

FAVORABLE PLANS FOR 'HEALTH FEAST' Banquet to Dr. Blue and Federal Health Officers to Celebrate City's Cleansing Governor Gillett and Editors of All Great Newspapers Invited to Attend

Mayer Edward Robeson Taylor has joined his efforts with those of the citizens' health committee to make conspicuously successful the banquet at the Fairmont hotel on the evening of Wednesday, March 21, to be given by the citizens of San Francisco in honor of Past Assistant Surgeon Rupert Blue, United States public health and marine hospital service, and the federal health officers who have worked ably with him and under him in the sanitation of San Francisco.

At this time a year ago," said the mayor, "when the federal authorities gave out their ultimatum of what had to be done here there was a feeling of discouragement and anxiety. We were told that we had 90 days in which to demonstrate our ability to cope with the situation.

The federal officers had gone as far as they could in cooperation with the health officers of the city but they lacked the necessary co-operation and willing assistance of the people in the work. There was the necessity of educating the people to the dangers of the disease which threatened us and to a comprehension of the measures necessary to eradicate it.

"The people of the city realize fully now what steps were taken and how the results were accomplished and it is most fitting, now that the city is in a condition of health and sanitation superior to any in the union, that we celebrate the remarkable accomplishment of public spirit, energy and unselfish interest that together with the federal authorities."

"The work of San Francisco has been a benefit to other communities," said the mayor. "Other communities may now follow the methods in eradicating the bubonic plague, and realize that, but San Franciscoans may feel that by guarding their own health and commerce they performed a service to the nation, for had the plague got on our necks instead of under our heels, it is possible that it might have spread to other Pacific coast cities or to the east. The city deserves the plaudits of the eastern states and of the world, for that matter, for the stand it took in this matter."

"The crusade work will be continued," Mayor Taylor added, "but owing to the precautionary methods and the building ordinances which have been threatened by the plague, as the number of rats in the city has been reduced to a remarkable degree. With an increase in the appointed health department, which has a recurring danger, the danger of a recurrence of the plague is small or nonexistent. In regard to the banquet, I heartily approve of the plan to confer service medals on the federal officers and also of the idea of the speakers from eastern cities to attend the banquet and learn of our triumph over disease."

In the invitation addressed to eastern editors the citizens' health committee, through C. C. Moore, chairman, points out the commendable status of this city as a healthful community. It is stated that the people of San Francisco take pride in having demonstrated their ability to cope with such severe conditions and to put this danger behind them.

The last human case of bubonic plague in San Francisco was a year ago last January. The letter says, "and the last infected rat was found last October. Ordinary diligence is all that is required now to maintain the health conditions that prevail at present. The health records show that the ordinary fevers common in every city have been reduced fully 50 per cent as a result of the sanitary campaign undertaken here. Such sanitary campaigns as are in line with modern medical progress and of the greatest benefit to any city, even if not threatened with pestilence and disease."



Diagram showing the Western Pacific grab of a portion of Langton street, westerly from Brannan, between Sixth and Seventh. On the city maps and in the city records this street is shown to be city property, yet the Western Pacific is now building over it.

President of Works Board Says Property Must Be Restored to the City

Gigantic street grabs by big corporations and rich private individuals in the vicinity of the Southern Pacific freight yards are to be the subject of a rigid investigation to be begun by the board of public works on the initiative of President Charles A. Day. Disclosures in the Call yesterday of the daring steal of Langton street by the drying firm of McNab & Smith has led to still further revelations which are said to indicate a startling condition. Many portions of the city's streets worth hundreds of thousands of dollars have been absorbed outright, the steals taking place immediately after the fire during the Schmitz administration, according to citizens of the district.

The newest exposure in the flagrant street grabbing is the theft of an entire block by the Western Pacific railroad. This is a continuation of Langton street a block from the scene of the McNab & Smith grab. The stolen section of street runs south from Brannan street between Seventh and Eighth. STREET SHOWN ON MAPS On the official maps, and in the official city records, it is supposed to extend 275 feet into the heart of the block, 35 feet wide. The Western Pacific has purchased the property entirely surrounding it and now has teams at work dumping dirt over the entire area, preparing the block for a freight yard.

The grab was made shortly after the fire, and at the time the citizens of the district rose in protest, but their pleas with the Schmitz administration fell on deaf ears. The railroad claimed the street was private property, saying it never belonged to the city. Boodler Duffy, who was then president of the board of works, agreed with them, and nothing was done. By resolution of the board of supervisors, order of land was allowed to be filed until recently, but now construction work has been commenced and the street is already absorbed.

The records in the city engineer's and the city attorney's office disprove the claim of the railroad, however, and establish the city's title to the street. The official 100 vara survey maps give the location of the street, with its width, and the city records show that the city is further proved by a resolution of the board of supervisors passed in 1895, numbered 2823, changing the

name of the street from Norton court to Langton street. DAY WANTS INVESTIGATION President of the Board of Works Charles Day declared yesterday that the land grabbers would have to move. He said that personally he would take the matter of the two grabs of Langton street with the board of public works and recommend a thorough investigation of the two cases and a far reaching inquiry into the many charges of extensive street grabbing in the district.

"We will not let McNab & Smith take the title to the street, and if they will have to tear down the building they have built across Langton street," said Day, "and if they refuse to do so we will send our men down there and treat it as any other street obstruction. We will proceed to tear it down unless restrained by an injunction holding up the matter until its final determination in court."

