

The San Francisco Call

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DESOTISM IN CONGRESS

WHAT is congress doing? Apparently nothing but marking time. Uncle Joe Cannon blocks the gap and congressmen see themselves branded as "Cannon's sheep."

It is quite true that the large membership of the house has compelled that body to surrender, in large measure, its deliberative functions to the several committees.

This condition of lethargy expressed in fiddle faddle comes from the delegation of all legislative power to a single man. The process is simple. Deliberation on measures is relegated to committees.

If the house is to rehabilitate itself in public confidence and respect it must take measures to limit the powers of the speaker.

HARRIMAN'S LATEST MIRACLE

IN the way of financial wizardry, Mr. Harriman is spectacular. For months the great Erie railroad system, comprising 2,438 miles and including a trunk line from New York to Chicago, has been on the verge of bankruptcy.

It may not be said where Harriman found the money or how. Conjecture credits him with the support of the Standard oil group and certain indications point to the correctness of this guess.

If Harriman takes control of Erie it will give him a complete trunk line from ocean to ocean, comprising the Southern Pacific, Union Pacific, Illinois Central and Erie.

UNCLE'S UNRULY NEPHEWS

UNCLE SAM is having a lot of trouble with his unruly nephews. Colombia is wrangling with Panama over a bit of ground and Uncle is asked to hold them level.

Then we have the ridiculous Castro always on our hands. Once more this absurd potentate is making faces at Uncle Sam, forgetful of the day on which this country, fired by Cleveland's hasty message, was ready to defy the power and majesty of Great Britain in defense of Venezuela.

Now Castro is saying nasty things about Uncle and daring the big policeman to do his worst, and we don't quite know whether to take him seriously or laugh.

Obituary



THE MERRY WIDOW

INTERMENT PRIVATE

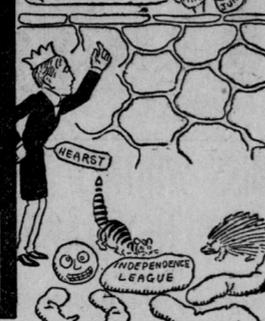
WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CLERGY

DROPPING THE PILOT



IN MEMORIAM

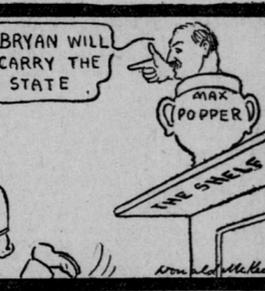
HUMPLY DUMPLY MEET WITH OF AN ACCIDENT



ALL THE KING'S HORSES AND ALL THE KING'S MEN



TRAGIC END OF ONCE PROMISING CAREER



HARK! FROM THE TOMB

cheeky to ask Uncle Sam to constitute himself a collection agency. They make a piteous whine that Castro is trying to blackmail them, using the machinery of his own courts for that purpose.

When, then, can originate the idea of searching for slight incidents to create a conflict with Venezuela? From the chief of this legation who is called the secretary of state in Washington and who in turn cannot but be under the direct influence of President Roosevelt?

These heroics are funny, but they won't get a rise out of Uncle Sam.

NOT READY TO MAKE ROADS YET

IF the federal government undertakes on any considerable scale the improvement of the inland waterways the demand will naturally follow that the same agency shall construct the roads and highways of the country.

NOTE AND COMMENT

A Sunday paper informs us that "Every Day Evans Is Getting Better."

If Fighting Bob's legs were as strong as his spirit he would be on the quarterdeck of the Connecticut today.

It is announced that Mrs. Yerkes-Minter is to wed a young pianist.

A local contemporary anxiously inquires, "Are rats musical?" Yes, brother. Thus far they have made us dance to the tune of \$158,000.

That San Jose bigamist who attributes all his troubles to his first wife seems to forget that his present wife is chiefly due to his second.

The fact that the French benevolent society operates its own hospital may explain the fearlessness with which its members "mix it up" whenever they meet.

