

Hearst League Loses in Bay State Fight

Supreme Court of Massachusetts Refuses Plea for Recognition as Party

BOSTON, April 4.—Hearst's Independence league was beaten today in its fight for recognition as second party of the state in order to secure apportionment as such, its action being dismissed by a full bench of the supreme court. The league endeavored to support the democratic party as the second largest party in the state. If it had won, offices all over the state, both state and municipal, where such were apportioned under the law between the two great parties, would have been open to league members.

The information had been brought by Attorney General Malone (republican), on evidence offered by league officials. Had it not been for a split in the democratic party, caused by the opposing candidacies of Henry M. Whitney and Charles W. Bartlett for governor, the Independence leaguers would not have been even considered. The supreme court held that, despite the split, the democratic party, as such, still held together and was entitled to second place.

FEAR OF BLINDNESS LEADS TO SUICIDE

Joseph M. Wolf, Aged 78, Shoots Himself, Leaving Tale of Fall From Affluence

Because he felt that his falling eyesight and many financial troubles had become a burden too great for him to bear, Joseph M. Wolf, 78 years old and 12 years ago well known in the San Francisco business world, committed suicide by shooting himself through the mouth in his room at 2704 Pine street shortly after 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

He left two incoherent notes, in which he set forth the causes that had led him to take his life. Wolf was once very well to do. He came to San Francisco more than 15 years ago and was a member of the wholesale jewelry firm of Lorsch, Wolf & Co. Financial reverses, however, dissolved the partnership and left him almost penniless. Then he went into the business of promoting and selling California wines, but finally old age and cataracts on his eyes, which left him nearly blind, compelled him to cease work entirely. Wolf was separated from members of his family, who live in the east. He had many friends among the German residents of the city.

NEGRO SUES HEFLIN FOR \$20,000 DAMAGES

Scene in Streetcar When Representative Used Pistol Has Its Aftermath

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Representative Thomas Heflin of Alabama was today made the defendant in a suit for \$20,000 damages filed by Louis Lundy, the negro with whom the congressman had an altercation on a streetcar March 27. The affair grows out of Heflin's taking exception to the negro drinking on a streetcar in the presence of women. Lundy is represented by four negro attorneys.

AUTHORITY IN CANAL ZONE

President Gives Pithy Information to the House

WASHINGTON, April 4.—President Roosevelt sent a brief message to the house today in answer to a resolution inquiring by what authority he has exercised the functions of government in the Panama canal zone since the fifty-eighth congress, or by what right the legislative, executive and judicial functions in the zone have been performed since that date. The message follows: "Civil government has been maintained in the canal zone under my direction pursuant to the authority conferred by the treaty between the United States and Panama concluded November 18, 1903, and the acts of congress approved June 28, 1902; April 28, 1904; March 3, 1905; December 2, 1905; June 30, 1906; March 4, 1907; by which the right to maintain civil government in the canal zone was granted the United States, the duty to maintain it was imposed upon the president, and its means for maintenance were from year to year expressly and specifically appropriated by congress."

CHIEF COOS IS A WITNESS

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Chief Plenty Coos of the Crow Indian tribe testified today before the senate committee on Indian affairs, and in response to questions by Senator Dixon denied many of the statements of Mrs. Helen Pierce Grey, that many of the Indians were mistreated by Major Reynolds, the government agent.

HUGHES WITHOLDS ADVICE

ALBANY, N. Y., April 4.—Governor Hughes has refused to make any suggestion as to the personnel of the delegation to be sent to the republican national convention by the state convention which will be held in New York city Saturday. He gave out late this afternoon a letter to that effect addressed to Chairman Woodruff of the state committee.

TRANS PACIFIC RACER

HONOLULU, April 4.—The yacht Hawaii, which is to compete in the trans-Pacific yacht race from San Pedro, Cal., to Honolulu during the coming summer, was launched today. There was a big crowd present, and great enthusiasm was displayed.