The city attorney's office declared yesterday that the city had a clear title to Langton street and that it was the duty of the works board and would be their only procedure under the immediate demolition of the McNab & Smith building, and to compel the Western Pacific to cease its building operations on the property. City Attorney Long said:

"When I first came into office I ran into scores of similar grabs. The records were destroyed in the fire, and there frequently has been dispute about the title to the small interlock streets. We have fought quite a number of such cases for the city." Records in the city attorney's office showed the unquestioned ownership of Langton street in the McNab & Smith block by the city. By resolution of the board of supervisors passed in 1884 (order No. 604) Downey street, as the thoroughfare was then known, was formally declared an open street extending to 275 feet from the south line of Bryant street westerly. By resolution No. 1262, passed in 1876, the name was changed to Langton street, and neither of these ordinances has been repealed.

Manson Returns From East and Talks of Plans for Sierra Water

City Engineer Marsden Manson returned yesterday from his three months' stay in Washington for Hetch Hetchy matters, and expressed his satisfaction at the outcome of the latest concessions made the city by the interior department. After a brief trip to New York to inspect incinerators there Manson went back to the capital to see Secretary Ballinger. Garfield's successor, and Ballinger confirmed his former dictum that all that had been granted by Garfield should remain in the city's possession.

"All the city needs now is some energy and public spirit," said Manson yesterday. "The new administration is with us. Rights to install canals and all needed accessories for the construction of the dams and the reservoirs were given us a few weeks ago. We returned from a five days' trip over the desert, during which I inspected more than 100 miles of the Los Angeles aqueduct water system in building. The work is going ahead well now. They expended \$1,000,000 before a spadeful of earth was turned, and people grumbled that nothing was doing. We've got to close in all along the line now, rights of way, stations, everything. We are pretty well off now and plenty will be doing."

Kahn Reintroduces Bill WASHINGTON, March 19.—Another attempt is being made to obtain congressional approval of the transfer of jurisdiction over the Hetch Hetchy valley from the federal government to the city of San Francisco for municipal water purposes. Representative Kahn of California today reintroduced the bill in the house of representatives. He reported out of the house committee on public lands at the last session, but was not considered in either the house or the senate.

STREET OBSTRUCTORS ARE TO BE ARRESTED Two Officers Detailed to Keep Watch for Offenders

As a result of the three cornered discussion at the meeting of the street committee of the board of supervisors Thursday, in which Supervisor Pollok, President Day of the board of works, and the city engineer, all participated, regarding the obstruction of streets by material on the streets of the burned district which took place yesterday, the city will send out a patrol of two officers to keep watch for offenders. The two policemen, who will begin work this morning, are Charles P. Foley, from the central station and Patrick A. McLaughlin, from the southern station. Yesterday morning Dennis Jordan, foreman of the city street construction company, was arrested for obstructing Eddy street opposite the city hall, and released on \$10 bail.

FLAHERTY—In this city, March 19, 1909, Frank, beloved son of Thomas and Bridget Flaherty, and brother of Henry J. Flaherty, a native of Ireland, aged 6 years and 5 months. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral (Sunday), March 21, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m., from the residence of Mrs. Annie Grace, 2224 Market street. Remains at the parlors of McEvoy & Fogel, 2224 Market street.

FRASER—In this city, March 19, 1909, dearly beloved wife of Charles C. Fraser, and mother of John Fraser, Kimball and Flori Fraser, aged 36 years. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral (Sunday), March 21, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m., from the residence of Mrs. Wm. J. Coffin, 1030 G St., Los Angeles, Cal., March 18, 1909. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral (Sunday), March 21, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m., from the residence of Mrs. Wm. J. Coffin, 1030 G St., Los Angeles, Cal., March 18, 1909.

ROSENBERG—In Oakland, Cal., March 18, 1909, Elmer Rosenberg, beloved son of Pauline Nilsen and Wilhelm Rosenberg, a native of Denmark, aged 69 years. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral (Sunday), March 21, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m., from the residence of Mrs. Wm. J. Coffin, 1030 G St., Los Angeles, Cal., March 18, 1909.

STRAUS—In this city, March 18, 1909, Lena, dearly beloved mother of Max and Sam Straus, Mrs. Simon Newman, a native of Bavaria, Germany, aged 75 years 2 months and 24 days. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral (Sunday), March 21, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m., from the residence of Mrs. Wm. J. Coffin, 1030 G St., Los Angeles, Cal., March 18, 1909.

Absolutely PURE The only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar. Makes the finest, most delicious biscuit, cake and pastry; conveys to food the most healthful of fruit properties.

MANY AUTOMOBILES HAVE BEEN ENTERED Large Number of Fast Cars Will Take Part in the Hill Climb. Noted Eastern Drivers Will Handle Some of the Entries.

L. H. Blaisdel of Modesto, Frank W. Williams of Fresno, Louis Rubenstein of Sacramento and James Mullin of San Francisco are among the noted drivers who have been brought together at one time, and the public will have a chance to see some keen sport. The public can feel certain that the event is not a money making proposition, as some of the automobile contests have been in the past. The contests are given on the public streets and anyone can witness them, free of charge.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Birth, marriage and death notices sent by mail will not be inserted. They must be handed in at the office of the publication offices and be indorsed with the name and residence of persons authorized to have the same published. Notices received simply to the announcement of the event are published only in this column free of charge.

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