

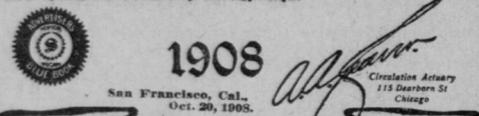
The San Francisco Call

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IN THE INTEREST OF CRIMINALS

CONGRESS appears to have taken offense at the president's remarks in his message concerning the villainous law of last session by which the treasury is forbidden to lend its secret service men to any of the other departments. This is a law designed in the interest of influential criminals and slipped through congress while nobody was looking as an unregarded amendment to the general measure.

These practices have enabled us to discover some of the most outrageous frauds in connection with the theft of government land and government timber by great corporations and by individuals. These practices have enabled us to get some of the evidence indispensable in order to secure the conviction of the wealthiest and most formidable criminals with whom the government has to deal, both those operating in violation of the anti-trust law and others.

Incidentally the president remarks that with the help of the secret service men of the treasury the interior department was enabled to send a senator and a representative from Oregon to prison for land frauds of which they were guilty, with the implication that a fellow feeling for these offenders inspired the sly passage of the amendment.

A CITY HALL ON THE INSTALLMENT PLAN

THE proposition of the real estate board to build a city hall by private enterprise deserves the fullest consideration of the board of supervisors. It seems quite probable that the city could by this plan secure adequate housing for the municipal departments by payment of yearly installments not exceeding the rents now paid for offices.

It was proposed among other things to include in the building a great municipal auditorium, which in itself would be a most valuable asset. The city and its business suffers now from lack of adequate accommodations in this line. San Francisco because of its summer climate is the most favored convention city on the continent, and its vicinity to so many scenic attractions of worldwide fame strengthens the position materially.

JUST HOME

A LINE from the water front informs the reading public that the steamship Lurline is carrying Christmas trees plucked from the California hillsides to make an American holiday in Hawaii. The Santa Claus of fable, born amid the snows, invades the tropics. We carry our own United States along with us around the world.

The Conviction of Ruef a Moral Victory

SAN FRANCISCO is spared the disgrace of another mistrial of Ruef. The circumstances and causes of the previous failure of justice are by this time quite well understood, and the procurement of a disagreement by purchase of jurors is an open secret.

The conviction of Ruef clears the atmosphere and removes a reproach on justice as administered in San Francisco. It has been a long and hard fight against unlimited money applied without scruple, with all the weaponry of murder, dynamiting, kidnapping and other forms of intimidation, supplemented by wholesale bribery where men could be reached.

It would have been a calamity for the commonwealth should Ruef have gone unwhipped of justice. What an example to aspiring youth it would have been to see this successful rogue in full and safe enjoyment of his plunder.

Go free; go free. You have done all those things, you have debauched this town, you have debauched our youth, you have taught a doctrine that will take a generation to unteach, you have done a wrong, you have sold here a birthright that is the birthright of American citizens; but because you sold it for so high a figure that we are lost in the contemplation of its magnitude, because indeed you have yet the very matter and the very thing that you filched from the public and because you are rich by virtue of your wrongs, we are going to permit you to go free.

San Francisco is saved from that and justice will be vindicated. The rogue and the other rogues who robbed the city in the hour of mortal distress will get their punishment. The word is written, the decree has gone forth.

The Call rejoices that its work has been instant in season and, perhaps, out of season in support of justice and punishment for the rascals that plundered the city. In making that fight we had to suffer the malignity of a purchased press and every evil influence that affects the life of San Francisco.

There remains a great work to do. The conviction of Ruef was but the first step. Ruef's partners in crime will neglect no means or effort to bring him off. They know that their own safety depends on that. They have been paying the expenses of his defense. They are in deadly fear, and they have cause to be.

"I think it's the greatest burg in Europe for cleanliness and swell buildings. London and Paris ain't in it. I'd live here in a minute if I ever quit Buffalo. They told me the Germans was slow. Slow be d—! It's swift they are, and Berlin proves it."

"Out of the mouths of babes" shall we confound them. Who would live in Berlin with all its imperial splendors after he had known Buffalo all his life? So it is that when the smart of Christmas is in the air the homing Britisher yearns for Pall Mall; the Irishman in exile hears a faint, far echo of the bells of Shandon, and the wandering American raises a toast for God's country, where the frost is on the pumpkin, because there is no place like home.

HELP THE RED CROSS

SAN FRANCISCO, more than any other city in America, owes a debt of gratitude to the Red Cross society. When the city was ravaged by fire and a majority of our people were homeless and without food the society brought us organized and well ordered relief. The generosity of the nation was not frittered away or wasted by ill directed effort, but in the hands of Red Cross officials was applied where it was most wanted.