Answers to Queries

VICE PRESIDENT—C. W. Oakland, Cal. What salary does the vice president of the United States receive? \$12,000 a year.
TEACHERS—J. M. B. Irvington, Cal. When will the next examination for teachers in the Philippines be held? Write to the insular department, Washington, D. C.
GARBAGE CANS—M. E. City. Who should furnish garbage cans, the landlord or the tenant? That is a matter of agreement between the parties.

The Smart Set

ROYDEN WILLIAMSON and John Gayle Anderson, both of whom are very popular in the younger set, will be hosts at an informal evening affair tomorrow night.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Hammond have gone to Santa Barbara, where they will be guests at the Potter until after the departure of the fleet.

Great regret is felt over the impending departure of Miss Marjorie Brown, one of the most popular of the Presidio girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Coryell entertained a jolly house party the Easter week end, their guests going down Saturday and returning to town yesterday afternoon.

The Augustus N. Eddys are again in New York and plan a trip to California some time in May.

John Young will be host at a theater party tomorrow night, taking a group of society's maids and men to see Frank and Jesse Baker at the Grand Opera.

Paymaster Z. W. Reynolds, Mrs. Reynolds and their guest, Mrs. A. M. Cook, spent the week end at the Peninsula hotel and plan frequent trips during the summer months.

Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Gregg recently purchased a beautiful home in El Cerrito park, where the debutante daughter, Miss Enid, will entertain frequently this summer.

Mrs. H. M. A. Miller left town Friday and will be the guest of Mrs. Howard Huntington for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. John Caserly, who are at the Peninsula hotel while their new home in El Cerrito is being prepared for them, were hosts at a dinner party Saturday evening last.

Harry N. Stetson, whose marriage to Miss Josephine Brown took place yesterday, gave a bachelor dinner at the Burlingame club Saturday night, at which a score of his men friends were guests.

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Miss Marguerite Tourny, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Tourny, and Edgar Nicholas Van Bergen will be married tomorrow night at Grace church, Rev. David Evans performing the ceremony.

Miss Josephine Brown and Harry Stetson were quietly married at noon yesterday in the home of the bride's cousin, Mrs. Duncan Hayne, at San Mateo.

Miss Elise Hall and Nathaniel Dodge will be married tomorrow at the Hall home in Fruitvale, about 39 relatives and friends witnessing the ceremony.

Miss Georgia Spieker will be married to John Drum tomorrow in the garden of her parents' handsome Eureka Valley home.

The marriage of Miss Mary Greenleaf of Boston and Rev. George Maxwell of Sausalito has been postponed because of the sudden illness of Miss Greenleaf's mother.

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Personal Mention

C. M. Burkhalter of Fresno is at the Stewart.

A. P. Thompson of Vallejo is at the Von Dorn.

A. B. Clark of Boston is a guest at the Stewart.

Richard W. Nickerson of Boston is at the Fairmont.

A. F. Hunter and wife of Hartford, Conn., are at the Hamlin.

William Krug, a brewer of Omaha, is staying at the St. Francis.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Simpson of Stockton have apartments at the Fairmont.

T. B. Riekey, a cattle and mining man of Carson, is a guest at the St. Francis.

S. Rummensberg, a merchant of Colusa, is among the new arrivals at the Stewart.

Frederick H. Gilman, representing the Lumberman, is staying at the St. Francis.

P. R. Weller of Los Angeles and W. L. Rideout of Lakeport are at the Audubon.

J. J. Wilson of Dunsmuir and J. E. Johnson and wife of Eureka are at the Victoria.

Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Lundy of Peterboro, Canada, have apartments at the Fairmont.

Recent arrivals at the Dale are E. R. Standaert of Alma and James Water of Watsonville.

E. W. Churchill, a banker and broker of Napa, is at the St. Francis, accompanied by Mrs. Churchill.

Ortho Dorman, accompanied by Mrs. Dorman and child, are at the Fairmont, registered from Spokane.

