

The San Francisco Call

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HEARST ON BRYAN

It was Hearst's first appearance in the part of Ishmael. When he attacked the party that once gave him shelter and later cast him out—when in his Labor day address at Davenport, Ia., he attacked Bryan and Bryan's manager, his presentation of himself was in familiar character. It is the temper of the outcast to fling stones at the house from which he has been ejected. Hearst seeks only to destroy that which he could not possess.

Republicans can afford to watch with some complacency this assault of the prodigal son on the house of his political fathers and wonder how he enjoys his diet of husks. Indeed, some speculation might be indulged on the moot point whether the outcast still nurses a hope that the doors may once more open and the fatted calf be killed. Hearst's political agility has always been one of his most engaging traits. He has repeatedly proved himself ready to be all things to all men when his occasions served.

While all this is true and matter of common knowledge, it is not for republicans to quarrel with Hearst's revelations of the secrets of the democratic house. The insincerity of Bryan in his vote catching excursions in pursuit of support from organized labor, as expounded by Hearst, puts the democratic candidate in an ungrateful light. Hearst produces evidence that Bryan, in the course of a congressional inquiry, characterized union labor men as "public beggars." The remark was elicited by the petition of a labor delegation for protection of the manufacture of window glass, and it was met by the sufficient reply that the delegation did "not consider it beggary to try to maintain the American standard of wages." Bryan's frame of mind and his attitude toward organized labor appear from the form and temper of his criticism. It will require many yards of adroit apology for Bryan to explain himself out of the woods and square his characterization of union men as "beggars" with his recent protestations of attachment to their cause.

Hearst's exposure of Governor Haskell's affiliation with the Citizens' alliance takes its chief significance from the fact that Haskell, governor of Oklahoma, was chairman of the democratic committee on platform that framed the ingenious declarations on labor issues which it was hoped might prove effective vote catchers. In view of Governor Haskell's relations with the Citizens' alliance and Bryan's attitude toward organized labor, it is fair to presume that these platform declarations were meant to deceive. They belong to the class of campaign material described as "good enough until after election." All this must help Taft. No one doubts Taft's sincerity or his sense of justice. He is a man of his word, and what he promises that he will do. The vote catching dodges are alien to his nature and from him all classes may be certain that they will receive fair and just treatment.

APATHY AND RAINBOW CHASING

M. HARRIMAN, although he names no names, fears that the prevailing political apathy may injure republican prospects of success in the campaign. The Call is not advised as to ultramontane conditions and the situation in the middle west except by newspaper report, but it is not difficult to understand why there is neither excitement nor agitation in California, for the obvious reason that the electors have already made up their minds to cast the vote of the state for Taft. Indeed, the democracy scarcely pretends to keep up the show of making a fight in this commonwealth. In the pathology of politics it is a symptom to assist diagnosis of that body politic when the sometime boss of the party is seen to crawl into his hole and pull the hole in after him. It is difficult to get excited about a walkover. The politics of this campaign in California scarcely rises to the dignity of a form of sport.

There has been a great deal written in the press about the situation in the middle west, and it is there that Bryan hopes to win if anywhere. In the light of past history it seems ridiculous to class such states as Illinois, Iowa and Kansas in the doubtful column, but to this resort Bryan's campaigners are driven. Willis J. Abbott, who has for years been Bryan's most faithful press agent, is engaged this summer in dispensing copious supplies of political encouragement, and in a recent paper he is good enough to advise Taft what course to pursue in the so called "wavering states." He writes:

He (Taft) will have to pay some attention to Iowa, where factional feuds among the republicans and the tremendous popularity of the democratic proposition for the insurance of bank deposits have put the republican ticket, both state and national, in serious jeopardy.

