

The San Francisco Call

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CALHOUN AND THE BANQUET

IF Patrick Calhoun were under indictment for grand larceny or embezzlement or any other crime against the person or property of any individual it is hardly conceivable that he would be invited to attend a banquet given in the name of the city and in honor of distinguished guests.

A grand jury has found—two grand juries have found—sufficient evidence against Calhoun to justify the state in prosecuting him for the debauching of public servants by bribery. This is what an indictment means—that enough of a prima facie case has been made out against the person accused to put him to his defense; that there is what the lawyers call "probable cause" in such a degree as to warrant the public expense of a trial.

Mayor Taylor was right when he made objection to Calhoun as a guest at the city's banquet to the secretary of the navy and officers of the fleet. His stand was the only one consistent with decent citizenship.

Guilty or innocent, Calhoun ought not to participate in this public entertainment. It is no place for men formally charged with crime. The accused master of the United Railroads would cut a more seemly figure if he remained away from such affairs.

DEMOCRACY SHOWING SIGNS OF LIFE

THINGS are picking up in the democratic party when its members begin fighting. It is a popular tradition, cherished with affectionate regard, that democrats delight to bark and bite and that the party is never really healthy except when busy with some vociferous squabble.

Things are brightening up for the democracy. Mr. Willis Abbot, who is, or has been, Mr. Bryan's accredited press agent in Washington, gave out a statement in which he characterized the candidacy of Governor Johnson of Minnesota as "an impertinence."

I don't know how the other man proposes to conduct his campaign, but so far as I am concerned I shall try to make at least a dignified contest for the nomination. I'd like to have people say that, anyway, Johnson made a clean, decent race of it, no matter how it turns out.

After enlarging on the distinction conferred on him by the Minnesota indorsement he added: "Mr. Willis Abbot and Mr. Bryan may suit themselves about considering my candidacy impertinent. I do not consider it so. The matter is one for the democratic party to decide."

CONFESSING HIS NEIGHBOR'S SINS

THOMAS FORTUNE RYAN, traction magnate, tells the world that not a dollar in actual cash was paid in for the shares of the railway companies of America—that the stock is all water and fictitious. In a large sense and in a general way Ryan is undoubtedly right.

Conceding the truth of all this, Ryan's testimony leaves us just about where we were before. It is quite true that the value of railroad stock represents an unearned increment due to the increase of population. The same thing is true of real estate in a growing

Intimidated



city, but it is not for that reason proposed to confiscate the increase.

It is not necessary here to discuss the ethics or abstract justice of the situation. There is one school of thinkers which would take away for public use the unearned increment accruing on all property. There is another which holds that the man of business foresight is entitled to great returns for that valuable quality when he has the courage to risk his money in a doubtful venture; but there is no need to follow this debate, which is concerned with an abstract question.

Thomas F. Ryan and his associates in New York traction engaged in the most gigantic stock watering operations known to the history of finance. The water is being squeezed out so far as it was not based on the natural accretion of values. Mr. Ryan is doing his best to excuse himself by showing that all Wall street has been engaged in similar practices.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Apparently the only currency bill which can be passed is the verdant kind now in circulation.

The smart set men of Burlingame are wearing feathers in their hats—bonnets, rather. Can even a wealthy family withstand doubled millinery bills?

A Chinese actor of Oakland invaded the police department with the complaint that he had lost his queue. It is impossible to resist the temptation to say that the same thing has happened to many an American actor.

The Ruff lawyers want a change of venue, but what they really need is a change of circumstances.

If the dynamite had been put in the right place Gallagher would have been elevated into the higher up class.

De Sagan's devotion to a pretty girl who crossed the Atlantic is taken by some of his fellow passengers as evidence that he is not yet married. The world, however, will draw an opposite conclusion from the same premise.

How Stevenson Came to Samoa and Yielded to Its Charm

TO the April Chronicle of the London missionary society Rev. W. E. Clarke, who was attached to the society's mission at Samoa during Stevenson's residence there, supplies some personal recollections of "R. L. S."

Mr. Clarke recalls the day of Stevenson's first arrival. He noticed a little trading schooner of about 30 tons with fluttering sails diving and plunging its way into the calm safety of the bay.

