

BRITTON SUES AT GAS SCANDAL Objects to Reference to Boodle and Denies That Company Gave Bribes Lively Tilt Occurs at Meeting of Supervisors Called to Fix Rates

The ghost of the gas company's past stalked with heavy tread through the rate hearing conducted last night by the board of supervisors. John A. Britton, president of the corporation, denied with fine emphasis that the company had ever paid a single dollar to corrupt the board of supervisors. The grand jury reports, the confessions and the oft repeated testimony to the contrary, Britton waved away with his declaration "I deny it."

TWO GIRLS BURNED TO DEATH

Two girls were burned to death and their mother was fatally injured and another child was seriously hurt in a fire that destroyed the farm dwelling of Albert Bennett near the village of Reville, Feb. 11.

The Hub Chas. Keilus & Co. Exclusive High-Grade Clothiers

OUR NEW SPRING AND SUMMER COSTUMES AND OVER GARMENTS HAVE EXCLUSIVE PATTERNS AND EXCLUSIVE FABRICS, MADE BY EXCLUSIVE MAKERS, THOSE WHO HAVE MASTERED FINE POINTS OF CLOTHES ART, YOU'LL PERCEIVE AT A GLANCE "MERIT." YOU'LL APPRECIATE GOOD IDEA TO SEE "OURS" FIRST

The Hub Chas. Keilus & Co. San Francisco

The new chin and cuff collar overcoat is at present the foremost fashion. We've been having a wonderful sale of them. The production of good ready-made clothes was never accomplished by "Price Wreckers," nor commonplace clothes. They handle clothes that are intended for "Rural Districts." The kind of clothes that we have in this shop are metropolitan clothes, made for city folks. Most-covered styles are not offered here.

Jewelers Building Post Street near Kearny San Francisco

Proclamation Proclaims Lincoln's Holiday

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—By joint resolution late today congress made provision as far as possible for the observance of February 12, 1909, the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, as a special holiday, and authorized the president to issue a proclamation making it effective in the district of Columbia and the territories of Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico and Hawaii.

Whereas, by the said joint resolution, the president is authorized to issue a proclamation in accordance with the foregoing, setting apart the twelfth day of February, 1909, as a special legal holiday; Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, president of the United States of America, in virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said joint resolution, do hereby set apart the twelfth day of February, 1909, as a special legal holiday.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this eleventh day of February, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nine, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and thirty-third.

By Robert C. Bacon, secretary of state.

CHILDREN HONOR LINCOLN'S MEMORY Centenary Exercises Conducted at St. Mary's Presentation Academy

Lincoln centenary exercises were held at St. Mary's presentation academy, Franklin and Eddy streets, yesterday afternoon. In the musical program a chorus of 175 children participated. Rev. Father Prendergast, vicar general, delivered the oration on the life and character of Lincoln, afterward complimenting the sisters on the showing made by the scholars and the children themselves on their enthusiastic and patriotic. The hall was decorated by the girls with the academic classes, palms and evergreens being entwined with the national colors, which also draped a life sized portrait of Lincoln.

Souvenirs to Be Sold

Souvenirs of the centennial anniversary of the birth of President Lincoln will be sold today by members of the Woman's Relief Corps of the Grand Army. The souvenir will be a button with a picture of the married president and first lady, Mrs. Lincoln. Members of the California and Nevada department of the Woman's Relief Corps to the Grand Army will be in many other places in the city offering these souvenir buttons for sale.

No Holiday at Navy Yards

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Disappointment will be felt among the employees at several of the navy yards throughout the country tomorrow, notably at Portsmouth, Norfolk, Charleston, Pensacola and Mare Island, because Secretary Newberry, who is not believed to have been in congress and the president was to make the holiday general, issued no special orders to the commandants of the navy yards regarding the day.

RELICS OF LINCOLN'S TIME IN SANTA ROSA

SANTA ROSA, Feb. 11.—A number of relics connecting the present with Lincoln's time are being brought to light here. Major General D. W. C. Thompson, who at one time was in command of the forces at the Presidio, but who now is residing in his old age, has a flag which he says is the only staff flag of the civil war in this state now left. Rev. Colvin, pastor of the Christian church, has a copy of the York Herald of April 15, 1864, giving the account of the assassination of Lincoln.

TAKAHIRA TO SPEAK AT LINCOLN BANQUET

PEORIA, Ill., Feb. 11.—Peoria will celebrate the Lincoln centenary tomorrow night with a banquet. Baron Takahira, Japanese ambassador to the United States, will be among the principal speakers. Owing to the anti-Japanese feeling in California Ambassador Takahira a few days ago consented to cancel his engagement, and it was only through an earnest request from the Peoria Chamber of Commerce that he finally consented to attend.

Celebrations in Gotham

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Tonight saw the beginning of the greatest memorial celebration ever planned for a great man when Lincoln meetings were held at the Broadway tabernacle in Trinity school and at the Jewish theological seminary. Senator W. E. Borah and Congressman J. E. O'Connell were among the speakers. The centennial of Lincoln's birth will be celebrated in this city tomorrow in nearly 1,600 churches, schools and theaters.