He need not go to Nebraska, for that state is not wavering. It has discovered the fact that its most distinguished citizen is the man who has been nominated for president by the democratic party and its voters have indicated their determination to rally about him in no uncertain terms. Kansas and the two Dakotas should engage Mr. Taft's attention. For many years they have been regarded as safe republican territory, but they are so no longer. The information which comes to me from all parts of the country leads me to believe that there are few of the states of the Mississippi and Missouri valleys in which the democratic party has not much more than a fighting chance, while California, because of the sterling utterance of the democratic platform concerning the prohibition of Asiatic immigration, is for the first time in 12 years looked upon as certainly democratic.

It is to laugh. If Mr. Abbott's information concerning the middle west is no more trustworthy than his prophecy for California, the whole thing may be set down as an example of the customary rainbow chasing with which democratic managers have so often in the past amused and deluded themselves. It offers a diverting exercise in the political rule of three. If Mr. Abbott is cocksure of California, what is the value of his information about Iowa?

INCREASING THE GARRISONS

THE president is understood to desire an increase of the standing army to 100,000 men. At present the peace footing is 60,000 men, but this force, even if the regiments have their full quota, is not sufficient to meet the calls for garrison duty in the coast fortifications and the islands. It is a waste of money to install ex-

As Old as She Looks



The Insider

Recalls that Baroness Speck von Sternburg was a daughter of a traveling salesman who lived in a San Francisco boarding house

Ambassador's Widow THE life of the Baroness Speck von Sternburg, whose distinguished husband, the German ambassador to the United States, has just left her a widow, shows conclusively that one does not have to be born to a high station, but if one is an American woman one may achieve it. A good many years ago, in a respectable boarding house of this city, lived one Charles Langham, traveling salesman of a local clothing house. His wife, who was a Miss Duffield of Chicago before her marriage, was the usual type of a fine American woman, and they had three pretty daughters, Lily, Ivy and Violet. After a time their father's brother, Arthur Langham, a rich horse breeder of Louisville, Ky., interested himself in his nieces and sent them all to school in one of the best seminaries of New York. When she was a mere child Lily Langham had become lamed through an accident and after her graduation from school her uncle sent her abroad to consult an eminent surgeon. It was on the Atlantic liner, during this memorable trip, that the young girl met the Baron Speck von Sternburg, who afterward became her husband. It was a marriage that proved happy for them both, and no wife of a diplomat has ever made herself more genuinely beloved than the California baroness. Her sister Ivy also made a brilliant match with the count de Farramonde. Violet is still Miss Langham. Their father, who took up fruit ranching after a time in an interior county of our state, died some years ago.

Writer's Advice May Help Love Affairs

John Fox Jr., who is reported engaged to charming little Fritzi Scheff, is quite well known to various of our clubmen, and also to those newspapermen who met him in the orient during the progress of the Russo-Japanese war. He is a Kentuckian and a Harvard graduate, but in college enjoyed the distinction of being one of the few brainy chaps who made no contributions to the college journals. After graduation he went on the New York Sun, then entered the Columbia law school and then went on the Times. Sickness sent him south, where he went into business. In his trips through the mountains he became interested in the peculiar types of Americans living in the isolated districts and his enthusiasm resulted in the publication of "A Mountain Europa," which had instantaneous success. He was thus launched into the literary world, where he has remained ever since. He joined the rough riders during the Spanish war, but left to do special work for Harper's Weekly.

When Fox was out here he said he had no belief in problem novels. He says nobody cares about authors' convictions, sympathies or intentions. Readers want stories. "Let the man who thinks he can write a story do it if he can" is one of his expressions. "If he can't get it accepted let him write it over again, or attack it from another point; do it in another way. Just get down and dig till you find out whether you can write or not." Perhaps John Fox tried this persistent method in his suit for the fair Fritzi's hand. It's not bad advice in love as in literature.

Fox, by the way, often spends his summers with congenial authors in Maine. On one occasion Thomas Nelson Page had another Kentuckian visiting him whom Fox hadn't met for a long time. In the midst of an animated conversation it began to hail heavily. Kentucky No. 2 pulled a long face. Fox asked what was the matter, for the other fellow seemed on the verge of tears.

