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THE SUNDAY CALL

VOLUME CV.—NO. 73.

SAN FRANCISCO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1909.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

PLAYS POSSUM BUT IS FOUND IN COLORADO

Rev. William P. McClaskey Lo- cated in Denver by Friends of Divorced Wife

Alameda Minister Who Found Affinity Delays Journey Across Styx

Farewell Message From Missing Clergyman Now Proves to Be a "Bluff"

AKLAND, Feb. 10.—Rev. William P. McClaskey, former pastor of the Santa Clara avenue Methodist church of Alameda, has postponed his departure for the journey across the Styx. His glib message to his divorced wife's attorneys, Dibert & Stiefvater, announcing that he had gone to seek the solitude of the grave, was a poor "bluff." The deposed pastor is in the land of the living, and was located today at Denver, Colo.

Her Kinsfolk Husky

That McClaskey had good reason for trying to bury himself alive was the opinion expressed by those familiar with some of the unusual circumstances of the situation. Relations of Mrs. Elinor Bross of Alameda were said to have been somewhat responsible for the former minister decamping. It was said that at least one of Mrs. Bross' husky men kinsfolk had threatened McClaskey with more than a sound beating should he continue attentions to the comely widow, which led to gossip in the church and the divorce suit which was won by the clergyman's wife.

Mr. McClaskey resigned suddenly after he had been placed under inquiry by the official board of his church, assisted by ministers of neighboring churches. In the testimony before a court commissioner the aggrieved wife and mother of McClaskey's five children uncovered the story of domestic infelicity, narrating how she had been denounced as a tyrant by her clerical husband when she remonstrated with him for his endearing telephone communications with Mrs. Bross.

Case of Affinity

"The mystics told me that she was my affinity," proclaimed McClaskey in reply to his wife.

McClaskey saved himself at the time from a church trial on charges of conduct unbecoming a minister of the gospel by resigning. His strange note to Attorneys Dibert & Stiefvater led to inquiry, which disclosed the hidden skeleton.

BIGAMIST SENTENCED TO REMARRY INDIAN WOMAN

Thomas Hamby Fined, Jailed and Weds Second Wife

HELENA, Mont., Feb. 10.—Thomas Hamby, a former South Carolinian, convicted in the federal court, here on a bigamy charge, was not only fined \$100 today and sent to jail for six months, but also sentenced to marry an Indian woman.

DICKINSON TO BE SECRETARY OF WAR

Tennessee to Be Credited With Member in Cabinet

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Jacob McGavock Dickinson will be secretary of war in President Taft's cabinet, according to information received by a close friend here of the president elect. It is said here that Mr. Dickinson will be credited to Tennessee. Mr. Taft's action in selecting a man from Tennessee and a democrat is said to be in line with his announced policy of invading the solid south. Dickinson is general counsel for the Illinois Central railway. In Chicago tonight he refused to be interviewed.

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ASKS PRESIDENT'S AID IN LIBERTY BELL RATES

Roosevelt Requested to Use In- fluence With Commissioners

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The matter of reduced railway rates to transport the Liberty bell from Philadelphia to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition at Seattle was the subject of a conference at the White House today. Josiah Collins, representing the exposition, asked the president's aid in getting the interstate commerce commission to agree to the reduction.

PLACE STIGMA OF INDECENCY ON FIVE PLAYS

Charles Burnham, President of Theater Managers, Creates Stir With Bold Views

Producers With Interests at Stake Favor Purification of Drama and Censor

Some Offending Productions De- clared Not to Be Worse Than Other Clever Comedies

[Special Dispatch to The Call]
NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The charge of Charles Burnham, president of the Theater managers' association, that five plays now running in this city are immoral and indecent made a great stir today, coming as it did from a manager and backed as it was by prominent play producers and authors. It is not impossible that the managers' association may demand a play censor. Managers and authors of the plays criticized Mr. Burnham and declared his attack unwarranted. Archbishop Farley said he was pleased that Mr. Burnham had come out so boldly.

Daniel Frohman, A. L. Erlanger and others who have enormous interests at stake favor purification of the drama in this country, and particularly in New York.