Answers to Queries

- COBY—J. C. S. City. Was the Buffalo Bill who was in San Francisco with the wild west show recently, the original W. F. Cody?
QUEEN OF ENGLAND—S. I. S. City. Is the present queen of England an English woman?
SCIENTIFIC WORKS—Reader, Oakland, Cal. Where can I find a list of the scientific works of Huxley, Spencer and Darwin?
VOTING—Many Subscribers, Stockton, Cal. What states in the union permit aliens to vote for presidential electors?
REPRESENTATIVE—J. G. City. What are the qualifications for representative to congress?
CLAUSS SPRECKELS BUILDING—R. B. S. San Jose, Cal. What was the date of the excavation for the Claus Spreckels building at Market and Third streets, San Francisco, as I wish to fix a date for that one?
INTERSTATE COMMERCE LAW—Observer, City. Your question relative to bills of lading under interstate commerce law is one that calls for a ruling. This department does not give rulings in such matters, neither does it decide questions of law. The question should be submitted to the interstate commission by letter, directed to Washington, D. C.
MARRIAGE RELATIONS—M. J. B. Waterville, Cal. If two men, not related, marry sisters do they become brothers in law?
OSLERISM—California, Fresno, Cal. What is the meaning of Oslerism?
KINDERGARTEN COURSE—W. T. C. City. Where can information be obtained in this city about a course in public kindergarten work?
CORPORATION DEBTS—L. L. City. If a corporation goes into liquidation and there is money enough realized after the plant is sold to meet all bills, will the money be paid toward paying back wages or will it be divided among the stockholders?
Under the laws of this state the individual stock holders of a corporation are liable in proportion to the amount of indebtedness as to the amount of stock held, consequently the debts

Gossip of Railwaymen

IT'S about time we called a halt to the actions of them stealin' millionaires," remarked a tramp to a fellow tramp, as he stirred a fire made from new ties belonging to the Southern Pacific. "They are allus a workin' in a contrivance to get ahead of us honest folks."

C. E. Benjamin, general agent of the passenger department for the Canadian Pacific steamship line, with headquarters in Chicago, is expected in the city shortly. Benjamin is well known on the coast, having been in service, Benjamin will spend some time on the coast and, in company with E. E. Penn, the general agent of the passenger department here, will make a tour of the coast.

A committee of 25 prominent citizens of Stockton, headed by Mayor George F. Hudson of that city, called on the passenger department of the Southern Pacific yesterday and requested the company to give the people on the west side of the San Joaquin valley improved service. The railroad officials promised to look into the matter and, if possible, to put on extra trains where asked for.

Objection has been made by salmon canners to the advance in rate on canned salmon to southeastern common points. They assert that the present rates to the territories are considerably higher than to points north of the Ohio river. It is intended that the proposed advance of 10 cents per 100 pounds will affect seriously the business to southeastern territory. The lines interested in the traffic are considering the protests and are of the opinion that the new rate, if made, is practically correct.

It is understood that the line from Del Rio on the Cananea, Yaqui and Pacific will be opened to Nogales December 15. This line has been built by Harriman and passes through an extremely rich mineral country. The road from Naco, on the boundary, to Cananea was completed some time ago. The new road is by no means a direct line and has been built to take in all the more important mining camps between Del Rio and Nogales. The line eventually will be continued south from Cananea to join the existing extension which has been built already from Corral north to Barranca. This will give Harriman two lines in Sonora and the complete control of the mining and agricultural sections of that state.

When A. E. Roome was superintendent of telegraphs for the Southern Pacific he was shocked to learn that there was much profanity used by the employees of that department.

To remedy the matter Roome issued a circular forbidding the use of wicked words in that room.

To issue a circular and enforce its provisions are two different matters. Roome discovered that the circular had not brought a reform, so he interviewed H. L. Pray, the head of the office.

"Mr. Pray," said Roome, "did I not ask you to get out a circular forbidding profanity either by word or over the wire?"

"That's what you did, but what am I to do with the —. Will you tell me that?" And Roome failed to reply.

The Insider

Recalls achievements of some San Francisco children who have distinguished themselves in the world of art as famous cartoonists

High School Boys Given High Place WE were chatting over the cigars at the club, discussing the wonderful things that have been accomplished in the world by San Francisco. The conversation drifted to the subject of art.

"My friend, who is a well known instructor, remarked: 'It may be of interest to the people of San Francisco to know that one of our local institutions has furnished more artists and cartoonists than any school of like character in the United States. Many of those who have graduated from the polytechnic high school have achieved fame in the east.'

"Tad," whose reputation as a cartoonist is recognized throughout the country, attracted the attention of his teachers when his work was crude in many ways, but he showed unmistakable talent and was encouraged. Among the others who have come into prominence are Igoe and Roth, who occupy high positions in their chosen profession.

"Flynn's work is familiar to those who admire clever drawings. He attracted attention while he was a student at the polytechnic. He used to amuse himself out of class hours by drawing funny little men and women, and I think that you will find some of them out at the school now."