"Matter! Look at that waste of cracked ice in a prohibition state."

Poet Refuses Tea Offered by Women

During Joaquin Miller's recent visit to Los Angeles he was lionized by the women's clubs, where he recited his own poems in the manner peculiarly his own. One evening he declaimed "The Cooing Doves," and the "coo coo" in dulcet accents coming from the poet's bearded lips is said to have been something indescribably delicious. Two gushing girls expressed a desire to meet the distinguished literary light, and on being introduced invited him to have a cup of tea. The poet looked at them fiercely for one thrilling moment and then, in a resonant voice, exclaimed: "Tea! God, no!"

The Smart Set

THE wedding of Miss Gertrude Whittaker, daughter of Mrs. Andrew Whittaker, and Edward H. Gerber took place last evening at the Fairmont, and was witnessed by about 100 friends and relatives. The bride, who was given away by her brother, James Whittaker, was gowned in white embroidered net over white satin, trimmed elaborately with rose point lace. She wore a tulle veil and carried a shower of white orchids and lilies of the valley. Her only attendant, Miss Irma Gerber, was dressed in pink chiffon, with a wreath of pink roses in her hair; her bouquet was of baby roses. Gerber's best man was Roger Scott of Sacramento, and the little nephew of the bride, Andrew Whittaker, was ring bearer. The ceremony was performed by Bishop William Ford Nichols, in the white and gold ball room, which was decorated with masses of pink tiger lilies.

A supper was served in the red room of the Fairmont, following the wedding. Although Miss Whittaker's home is at Galt, she is well known in San Francisco, where she spends several months every year. Gerber is a well known business and club man of Sacramento, where he and his bride will make their home. The honeymoon will occupy two or three months and will be spent in traveling through the East.

Miss Eleanor Landers was hostess at luncheon on Monday at her home in San Leandro, in honor of Miss Harriett and Miss Marian Stone of Hayward. The girls will leave shortly for New York, where they will spend the year at a finishing school. Monday's luncheon was served out of doors.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Miss Marian Stone, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Speddy of Alameda, and ex-Commodore Lawrence Chester Knight. Miss Speddy is a pretty girl of dainty demimonde coloring, and is one of the popular members of the younger set on the other side of the bay. Knight is a well known yachtsman and is one of the owners of the Acadian sloop Emma.

Miss Speddy is often seen sailing the Emma and is, besides, an accomplished oarswoman.

The wedding will take place at the

Alameda home of the Speddys, about the middle of October.

Mrs. John D. Spreckels was the guest of honor at a luncheon given yesterday at the Stewart by Mrs. George M. Perine. The table was attractively decorated with a profusion of tiger lilies, and those who gathered around it were:

Mrs. W. R. K. Gibson Mrs. Ralph Blair Mrs. Z. W. Center Mrs. Harry Holbrook Mrs. Charles Mayo Jr. Mrs. Duncan McKinlay Mrs. Alexander Hamilton

Mr. and Mrs. William Mintzer entertained last evening at a dance at their home in Pacific avenue. It was given in honor of Miss Marcia Mintzer, who will leave shortly for the East. About 80 of her young friends met to enjoy her hospitality.

Among those present were:

Miss Augusta Fouts Miss Anita Mallard Mrs. Harriett Alexander Miss Dolly Cushing Mrs. Susanna Kirkpat-Bonnie Alexander Page Montrose

Miss Dorothy Chapman George Willmet Miss Vera de Saba Herbert Schmidt Miss Helen Jones Miss Martha Foster Miss Charles Mayo Jr. Miss Margaret Nichols Leticia Mintzer

Mr. and Mrs. George Newhall motored to Del Monte Saturday, and will remain for a few days' visit.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Pease and Richard Pease Jr. have returned from a month's trip to Portland, Ore. During their stay in the north they took a number of long automobile trips. Pease and his son spent several weeks on a hunting expedition.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Miss Wildeston Stirling, youngest daughter of Mrs. Anna T. Breed of Berkeley, and Edward William Tappan. Miss Stirling formerly made her home in Los Angeles, but for the last few years she has lived in Berkeley, where she has made a host of friends. She is a beautiful girl, thoroughly accomplished, and belongs to one of the oldest families in the state. Tappan is the son of the late General James A. Tappan. He has made his home for the last few years at Helena, Ark.