PLAN INDEPENDENT STEAMSHIP LINE Ernest August Denicke, Veteran of Civil War

H. S. Bates Reports in Details on His Negotiations in the East Opportunity for Building Up Business Between Coast and the Gulf Ports

Continued From Page 1 rate of \$5.85, which its share would be." After enumerating a number of special charges for stevedoring, the use of electric cranes, and pier tolls that must be met, Bates continues: "In considering the advisability of establishing a Pacific line, I am convinced that we must look to some other source of income than the business to New York, using this latter as the backbone of the business and the local business to assure full cargoes at a rate of freight which will not have to be divided with the Panama railroad."

COL. E. A. DENICKE CALLED BY DEATH Distinguished Civil War Veteran and San Franciscan Dies in Switzerland

Word was received in San Francisco yesterday of the death of Ernst August Denicke in Geneva, Switzerland. Denicke served with distinction in many notable battles of the civil war, and at the close of the long struggle he was brevetted major for bravery in the field. Coming from Hanover, Germany, with his parents in 1840, the family settled in New York and lived there until the outbreak of the civil war.

Ship Direct to Panama

The report then calls attention to the possibilities of building up a trade for California supplies on the isthmus. Bates reports that California products are shipped across the continent and go to Panama from New York. This condition applies to both fruit and vegetables. To carry these to Panama by water would require a refrigerating plant on at least one vessel which Bates recommends.

MARE ISLAND NAVY YARD WILL REPAIR CRUISERS

VALLEJO, Feb. 11.—In accordance with orders received today at Mare Island navy yard, the Pacific fleet will be distributed for repairs upon its arrival from target practice at Magdalena bay. The cruisers West Virginia, Maryland, South Dakota and California and all tugs and collars will be assigned to Mare Island. The cruisers Colorado, Washington, Tennessee and Pennsylvania will proceed to the navy yard at Bremerton, Wash.

SNELL VALLEY LAND LEASED TO OIL MAN

Drilling Operations Will Be Begun Immediately

UKIAH, Feb. 11.—D. C. Dye, a prominent oil well operator of Texas, today closed the last of a series of leases involving something more than 4,000 acres of land in Snell valley near Hopland. The indications are said to commence active drilling operations at once. As this is the first time developments of oil will have been made in this section, considerable excitement has been occasioned by the prospect and its outcome will be awaited with much interest.

NOTED ARCHITECT DEAD

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Russell Sturgis, the architect and writer on architectural subjects, died today in this city, aged 72.

Leaf Price

- Suits Overcoats Trousers
14 Suits, size 33—Half Price
31 Suits, size 34—Half Price
43 Suits, size 35—Half Price
50 Suits, size 36—Half Price
62 Suits, size 37—Half Price
70 Suits, size 38—Half Price
32 Suits, size 39—Half Price
47 Suits, size 40—Half Price
44 Suits, size 42—Half Price
22 Suits, size 44—Half Price
14 Suits, size 46—Half Price

J. C. Heller & Company Clothiers 10 Kearny Street Chronicle Building

PRECEDENT FOLLOWS FOR SEATING KNOX Secretary of Treasury Under Grant Appointed and Relieved Under Same Circumstances Increase of Salary Was Repealed to Let Lot M. Morrill Into the Cabinet

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—A precedent has been discovered which seemed to remove all questions of the legality and propriety of appointing Senator Knox secretary of state at the old salary, notwithstanding the fact that the emolument of that office has been increased during his term.

EXPLODE BOMBS IN STOCKTON HIGH SCHOOL

STOCKTON, Feb. 11.—At a special meeting at the Stockton high school today the board of education offered a reward of \$50 for the detection and conviction either before the police court or before the board of the pupils who were responsible for numerous acts of violence recently committed by a disgruntled element of students.

LOS GATOS PREPARING LIBERTY BELL RECEPTION

LOS GATOS, Feb. 11.—Interest continues to grow in the floral carnival and feast of lanterns. Word has been received that the commissioner of the Liberty bell at Philadelphia will start the bell on its journey to Los Gatos about the middle of April and that the first stop in California will be Los Gatos on May 15. The bell will be generally known that Los Gatos has a direct descendant of the maker of the bell.

By Our Formula

We produce in Hood's Sarsaparilla a medicine that has an unapproached record of cures of eczema, scurfia, eczema, eruptions, catarrh, rheumatism, anemia, nervousness, that tired feeling, loss of appetite, etc. Hood's Sarsaparilla effects its wonderful cures, not simply because it contains sarsaparilla but because it combines the utmost remedial values of more than 20 different ingredients, each greatly strengthened and enriched by this peculiar combination.

HOTEL JEFFERSON

Cor. Turk and Geary. Superiorly located opp. Jefferson Square. Home and quiet. European Plan, \$1.50 a day and up. American Plan, \$2.50 a day and up.

Join The MILLION CLUB

GET THE BUTTON GET THE SPIRIT AT THE CALL business office or from anybody that wears the button. THE CALL'S BRANCH OFFICES Subscriptions and advertisements will be received in San Francisco at following offices: 1631 FILLMORE STREET Open until 10 o'clock every night 215 VAN NESS AVENUE Parent's Stationery Store 2200 FILLMORE STREET Tremayne's Branch 553 HAIGHT STREET Christian's Branch 188 SIXTH AVENUE Ye Odd Shop 1616 VAN NESS AVENUE Jackson's Branch 1108 VALENCIA STREET Blake's Bazaar 974 VALENCIA STREET Haldy's Stationery Store 3014 16TH ST. COR. MISSION International Stationery Store