STANFORD TOO MUCH OF 'PREP,' SAYS JORDAN

Freshman and Sophomore Classes to Be Abolished, Says University President

Within Five Years Change Is to Be Made, Statement of Educator

Institution Now Does Too Much Training of Aimless Students, He Asserts

SPOKANE, Wash., April 4.—"Within five years we expect to have only juniors and seniors at Stanford university," stated David Starr Jordan, president of that institution, who lectured here last night.

"It will be a place for only those who have a definite object in pursuing a university course, and not those who are gathering up the odds and ends of an education."

"Stanford has passed the stage where it can afford to devote so much of its efforts to the training period. Within five years we must expect an elimination of the freshmen and sophomore classes. That is not the work of a real university; it is for the preparatory schools. The man with a definite aim in pursuing his college work is the man who is wanted at Stanford."

"We are working on that plan now. We have just succeeded in developing a fine law school. We have made arrangements for the Cooper medical college as the property of Stanford, and with it will come the Lane hospital. That completes two leading departments and we will be ready when the time comes to turn out fine, strong specialized men and women to do real work in the world."

BISHOP PRESIDES AT PENNOYER FUNERAL

Obsequies of Oakland Businessman Attended by Many Friends

BERKELEY, April 4.—The funeral of the late Adams Albert Pennoyer, an Oakland business man who died at his residence in Bushnell place of heart disease yesterday morning, was held from St. Mark's church this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Bishop William Ford Nichols and the rector, Rev. Edward L. Parsons, conducting the services. Many social and business friends of the veteran member of the firm of Taft & Pennoyer attended the obsequies. There were many handsome floral pieces.

15,000 WORKMEN ARE LOCKED OUT IN PARIS

Trouble Brewing Months Culminates in Standstill of Building Operations

PARIS, April 4.—A gigantic lockout affecting 15,000 masons, brick layers and allied workmen in the building trades went into effect today. The trouble has been growing for months past over the question of hours and the application of the weekly day of rest law.

The men insisted on a maximum day of nine hours. The masters offered a higher wage scale and a reduction of hours last autumn, but this the men refused. The lockout will result in bringing to a standstill all building operations, both public and private, including the work on the underground railroad system of Paris.

The government intervened in the controversy this afternoon with the result that the masters have agreed to submit new propositions to the men.

DIAMOND TRADE SUFFERS FOR AMERICAN BUYERS

Merchants Unable to Meet Liabilities and Workers Cease Operations for Month

ANTWERP, April 4.—The crisis in the diamond industry, which is largely due to the cessation of the American demand for the stones, is acute. The decision of the diamond workers' union to cease work for the month of April will make it practically impossible for merchants to unload their stocks and meet their liabilities, and as a result failures are anticipated.

"IN PERFECT HARMONY, EVEN TO SEASICKNESS"

Tetrazzini, Garden and Hammerstein Flash Wireless From Midcoast

NEW YORK, April 4.—On board the Kaiser Wilhelm II by wireless via Sagaponack, April 4.—"Our differences consist only in our separate views as to the value of the old Italian and new French opera."

"Otherwise we are in perfect harmony, even now by being deadly ill."

(Signed) "GARDEN," "TETRAZZINI," "HAMMERSTEIN."

Here Is a Record of the Assessments Levied on Shares of Comstocks

Table with columns: COMPANIES, No. Ass't, No. Feet in Mine, Shares in Mine, Last Assessment Levied, No. Divs., Amt. per Share, Last Dividend, Amt. per Share, Total Amt. Ass'd, Total Dividend Disbursed.

Students of Stanford Renew Controversy

Again Take Up Issue With Faculty and Are Encouraged by Alumni Report

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE CALL STANFORD UNIVERSITY, April 14. The issue between the faculty and students of Stanford university has been taken up again by the undergraduates, who have for the greater part returned from the week's vacation. In tonight's issue of the Daily Palo Alto Editor Harold Fitch of San Francisco upholds the stand taken by the investigating committee of the San Francisco alumni and points to the evident falsity of the statements issued recently by the university authorities which have tended to lay the cause of the disturbance to student drunkenness. That such was not the case was the report of the alumni.