Plays Objected To

The five plays under discussion and characterized as immoral are:

"Miss Innocence," in which Anna Held vulgarly appears with a vulgar character at the New York theater.

"The Queen of the Moulin Rouge," a production by Thomas Riley, which is merely an aggregation of partially clothed women, including Hattie Forsythe, the former San Francisco show girl. They dance and sing suggestive Parisian songs.

"The Eastest Way," a new play by Eugene Walter, now running at the Stuyvesant theater under the direction of David Belasco, with Francis Starr in the leading role.

"The Blue Mouse," a "sprightly" comedy by Clyde Fitch.

"The Girl From Rector's," a new play by Paul Potter, that was recently suppressed by the police at Trenton, N. J. It is running at Joe Weber's music hall and is possibly the most indecent of the lot. Unlike some of the others it has no cleverness to redeem it from its low features.

Salome Is Shocking

Although Burnham's interview did not mention any plays specifically, it is well known that he meant the five above enumerated and it is the almost universal opinion here that "Salome" with Mary Garden should be included, for it is possibly the most indecent and shocking of all.

Anna Held's "Miss Innocence" and "The Queen of the Moulin Rouge" are mere aggregations of female loveliness, partially clothed according to the latest Parisian modes; "The Girl from Rector's" is low without being clever. It is a matter of some surprise that "The Eastest Way" and "The Blue Mouse" should have been included, for while they contain some naughty lines they are not more suggestive than other bright and clever comedies that have been produced here.

"NATURE LOVERS" DELAY THE HETCH HETCHY GRANT

Unless Spring Valley's Influence Is Overcome Congress Will Not Act This Session

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—At the hearing on the Hetch Hetchy resolution before the senate committee on public lands today it became painfully apparent that no legislation intended to give to San Francisco an adequate and independent water supply was likely to be passed at this session of congress. This much was admitted tonight by all of the men who have been laboring to get through the Hetch Hetchy grant, and it appears now to be up to San Francisco to formulate an effective plan for overcoming the powerful influences that have been brought to bear in the interests of the Spring Valley company.

Today's hearing in the senate committee came as near being a farce as anything in the legislative line well could be. It was understood that Attorney McCutchen of the Spring Valley company would appear and present the promised new evidence in favor of his concern. Instead of that the whole time of the hearing was taken up by "nature lovers," who delivered essays on the beauties of the Hetch Hetchy valley. During the hearing not one word was spoken on the real merits of the case. Instead of hearing about the

CHIEF OF POLICE AND HIS HONOR UNDER HOT FIRE

Startling Accusations Made Against Los Angeles Officials in Relation to Tenderloin

Conscience Prevents Six Men From Signing Majority Report of Inquisitorial Body

Disclosures Expected to Have Tremendous Effect Upon Recall Movement

[Special Dispatch to The Call]
LOS ANGELES, Feb. 10.—Disclosures of a startling nature concerning the relations of Mayor Harper and the chief of police with the restricted district, are made in a minority report signed by six members of the grand jury.

It is specifically stated that the officials were not only aware of violations, but that in the mayor's office the deal was arranged for the rental of houses in the district, and which has been shown to total \$200,000 annually. This is equivalent to charging that the officials participated in the profits of crime.

Following the calm caused by the majority grand jury report, which censured city officials, but did not indict, consternation was caused by the appearance of the minority report addressed to the presiding judge, in which the mayor and the chief of police were flayed unmercifully. The story of orgies in the red light district participated in, the minority charged, by Mayor Harper and a police commissioner, were made public in this minority report. The six members declared they could not conscientiously sign the majority report.

Minority More Explicit

In the minority report the mayor and police commissioners were censured for not enforcing the laws regarding the red light district, gambling and the sale of liquor.

The minority went farther and asserted the mayor and commissioners were fully aware of these violations and even participated in them. Rentals in the red light district in a few buildings were shown to amount to \$200,000 yearly. It was further charged by the minority that the deal for the rental of houses in the red light district to be used for disorderly and unlawful purposes was made with the assistance of the mayor and that the deal was made in his office at the city hall.