"Making my way along the beach, I met a little group of three European strangers, two men and a woman. The latter wore a print gown, large gold crescent earrings, a Gilbert island hat of plaited straw, encircled with a wreath of small shells, a scarlet silk scarf round her neck and a brilliant plaid shawl across her shoulders; her bare feet were encased in white canvas shoes, and across her back was slung a guitar. The younger of her two companions was dressed in a striped pyjama suit, a slouch hat of native make, dark blue sun spectacles, and over his shoulders a banjo. The other man was dressed in a shabby suit of white flannels that had seen many better days, a white drill yachting cap with prominent peak, a cigarette in his mouth, and a photographic camera in his hand. Both the men were barefooted."

Mr. Clarke's first thought was that probably they were wandering players en route to New Zealand, compelled by their poverty to take the cheap conveyance of a trading vessel. Later Mr. Clarke called at the "hotel" where the strangers were staying to offer them civility and hospitality, and found them "educated and refined gentlemen."

"Next day he learned that the stranger in the shabby flannels was Robert Louis Stevenson, the lady his wife and the younger man his stepson, Lloyd Osbourne. They had chartered the little schooner and fitted her with some comforts as a private yacht and had just completed a voyage of several months' duration. Their intention was to spend a month or more in the Samoan group before returning to civilization, but a few weeks later their plans were changed, the glamour of the islands fell upon them, as all the world now knows, and they in the

Personal Mention

H. K. Mitchell of Eureka, Nev., is at the Stewart. William Dunlap and wife of Napa are at the Audubon.

W. H. Jutte of Reno and H. M. Geary of Tonopah are at the Dale. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Stannard of Chicago are guests at the Fairmont.

John Llewellyn, an iron manufacturer of Los Angeles, is at the St. Francis. Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Broderick and family of Ottawa are at the Fairmont.

William T. Jeter, formerly Lieutenant governor of the state, is a guest at the St. Francis.

H. A. Cravath and wife of Bakersfield and Fred Jasse and wife of Houston, Tex., are at the Hamlin.

Among arrivals at the Von Dorn yesterday are S. P. Roll of Springfield, Ill., and John Richmond of San Diego.

Mrs. Andrew J. Post, Miss Post and William C. Post of Englewood, N. J., have apartments at the Fairmont.

Among yesterday's arrivals at the Colonial are J. E. Fringe of Sacramento and W. C. Blair and wife of St. Louis.

Frank A. Keith, a mining man of Tonopah and manager of the Tonopah-Goldfield railroad, is at the St. Francis.

Recent arrivals at the New Lick house are Walter Egbert of Rio Vista, W. H. Ferber of Chicago and James Kennedy of Chiclo.

Fortune for a Necklace

Enormous as it is, the \$10,000 paid to Christie's recently for a pearl necklace has been exceeded at least once in a sale by auction. At the sale of the jewels of the late duchess of Montrose the bidding for a necklace of eight rows of 412 pearls opened at \$5,000 and rose rapidly by bids of \$1,000, \$500 and smaller sums until it reached \$11,820, at which figure it was knocked down to J. Hill. Even this enormous sum is trivial compared with the estimated values of other pearl necklaces which have not come under the auctioneer's hammer.

The late Empress Frederick of Germany was the owner of a necklace of 32 pearls valued at \$60,000; an equally valuable necklace owned by the Countess Hemckel is composed of three rows of pearls, one of which formerly belonged to the last queen of Naples, and another to the Empress Eugenie; Lady Ilchester's famous necklace of black pearls is said to have cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000, and the same sum represents the value of a necklace of ten rows of pearls, the property of the late duchess of Sermoneta, which was produced in one of our chancery courts a year or so ago.—Westminster Gazette.

Human Hair Market

An item of increasing importance in the trade statistics of Japan is the traffic in human hair. The value of the exports of this "commodity" rose from \$280 in 1904 to \$10,421 in the first 11 months of 1907. France appears to be the best foreign customer, for in 1907 she took 115,710 pounds of it, valued at \$5,238, while 38,253 pounds, worth \$2,652, went to the United States. The hair is all black and rather coarse, coming almost entirely from women of the lower classes. It is collected in the spring and autumn, the best quality coming from the woman of Izu, who are blessed with locks of extraordinary length. After being combed and cleaned by means of sand, the harvest thus gathered is sorted in bundles ready for the foreign demand.