Students of Stanford Nab Rudolph Spreckels for Auto Speeding

Oakland Police Trap Graft Prosecution Backer in Same Spot Phelan Was Caught

OAKLAND, April 4.—Rudolph Spreckels was overhauled by the police "flying squadron" this afternoon and his chauffeur, L. D. Crane, arrested for violation of the speed limit law. Spreckels was given the usual option of paying \$50 bail for the appearance of his client or going to the police station. He paid the bail the same as did James D. Phelan when the "squadron" stopped his driver some weeks ago.

Spreckels was traveling north in San Pablo avenue when he ran into the trap set for speeders by the police. Three men were on watch there—Policeman George Powers on a motorcycle, Officer Keefe in uniform some distance ahead, and James F. Flynn directing operations. Powers timed the Spreckels automobile for an eighth of a mile and found the speed about 28 miles an hour. Then Keefe and Flynn halted the chauffeur and compelled him to stop. The automobile came to a standstill on almost the exact spot at Thirty-fourth street and San Pablo avenue where James D. Phelan was caught.

"You can pay the bail here if you wish," Spreckels was told when he made queries about complying with the law. Thereupon he gave Flynn two \$20 bills and a \$10 gold piece. He was allowed to go then and continued along San Pablo avenue.

Spreckels' chauffeur, however, "put his foot in it" in trying to explain for himself.

"I am sure I did not travel faster than 28 miles," he said, not knowing that he was at that speed beating the limit by eight miles.

Crane was booked at the police station as a merchant and gave his address as San Francisco.

NEW PUBLIC PRINTER NAMED BY PRESIDENT

John S. Leech Promoted From Philippines to Head Government Office

WASHINGTON, April 4.—John S. Leech of Illinois, now public printer in the Philippines, was today appointed public printer here. Leech will succeed Public Printer Stillings, whose resignation was accepted some days ago. The appointment as made by President Roosevelt was in the nature of a surprise, as Leech's name had not been mentioned in connection with that place.

Leech is a legal resident of Bloomington, Ill., although he served respectively as compositor, proof reader and foreman in the government printing office from 1889 to 1901, at which time he was selected as public printer for the Philippines. He has made for himself an enviable record as an administrative officer there, according to reports in the possession of the insular bureau.

Man Married in Oakland Drinks Up Inheritance in Chicago

CHICAGO, April 4.—A record of spending \$30,000 in two years on a salary of \$35 a month was awarded today to Frank Spaete whom his wife, Mrs. Sallie Spaete, is suing for divorce. Mrs. Spaete testified that her husband works at the marine hospital on a meager salary, but that he had gone through an inheritance in a brief time by "drinking it all up."

The Spaetes were married in 1905 in Oakland, Cal., coming to Chicago a few months later. A year after their arrival here Mrs. Spaete was forced to go to her mother. Since that time she has been working as a stenographer. Frederick Gaerte, administrator of the estate from which Spaete drew his money, testified that the defendant would draw \$300 one day and come in for car fare the next. Judge Walker, finding Spaete a champion spender, ordered the case written up.

SALMON PACK INCREASES FOURTH OVER LAST YEAR

Southeastern Alaska Will Can Million Cases of Fish This Season

SEATTLE, April 4.—J. F. Baron, manager of the Thinket packing company, operating a cannery at Funter bay, southeastern Alaska, estimates that the pack of the salmon canneries of southeastern Alaska will be approximately 1,000,000 cases this season. Baron is the largest independent operator in Alaska. He will pack about 75,000 cases at the Funter bay cannery, which will be the largest output of any company operating in the north with the exception of the Alaska packers' association.

The estimate of Mr. Baron is about 250,000 cases larger than the pack of 1907, which is due to the construction of new cannery plants in the north. Sound cannerymen are engaged in business in Alaska this season owing to the short run of sockeye, which will mean the closing of a number of the sound canneries this year.

NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC RECEIVES NEW COACHES

Thirteen Cars to Be Used Between Tiburon and Ukiah on Morning Express

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE CALL SANTA ROSA, April 4.—The Northwestern Pacific railroad has received from the shops in the east a train of 13 vestibule coaches to be used on the trains between Tiburon and Ukiah through here. The coaches are the first ever owned by the road and are of the same pattern as those used on the main lines of transcontinental roads. It is understood the coaches were secured in anticipation of their need when the line is extended through to Eureka and later to Portland. They will be put into commission for the first time when they will run through to Ukiah on the morning express, according to present plans.

PREMIER HOLDS HIS OWN

LONDON, April 4.—The following bulletin was issued today in regard to the health of Premier Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman:

"The prime minister had a quiet day yesterday and passed a restful night."

STOCK JOBBERY GREAT SCANDAL OF COMSTOCKS

Men in Control Regulate the Prices With Endless Assessments

Manipulators Overcome Law by Frequent Reorganization of Companies

Stock Holders Cinched to Pay Fat Salaries and Extravagant Management

Of all the scandals connected with the administration of the Comstocks the stock jobbery occupies the first place. In an ordinary company, where control is scattered, no such coups are possible as in the Comstocks. The stock prices have their basis on assessments and the men in control regulate the assessments. The Comstock rule appears to be to crowd in a year as many assessments as the law allows. Some times it is four, again it is three. A law forbidding assessments beyond a certain point is overcome by a reorganization. Thus the company can begin anew, climb once more to the limit of assessments and then go through the process of reorganization again.

CONTROL BY TRUSTEES

One of the secrets of the Comstock control is the trusteeship. If Jones buys 100 shares of Sierra Nevada the certificate is not made out in his own name. The stock is carried in the name of the broker and Charles Hirschfeld, the king of the Comstocks, gets the proxy from the broker. Thus Hirschfeld keeps control. Charges of very serious abuses are freely made in connection with the Comstock operations. Charges have been made that the holdings of stock holders have been sold unknown to them, although they continued to meet assessments. In this way double and triple assessments would be paid on the same stock issues.

MANIPULATE THE PRICE

To make this somewhat clearer: In the case cited above the amount of the delinquency would reach \$100. The men interested would bid on the number of shares they would take for the \$100. Thus the bidding goes downward. A might open the bidding by demanding the whole block of 1,000 shares for the \$100 delinquency. It would follow and be willing to take 900 shares. So the bidding would range downward. Say the bid should be for 500 shares. The question then arises what becomes of the other 500 shares? Presumably they go back into the company.

The advantage of this situation for the men in control is obvious. With stock in the treasury they can throw it out upon the market as they please with the desired effect upon the price. The Comstocks are very sensitive stocks. People play them either out of an unalloyed spirit of speculation or because they have the utmost confidence that these treasure stores which have produced \$800,000,000 in ore will, when opened up again in thorough fashion, yield anew of their golden riches.

JUGGLING IS VERY EASY

The Comstocks are 100,000 share companies. The Goldfields, Tonopahs and other present day mining stocks are for the most part 1,000,000 share companies. Deals in the southern Nevada have been upon a 1,000 share basis. Deals in the Comstocks were on a 100 share basis in the old days. This was natural because of the high stock prices prevailing. At the present time, however, the Comstocks are sold on the board with the southern Nevada and in price the Comstocks average with the lesser Goldfield and Tonopah issues. It may be seen from this that the Comstocks may be traded in by the general public in 1,000 share lots at the present time, whereas in the old days their high prices made the 100 share lot the popular trading basis of the general public.

This is explained here at length to demonstrate how sensitive the Comstocks are on the local exchange and how easily the price may be driven higher and thither. The purchase of 3,000 shares of Comstocks always sends the price up with a jump, whereas it requires far heavier operations to affect the Goldfields.

The prices of the most prominent

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