Seek Harper's Recall

The censure by the majority and the startling accusations by the minority are expected to have a tremendous effect on the movement now under way to recall Mayor Harper for alleged protection of vice and yielding to the dictation of the Southern Pacific bosses in the appointment of commissioners.

In the recall petition five grounds are stated. The first declares Harper incompetent, the second that he has selected unfit persons for positions of trust for personal and political reasons, third, that mayor and commissioners are interested in promotions that are under this regulation and control; fourth, that the result of this has been a failure to enforce the laws, and fifth, that Mayor Harper is a menace to the great enterprises upon which the city is engaged.

Confederacy Daughter Proclaims Her Rights

Mrs. Selden S. Wright Moves Into Home on Cliff and Issues Proclamation

WOMAN DEFIES HEALTH BOARD

Mrs. Selden S. Wright Moves Into Home on Cliff and Issues Proclamation

With her fighting southern blood thoroughly aroused Mrs. Selden S. Wright, widow of the late Superior Judge Wright, president of the Albert Sidney Johnston chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, and mother of Attorneys George T. and S. S. Wright, is defying the board of health, which attempted to restrain her from moving into her beautiful new residence on Russian Hill by determinedly taking up her home in the dwelling and inviting the shaking health board to dispossess her.

And the board has neglected to pick up the gage of defiance hurled at them from the cliff upon which the house perches. The members are trying to forget all about it.

No Heed for Notice

A notice was boldly served on Mrs. Wright January 30 by the health department at her home, 910 Lombard street, telling her that her house had been built on sand or something approaching that sort of soil, and that she could not move into the new dwelling until she had, in accordance with the provisions of an act of the supervisors, cemented over the ground upon which the house stands.

Mrs. Wright answered this notice by promptly moving into the forbidden residence, and then, safely ensconced there, she turned to the health inspectors, who by this maneuver were placed on the outside looking in, and pointed out that there was a clause in the city ordinance which allows a house to be constructed on a solid rock foundation without the necessity of putting down the cement.

Invites Board to Dig

"And if the board of health does not believe that this house is built on solid rock," Mrs. Wright said yesterday in a decided way, "then let them come here and dig up my garden for me. I must have that done, anyhow. Why, in placing the foundation for this house the workmen were compelled to use drills and sledge hammers to worry out a trench for the bricks to lie in. And in planting our garden we were compelled to have earth brought up and strewn over the bare rocks. This house is built on rock, and according to the saying in regard to such houses, is going to stand firmly. So am I."

Willis Polk, who designed the dwelling, may be called into the discussion before it finally is settled, and already he has signified that he stands with Mrs. Wright, whatever occurs.

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE CATCH TRAIN ROBBER

Advice Sent to Oregon Sheriff of "Dutch" Pete's Arrest

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 10.—Sheriff Robert L. Stevens received a telegram from San Francisco late tonight that "Dutch" Pete Strof, wanted in this city to answer to a charge of train robbery, was arrested there today. Strof is wanted here in connection with the robbery of the Oregon railway and navigation passenger train just outside of this city December 17. Two of the robbers were caught, confessed to their crime and are serving long sentences in the penitentiary. According to Sheriff Stevens, the convicted robbers in their confession named Strof as the leader of the gang. Strof, however, has evaded arrest until today.

ANTI-ALIEN SCHOOL BILL VOTED DOWN

Measure Aimed at Japanese Killed in Assembly By 41 to 37

ROOSEVELT WIRES HIS THANKS Advocates of Segregation Fail to Withstand Fierce Onslaughts of Administration's Friends

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The following telegrams were given out at the White House tonight without comment:

Sacramento, Feb. 10, 1909.

The President, Washington.
School segregation bill killed in the assembly today by vote of 41 to 37.

(Signed) J. N. GILLETT.
The White House, Washington, Feb. 10, 1909.

Governor J. N. Gillett, Sacramento, Cal.
Accept my heartiest congratulations. All good Americans appreciate what you have done. Pray extend my congratulations individually to all who have aided you. I feel that the way in which California has done what was right for the nation makes it more than ever obligatory on the nation in every way to safeguard the interests of California. All that I personally can do toward this end, whether in public or private life, shall most certainly be done.