After a short honeymoon Mr. and Mrs. Tappan will visit the bride's mother before going to their future home.

Frank E. Batters, general passenger agent of Morgan's Louisiana and Texas railroad, one of the Harriman lines, is in the city on a visit.

The Northern Pacific will construct 300 miles of line in North Dakota between its road from Mandan, N. D., north to the Great Northern. The line will follow the course of the Missouri river to its confluence with the Yellowstone, then bearing southerly will follow the course of the Yellowstone to Glendive. The new line will open the lower Yellowstone irrigation project, which covers some 60,000 acres.

E. H. Harriman left for the east last night, and is to be accompanied as far as Sparks by E. B. Calvin, general manager of the Southern Pacific.

It is announced that the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul will build a 120 mile branch into the Big Bend wheat sec-

ensive guns for the protection of harbors and then leave them unmanned. If this duty could be fulfilled by emergency men, hastily recruited in time of need, there would be little use for the coast artillery garrisons; but the fact is that men competent to handle these guns must be trained mechanics, and the only place they can learn the trade is in the fortifications. The country must maintain its force of skilled artificers.

The same reasoning applies with even greater force to the defense of the islands. The safety of Hawaii is of vital consequence to the Pacific coast. It is our first line of defense and would be the natural strategic base for a hostile power if it could be seized. Indeed, with Honolulu and Pearl harbor in the hands of an enemy the position on this coast would become very difficult. The large proportion of alien laborers on the Hawaiian group makes it imperative that no chances of surprise should be taken. A strong permanent garrison should be maintained at Pearl harbor.

AN UNDERSTANDING BUT NO ALLIANCE

THE voluminous discussion in the eastern press over a possible alliance between the United States and China offers a queer example of a purely artificial agitation. The solemnity and volubility with which the editorial symposium on this subject is being conducted has had its chief result so far in embarrassing the unfortunate Mr. Wu, who is spending all his summer days in apologizing for a remark he did not make and apparently somebody made for him.

Having thus expressed a moderate sympathy for the sorrows of Wu, it seems worth while to point out for the information of excited contemporaries that there is no machinery by which an alliance of the sort indicated between the United States and China or, in fact, any other foreign country could be concluded with binding force. An understanding, which diplomats like to call an "entente" because they think it sounds better, might be arrived at, but this would have no binding force. An alliance, offensive or defensive or both, is out of the question in the case of a republic because one administration can not bind its successors in matters involving national honor or vital interests. In fact, it is very doubtful if the Anglo-Japanese alliance would stand the strain of actual conflict. Alliances calling for active interference in the wars of another country are not a valuable international asset. They are likely to fail at the moment of greatest need.

It is right that there should be a cordial understanding between the United States and China relative to public policies. Taft, in his speech at Shanghai, delivered nearly a year ago, stated with vigor and clarity the policies that are approved in the United States with regard to Chinese affairs. He told the representatives of Chinese business interests that in his opinion the United States would continue to stand for the territorial integrity of China and the maintenance of the open door. He even intimated that this country might back up these policies by something more than diplomacy. All this was a fair statement of public sentiment in this country on these matters, but, of course, it had no other binding force. It is well that an understanding of this kind should exist and it indicates the limits of alliances between the United States and other countries. Treaties, of course, are a different matter and are confined to modifications of domestic regulations and commercial matters.

Answers to Queries

MORGAN—Subscriber, Oakland, Cal. What was the maiden name of the mother of John Pierpont Morgan? Juliet Pierpont.