Among arrivals at the New Lick house are P. F. Adelsbach of Kingsburg and Fred Belcher, Mrs. T. A. Belcher and Miss E. Belcher of Santa Barbara.

The Americans may not be a truly literary people, but they pay great attention to the externals of literature.

The new public library at New York the Edinburgh Dispatch says, is enough to make us ashamed of our British museum, our Bodleian and our Advocates' libraries, which have only their two or three centuries of tradition to make them venerable.

This sumptuous storehouse of literature will cost a million and a half. Hundreds of tons of marble have entered into the composition. The floor space will be nine acres. There will be 300 rooms on seven floors, and shelving for three millions of volumes extending to 63 miles linear distance. Books will be delivered to the reader by electric lifts, and the place will be a perfect engine room of labor saving devices. The only thing lacking which the Yankees have not yet invented is the royal road to learning.

India stands next to the United States in the amount of cotton grown and an immense amount of raw material is annually leaving the country without any adequate return.

The quantity of cotton seed available in India may be approximately estimated as follows: Indian cotton seed as picked yields about 30 per cent lint and 70 per cent seed. Accepting the estimated output of cotton as correct, the total stock of ginned cotton seed available in India has in the last five years averaged some 1,402,000 tons.

The seed crop in 1906-7 amounted to 1,840,402 tons; in 1905-6, 1,284,727 tons; in 1904-5, 1,434,759 tons; in 1903-4, 1,193,000 tons; and in 1902-3, 1,282,636 tons.

Indian seed is inferior in quality, in some respects, as compared with Egyptian or American. The seed is smaller and tussier and therefore more difficult to manipulate. The percentage of oil is lighter and that of fiber is heavier.

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Gossip of the Railwaymen

George MacBride, the rival of E. H. Harriman in railroad building, does not, like his competitor, trust to the judgment of engineers to locate his railroads, but goes over the country himself in a 40 horsepower automobile.

MacBride jumped into the great cattle farm of Miller & Lux, and as a member of that powerful organization thought it would be easy for him to get a right of way through one of their ranches.

MacBride gazed admiringly on the gay and grinning cowboys, gave forth a deep sigh, and said to MacBride: "It must be nice to be rich and own such a fine automobile."

A dozen loud laughs followed the remark. MacBride jumped into the machine and was whirled from the rancho at a rate of 100 miles an hour.

The Southern Pacific will commence building the first 23 miles of the line from Mojave in connection with the Nevada and California railway in the Owens river valley April 22 next.

The entire length is about 123 miles and is to be completed in 60 days. The road will be broad gauge, and in order to make a through line from Mojave to Hazen the road from Keeler to Tonopah junction will have to be standardized a distance of 151 miles.

The primary purpose of this line is to make possible the construction of the Los Angeles aqueduct. In the end, however, with the broad gauging of the Nevada and California below Tonopah junction it will form another through route from southern California to the east via the Southern Pacific.

From Tonopah junction to Hazen the line is already broad gauge. This new line will also be the short line to Tonopah and Goldfield and also to Reno and Nevada main line points from the southern part of the state. The new line passes within 18 miles of Johannesburg.

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Conditions in California

The California Promotion committee wired to its eastern bureau yesterday as follows: California temperatures for the last 24 hours: Eureka.....45 Maximum.....53

San Francisco.....50 Maximum.....58

San Diego.....50 Maximum.....70

Vessels passing through the Golden gate at San Francisco during the last month: 339.

There is an opening for a fruit canner at Biggs, Butte county. The Western Pacific railway track is now continuous from near Altamont, Alameda county, to Sacramento, 79 miles, and from Marysville through Oroville and beyond to Hamilton City, 427 miles.

Alameda county, will be completed by the last of the month and all steel bridges for the first 225 miles out of Oakland are completed except one.

Terra cotta is on the ground for the David Hovey building, the steel frame of which has been erected. The building stands at the corner of Market and Sixth streets, San Francisco, a class A, 14 story structure, 52x90 feet in area. The cost is \$850,000. The first stories are of stone and the remaining will be faced with white