(Signed) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 10, 1909.

The President, Washington.
Assembly just considered and refused passage to Japanese school segregation. My congratulations.

(Signed) P. A. STANTON.
The White House, Washington, Feb. 10, 1909.

Hon. P. A. Stanton, Sacramento, Cal.
Accept my heartiest thanks and congratulations for the great service you have rendered. On behalf of the people of the United States I thank the people of California and their representatives in the legislature.

(Signed) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

ASSEMBLY SOUNDS KNELL OF ANTI-JAPANESE LEGISLATION

[Special Dispatch to The Call]
CALL HEADQUARTERS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING, SACRAMENTO, Feb. 10.—The administration forces in the assembly today succeeded in placing the quietus on all anti-Japanese legislation. Their tactical blunders would have cost them defeat had not President Roosevelt, Governor Gillett and Speaker Stanton united in urging the lower house to recede from its hostile attitude, which the president feared might involve the United States in its relations with Japan.

As it was, Leeds' motion to reconsider the vote whereby Johnson's school segregation bill was passed prevailed by a vote of 43 to 34. The Johnson bill was then voted down with 37 for the bill and 41 against it.

JOHNSON'S EFFORTS ARE VOTED DOWN

Johnson's effort to gain a reconsideration of the vote that defeated his bill to empower cities to restrict unhealthy, undesirable and immoral persons to certain prescribed limits was voted down, Johnson getting 39 of the necessary 41, while 38 lined up against the motion.

Now that the assembly has turned down the anti-Japanese legislation to the satisfaction of President Roosevelt, Governor Gillett and Speaker Stanton, it remains for the senate to permit measures pending there against the Japanese to sing their swan song. Senators Caminetti, Sanford, Anthony and Finn have projected themselves into the glare of the calcium on the Japanese question, but the members of the upper house will not waste the time with their measures that the assembly did with the Johnson and Drew bills. They are expected to take a positive stand against the anti-Japanese legislation when the report of the committee on executive communications is considered tomorrow morning.

TRANSUE PRESENTS UNIQUE RESOLUTIONS

The one move above all others that came near spelling defeat for the administration forces today in the assembly was the presentation of a most unique set of resolutions by Assemblyman J. P. Transue, in which it was asserted that the state had the right to pass such a bill as the school segregation measure; that it was not in conflict with the treaty with Japan, and "that the right to administer our state school system can not be controlled by treaty made by the president and the senate of the United States, nor by the action of the president alone." The resolutions urged, however, that the bill be withdrawn because of a disposition "to accede to the wishes of the federal government" and because of an "unwillingness to do aught which may disturb the relations existing between this government and a friendly power."

These were the resolutions which had been prepared as "sop" to Johnson, but he refused to approve of the strange document after a night's consideration and insisted that he would oppose the motion to reconsider.

VOTE AGAINST AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

As soon as Transue had offered his resolutions this morning R. L. Beardslee of Stockton moved that the assembly go into executive session, so that the members could be "taken into confidence and so learn what information has been received by the speaker."

Charles A. Nelson of San Francisco vigorously opposed the motion, as he believed the public had a perfect right to know what the members were doing. He was sustained by a viva voce vote.

Transue then explained the purpose of his resolutions, saying he desired to stop any legislation that would embarrass the federal government.

John McManus of San Francisco defended the attitude of Senator Perkins and insisted that the school department of San Francisco was not satisfied with conditions since the agreement of 1907, when the school authorities went to Washington. Nat Coghlan interrupted to assert that there was no complaint at present about the Japanese in the schools of San Francisco.

C. C. Young of Berkeley said he did not like the Japanese better than anybody else. For 13 years he taught school in San Francisco, and while he found the Japanese dull, stupid and clammy, he observed nothing vulgar or offensive about them.

HOW IT WORKED IN FRUITVALE

He told how Assemblyman Hans as school clerk in Fruitvale had controlled the Japanese situation by telling the Japanese applicants that there was already a long waiting list for the schools and so they could not be