ALL AROUND PLAYER—H. R. M. City. Who is the best all around player in the Pacific coast baseball league? The title lies between Wheeler, Johnson, W. Hogan and Williams.

SAILORS ASHORE—E. F. Fruitvale, Cal. The Call says that the sailors of the American fleet were allowed to land in Sydney with arms, but without am-

munition. When the jacksies marched in San Francisco and in Oakland did they carry ammunition? They did not. On the occasion of ceremonial parades armed forces do not carry ammunition.

DEADLY NIGHTSHADE—Subscriber, Santa Cruz, Cal. What is the botanical name of the flower known as the deadly nightshade? Is it nux vomica? The botanical name of the deadly nightshade is atropa belladonna. The name is Italian from bella, beautiful, and donna, lady.

Gossip of Railwaymen

Samuel Gallagher, of the passenger department of the Southern Pacific, is a slow and methodical man. No one has ever seen Sam in a hurry. He believes that the man who hurries always loses time. In speech he is also slow.

On one occasion R. A. Donaldson, Sam's superior, rang for him. As Donaldson's office is at the east end of the Flood building, and as Sam is located at the west end, it took Sam some time to reach his point of destination.

Meanwhile, Donaldson had forgotten that he rang for Sam, and suddenly he found Sam towering above him solitary, so silent.

Donaldson fumbled with his papers, wiped his eyeglasses, fumbled some more, looked appealingly at Sam, and then when the limit of his patience was reached bellowed in a tone so loud that he was heard in Hood's office: "For the Lord's sake, Sam, say something."

"And to think," some one heard Sam murmuring to himself, "that Donaldson has had dealings with the military for the last 20 odd years and does not know that a private must never presume to address his superior officer. Why, I would have stood there for 40 years waiting for him to speak."

A bond issue of \$100,000 is to be floated by the Mill Valley and Mount Tamalpais railroad. It is understood that this sum will be used in building a road to Bolinas bay. Grading for the line was finished some months ago. Rail laying would have commenced this spring had it not been for the financial stringency. Track has to be laid for five miles. It is said it will cost fully \$100,000 to put the road in operation.

There is also a report to the effect that the company will build a hotel at Bolinas.

The meeting of the American Association of Traveling Passengers Agents will be held at Seattle shortly, and will be largely attended. Among those from this city who will be at the convention are A. P. Stewart of the Alton, Joseph McIlroy of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas, and H. J. Snyder of the Mexican Central.

Malone Joyce of the Colorado Midland, with headquarters at Los Angeles, is in charge of a party of railroadmen from the south who are going to Seattle by way of Yellowstone park.

The invasion of the Pacific Northwest by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul has stirred the Hill lines into great activity, and the result has been that Hill has been paying more attention to the physical needs of his roads.

A. L. Craig, general passenger agent of the Great Northern, who has been on a five weeks' trip of inspection, says many improvements are under way.

During the past two years an immense amount of money has been expended on the track, and the result has been that ballast has been put on from one end of the road to the other, and not only has this been done in sufficient quantity to make a first class road, but it has been trimmed on the sides, so as to be attractive to the eye.

Work is being rushed on the Manzanillo extension of the Mexican Central. The biggest bridge on the line, known as the Santa Rosa, will be completed in 24 days. A smaller structure is to be built at Salada, for use while the Los Yucos bridge is being finished. These bridges are all on the Guadalupe side of Colima.

About nine kilometers of narrow gauge track on the coast side of Colima remains to be replaced by standard gauge track before the work of rebuilding on this part of the exten-

Why Married Men Grow Fat

Prof. Carl von Noorden, addressing a number of prominent scientists at Vienna on the subject of "Food and Nourishment," declared that the reason so many men begin to get fat immediately after they have married is because their wives give them their favorite dishes on every possible occasion.

No less than \$0,000,000 yen (\$15,000,000) is yearly spent by foreign visitors in Japan.