Suffragettes of the '50s

In the London Examiner for 1858 there are notices on the then suffragist movement, both in poetry and prose. Here is a specimen of the former, after Tennyson:

Oh they go through the land, Many leagues onward, All for the polling booth, Women five hundred. Leaving their hearts and homes, Children in screams and groans, Husbands in fits and moans, Went the five hundred.—London Globe.

The Smart Set

MANY of the city's society people will go down to San Mateo this evening for the long awaited amateur theatricals which will be given in San Mateo hall. The San Mateo kindergarten will benefit by this affair, in which all of society's clever amateurs will take part.

"Ici on Parle Français" is the play to be given, and already there is promise of a very large audience. Some of those who will take part are: Miss Amy Brewer, Miss Lenore Brewer, Miss Helen de Young, Miss Constance Young, Miss Marie de Guigne, Mrs. Arthur Whitney, Mrs. Charles Green, Mrs. Alfred Fox, Miss Frances Wilson, Philip Lansdale, Walter Jackson, Farmer Fuller, Joseph Tobin.

Major and Mrs. Charles McKinstry will leave this week for Santa Barbara, where they will be the house guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Miller Graham for the review. Mr. and Mrs. Graham's other house guests will be the marquis and marchioness of Headford, Mrs. D'Arby, Miss D'Arby and Count de Laborde. Count de Laborde arrived in Santa Barbara a day or two ago from Paris.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fee and their daughter, Miss Marcia, went to Santa Barbara in their own car last week.

Mrs. J. S. Ballard was hostess at a very pretty luncheon this week to which a dozen society matrons were bidden. The affair took place at the St. Francis hotel. Among Mrs. Ballard's guests were: Mrs. R. R. Haskell, Mrs. E. B. Young, Mrs. John Flournoy, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. W. D. Fennimore, Mrs. Harry Nathaniel Gray, Mrs. J. Alva Watt, Mrs. James Miller, Mrs. W. P. Fennimore.

Mr. and Mrs. John Drum are spending their honeymoon in the home of Mr. Drum's sister, Mrs. William Geer Hitchcock, in San Mateo. The estate is one of the prettiest in the southern town, and was once the Henry Bowls Homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock are the guests of Miss Sara Drum in her Broadway home.

Mrs. W. P. Fennimore was hostess at a large bridge party yesterday, and will again entertain in this popular way this afternoon. Five tables were played yesterday and guests with Mrs. Fennimore's hospitality today.

A pretty wedding on Wednesday last was that of Miss Jessica Cuthbert, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cuthbert, and the Rev. John Woods. The affair took place in the Cuthberts' new home in San Mateo, which is one of the handsomest in the southern town. Several of the bride's society folk went down to the wedding at which Miss Jean Menzies and Miss Betty Angus were bridesmaids. Mr. Woods and his bride will make their home in Visalia, where he was recently called.

One of the season's prettiest weddings will take place tomorrow afternoon when Miss Mabel Nathalie Wise, daughter of Mrs. Henry Wise, and Emanuel Elzas will be married. The ceremony, which will be witnessed by

Mr. and Mrs. James McEl Wood, are prominent in Portland society, will arrive here early in May and have ready reserved apartments at the Fairmont. They will be among the guests of Mr. Greenwood, being old friends of Mr. Greenwood, and will be much entertained by former friends here during their stay.

Though still suffering from the sore she received when the automobile driven by her husband crashed in the harbor on the San Mateo coast Sunday, and under the care of a trained nurse, Mrs. William S. Tevis has recovered that she has been moved from the home of E. Duplessis, Bayard at Wayside near San Mateo, to the residence of Montford Wilson at Burlingame.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Coryell and Kathryn Henry will go to Santa Barbara for the festivities that will attend the feet's visit.

Mr. Sterling P. Adams, one of President's most popular matrons, will return to Reno in June, taking with her sister, Miss Clement, and plan to spend a fortnight in the southern town.