"The artistic triumphs of San Francisco's children have not been limited to the boys, however. You will recall, no doubt, the work of Ilse Henrice. There was a breadth and freedom to her drawings that soon attracted the attention of several art editors, and she turned her talents to newspaper sketches, but to the sorrow of the paper she drew a man and married him. 'I think that the latest chap to receive recognition outside his own town is George Dannenberg, who competed for the scholarship given by the Art Students' league in New York, and captured it.'

Face Powder, Puff and Rouge Dropped A dainty, tinselled box of face powder, a puff and a rouge stained square of chamois lie unclaimed with the property clerk of the St. Francis, and neither Charles Templeton Crocker nor Duane Hopkins will come forward and rescue them.

Who dropped these dainties of the boudoir in Paradise lane Saturday night after dinner is not altogether certain. Crocker says that it was Hopkins, and the attorney of the Shreve building says that it was the young millionaire, although both are reticent when it comes to explaining just what these feminine fripperies were doing in their possession.

A large crowd saw the consternation that paled the cheeks of the two young men when the box of powder fell from between them and spattered on the crimson rug. A dozen of the fairest of society's maids and matrons, who had dinner with the party, laughed in great glee over the predicament of the two. Crocker expostulated with Hopkins, and Hopkins flung back the insinuation, but neither stooped to rescue the fallen articles.

A maid close upon the scene came to the young men's assistance and picked up the powder box, while a Chinese porter, grave and unperturbed, stroked the carmine rug with his sweeping. The puff and chamois were quickly borne from sight, no one observing.

The Smart Set

MISS AVIS SHERWOOD was hostess yesterday at a tea given at her apartments in the El Drisco in compliment to her cousin, Miss Dorothy Brace, who is visiting here from New York.

Miss Francis Newhall, Miss Florence Hopkins, Miss Dorothy Chapman, Miss Jeanne Galois, Miss Suzanne Kirkpat, Miss Dorothy Woods, Miss Ethel McAllister, Miss Lottie Woods, Miss Dolly MacGavin, Miss Maude Wilson, Miss Clara Allen.

Miss Marcia Fee leaves on Saturday with her brother for a six weeks' trip to Panama on a visit to Miss Lucille Devol, daughter of Major Devol, formerly of the transport service and now of the quartermaster's department general staff corps. They will go by way of New Orleans, and it is possible that Miss Devol will return to San Francisco with them.

Miss Julia Langhorne entertained yesterday at an enjoyable luncheon given at her home in Pacific avenue for a small number of guests. Miss Langhorne is a frequent hostess at these informal affairs for a dozen guests or a lesser number.

Miss Irene Sabin will entertain today at a tea to be given at her home in Washington street for a number of the younger girls.

Miss Mildred Pierce, who has been in town for a few days visiting friends, returned to her home in San Jose.

Mrs. G. Alexander Wright and Miss Julia Wright will entertain today at an elaborate bridge party to be given today at their Palo Alto home.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Hall Baker were the complimented guests last evening at a dinner and theater party given by Mr. and Mrs. M. H. de Young at their home in California street. Mr. and Mrs. Baker leave today for their home in Tonopah.

Mrs. Waldo, with her daughter, Miss Edith Waldo, and her sister, Miss Elva Humason, who were recent visitors here from Portland, called this week for Europe after a brief visit in New York. They will remain abroad for two years and will be joined later by Mrs. Pebe DeKum and other relative, Miss Humason of Portland. Mrs. today at their Palo Alto home.

Impertinent Question No. 81

What's the Matter with California?

For the most original or wittiest answer to this question—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 SEND IT ON A POSTAL CARD to IMPERTINENT QUESTIONS, THE CALL.

- Winning Answers to "When Are You Happy?"
\$5 prize to George J. Bush, 3380 Mission street, city.
Now, I'm not married, nor engaged, have no best girl, and Christmas not three weeks away.
\$1 prize to F. F. Oliver, 338 Bush street, city.
When the powder goes out before I have paid my fare.
\$1 prize to Elsie Johnson, Clovis.
When people say I'm getting thin—I weigh two hundred.
\$1 prize to Elmer G. Still, Livermore.
When I'm good, were it not for the lonesomeness.
\$1 prize to Rosamund Gurnsey, 333 Kearny street, city.
When I see a lordly man try to stop the car by ringing up a fare.
\$1 prize to R. D. Fish, Red Bluff.
When I am on the water wagon; look at my name.

to build the road as far north as Lake View, on the northern end of Goose lake. This country will be well supplied with many railroads within a few years. The Southern Pacific is making surveys for lines from Ager, on the line of the Oregon and California, to Lake View, from Sisson to Al-tama, and also from Anderson to the same objective point. There are surveys also made for a line from Honey Lake through Susanville, Bieber, Lock-out and Canby to Corral, at the southern extremity of Tule lake.