Mrs. Milton Pray has sent out cards for a large tea which will be given at the Berkeley inn on Tuesday next in honor of her house guest, Mrs. E. J. Jeffers of Baltimore.

Mrs. Harry Gray will be hostess at two large card parties to be given at her home here on the 30th of the month and the 1st of May.

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Gossip of Railwaymen

John Ingersoll of the Southern Pacific and in T. A. Graham's office in Los Angeles is a dignified individual, averse to display of feelings, and always correct in his deportment.

During the recent celebration in Los Angeles he had equally proper guests as himself from Boston, and to them was showing the city from a streetcar.

To his immeasurable horror a brave though inebrated jockey boarded the car and throwing his arms around Ingersoll's neck, cried:

"Hullo, Matey, I'm with you all the time. You look a good fellow. Just like one of us. What ship are you on? Many and many a time we've been in the brig, eh? Now come and let us get a drink for the sake of old times." And he proceeded to drag Ingersoll off the car.

It was only by the violent exertions of his friends that Ingersoll escaped the jockey's hospitality with nothing worse than a ruffled feeling and disordered raiment.

Timothy Riordan, one of the largest lumber shippers in Arizona, was calling on Edward Chambers of the Santa Fe yesterday and says that from the present outlook he will be sending into this state a great deal of lumber during the year.

James Keller, the astute traffic manager of a hardware concern, has come to the rescue of the ladies and saved them from the exactions of S. W. Spencer, inspection agent and unconscious humorist of the railroad world.

Spencer has been monkeying with the rates on sadirons and made the astounding discovery that a sadiron when shipped stripped of stand and handle took the same rate as a sadiron when dressed with stand and handle. In other words, Spencer has determined that a sadiron, stripped, can take the old carload rate of \$240,

36,000 pounds, while the stand and handle when shipped separately are to take the same rate, bringing the carload rate on sadirons up to \$480 a car. If this ruling went into effect the price of sadirons would be exactly doubled, as the hardwareman would meet the increase of the tariff by raising the price of the article.

Railroadmen want to know by what course of reasoning Spencer arrived at this extraordinary reduction. A sadiron consists of three iron and the transcendent lines have had one rate covering all three parts for a number of years. They are all the more amused with Spencer and his department, for it costs the Pacific coast lines about \$20,000 a year to maintain him and his department to make astounding rate discoveries. The ladies, however, have to thank the vigilance of James Keller for preventing a wholesale increase in the cost of sadirons.

A general meeting of the California association of traffic agents has been called by President Henry Avila for Monday evening, when the dates for the annual meeting of the association and the annual meeting in Fresno will be agreed upon. The middle of October is preferred to September, for the meeting, as Fresno is sometimes quite warm during that month. The committee on entertainment, consisting of Norman Hall, George A. Ruple, V. M. Smith, C. N. Fisher and Henry Jarman, are working out the details of the outing and it is thought that the middle of July will be favored and the Yosemite valley the place.

A. F. W. Thompson of the Rock Island lines has left for Los Angeles on business and expects to be back Monday.

E. M. Pomeroy of the Pennsylvania lines has returned from Albuquerque,

Impertinent Question No. 48

What Is Success, Anyway? For the most original or wittiest answer to this question—and the briefer the better—The Call will pay FIVE DOLLARS. For the next five answers The Call will pay ONE DOLLAR each. Prize-winning answers will be printed next Wednesday and checks mailed to the winners at once. Make your answer short and address it to IMPERTINENT QUESTIONS, THE CALL.

- Winning Answers to "Where Are You Going?"
\$5 prize to L. E. Parks, yeoman, U. S. N., U. S. S. Minnesota. To San Francisco—for a "time."
\$1 prize to George A. Howard, marine barracks, naval training station, city. To Herrin's political funeral.
\$1 prize to Miss Hattie Vint, 639 Seventeenth avenue, Richmond district, city. On a "fleet"-ing visit to San Francisco.
\$1 prize to D. Cozzens Jr., Olinthouse, Washoe county, Nev. To subscribe for The Call; check inclosed.
\$1 prize to M. A. Dernham, 1904 Franklin street, city. Sh!!! !!!
\$1 prize to Miss Madon Kerr, 2023 Osgood street, Oakland. To Bridal Veil falls via the county clerk's office.