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Eureka



MISSION INDIANS ARE SUBDUED BY A WOMAN

Clara D. True 'Conquers Drunken Tribesmen' In Southern California

A WOMAN'S work includes many things—rearing children, keeping a well ordered home for her husband; perhaps even getting arrested as a suffragette in the British parliament or leading the insurgent faction in a D. A. R. convention. But even the widest stretch of the imagination would hardly include among her functions the holding at bay of a mob of drunken Indians and cowering them into submission by her sheer personality; more, winning them over to her ideas by that same force, and making good citizens out of them—and all within less than a score of months.
Yet that was the work that came within the line of duty of one small woman, and she performed it with the precision of a machine, getting results that many an experienced man had given up as hopeless of attainment. She is Clara D. True, the superintendent of schools on an Indian reservation of the far west and under the law general superintendent of the reserve, clothed with police powers.
Away down in the tipple corner of the United States, in the farthest end of southern California, there dwells, or rather roams, a tribe of natives known as the Mission Indians. For years the Mission Indians have been a thorn in the flesh of the government. Lawlessness of all kinds, wherein murder was of frequent occurrence, was the rule. The Indian agents were powerless to control them.
And the greatest evil, the root of all other evils, was whisky. Of course, as all know, it is a crime to sell whisky to Indians. But there is a certain class of unscrupulous white men who pander to the thirst of these barbarians.
And nowhere did this evil flourish more than among the Mission Indians on the Morongo reservation of southern California. The Indian office at Washington offered them every inducement for a better life. There were put at their disposal the fairest lands of the continent, ready to bloom like Eden, did they only put their hands to the work. But the call of the bootlegger who sold the contraband stuff, the lure of liquor, was too strong upon them. And that was the condition when, two years ago, Francis E. Leupp, commissioner of Indian affairs, went west and thrust his probe into the state of things there. He found much that needed his executive surgery, but none more than the deplorable condition among the Mission Indians. They had degenerated into a tribe of drunkards. It was a sad state of affairs. The commissioner returned to Washington, shut himself up with himself, and thought long and hard. And this is what he determined:
WOMAN GIVEN MISSION
Some years ago there taught at the Indian school of the Rosebud agency, among the Brule Sioux in South Dakota, a quiet, unassuming little woman, Clara D. True by name. She was from Kentucky, and while without any of the bravado that marks many of the folks of that good state, she had all the sterling qualities that have made Kentuckians known for their nerve and sticking qualities. And when the problem of the Mission Indian confronted Commissioner Leupp he found the solution was Clara D. True.
"I looked over all the field for the best man," said the commissioner, a short while ago, "and I found he was Miss True."
So to southern California, among the drunken Mission Indians, Miss True was sent as superintendent of the half dozen schools there on the Morongo reservation. Her position as superintendent made her ex-officio supervisor and chief police officer of the reservation. And the first instruction the commissioner gave her was to break up, at any cost, illicit liquor traffic of the bootleggers, now grown so rampant.
For a year and a half Miss True studied both Indian and bootlegger. She knew that the way to make a lasting impression upon the mind of the Indian was to strike a telling blow with a dramatic setting. She waited the proper time—and the time presented itself at the big "festa" at Palm Springs, on the Monongo reservation, on February 8 of last year.
WHISKY SELLER ARRESTED
Miss True, who was living a short distance away at Banning, started for the scene of the festa. Nearing the spot she came upon one Dol Martin, an old offender in the whisky selling line and a bad man, who had several murders to his discredit.
WHISKY SELLER ARRESTED
Miss True walked up to his buggy, reached for a jug, pulled it out and emptied its contents on the ground; another and another she thus disposed of while the outlaw sat dazed at her conduct. The Indians were still more bewildered. When the last drop of whisky had been drunk by the earth she turned to the astonished outlaw sitting stiff with astonishment:
"You are under arrest," she said, "and you are going to be tried and sent to the penitentiary." With that she moved on through the dusk to where several hundred drunken Indians were rioting around a huge fire. One huge and whisky cadden buck, who had learned of the strange doings concerning Dol Martin, advanced toward her in a threatening manner. There was no word spoken as Miss True whipped out a pair of handcuffs and snapped them around the wrists of the astounded brute. Before he realized what was going on, he found himself ignominiously chained to the wheel of a nearby wagon—and very much sobered by the incident!
INDIANS YIELDS OBEEDIENCE
Miss True walked to the presidio, where more than 300 drunken braves, who had watched her dealing with the drunken buck, had stopped their rioting and now stood spellbound. Standing in the midst of that throng of crazy savages, she made a speech.
The wretch whom she had chained to the wagon, moved by her words, voluntarily offered to disclose the place where he got his supply of liquor. She unchained him and a short distance away he unearthed enough rum to make a regiment drunk. She didn't waste any time in properly disposing of it.
When she returned to the crowd around the fire, still silent, overawed by this small and wonderful specimen of the "white squaw," she perceived a Mexican "bootlegger," who had crept over the border for the occasion, slinking into concealment behind a group of Indians whose attitude was still hostile. She started for him, and the craven "greaser" ran to a neighboring hut, in which he kept his liquor. Miss True pursued him. He gained the door and shut it upon her. She seized a stout piece of wood and soon battered it in. Meantime, some half a hundred drunken Indians, who witnessed her intrusion upon their festivities—and probably saw a chance of looting the Mexican's stock—made a rush for the hut.
DRUNKEN MOB COWED
Miss True stretched her arm across the now open door. The drunken mob halted; but one bold buck, thrusting himself out of the press, seized hold of her wrist. The next instant he felt the cold muzzle of a pistol against his temple.
"Go back!" said Miss True, "or I'll blow your brains out!"
The buck went back; so did all the crowd on them, sadder but wiser. Miss True entered the hut; captured the cowering Mexican, and emptied his plentiful stock of "red eye" on the ground.
That evening of the eighth of February marked an epoch in the whisky selling trade among the Mission Indians. No longer did the bootlegger boldly ply his trade among the Indian villages. Man after man she hunted down and sent to the penitentiary.
But while the unscrupulous bootlegger was forced to work in the dark, he did not act wholly on the defensive. Shortly after the Palm Springs episode she started to retire one night. A neighbor in the little settlement of Banning, where she lived, came in and persuaded her to come over and spend the night.
When Miss True returned home next morning she found a pane of her bedroom window smashed to smithereens and her pillow riddled with copious buckshot.
Miss True does not seem to look upon her remarkable career as anything more than merely the day's work. Her reports telling of her thrilling experiences—for the Palm Springs raid was but one of many—are written in a modest matter of fact style, as though she had not the smallest comprehension of what a novel and dangerous work she was engaged in. Witness this telegram dated May 12, 1908:
"Raided San Manuel reservation Saturday night. Captured wagon load of whisky and nine whisky sellers. Very little violence. Prisoners now in jail at San Bernardino."
By her work and her teachings, Miss True has brought about a marvelous change among the Mission Indians. Drunkenness is now almost unknown in the tribe. "It has been six months since a drunken Indian has been seen near Banning," a special agent lately reported. "It is all due to Miss True," he continues.
A recently patented anti-snoring device consists of a soft rubber ball to be fastened to the sleeper's shoulders in such a position as to awaken him if he turns over on his back.
For handling heavy rails an eastern railroad has equipped a flatcar with pneumatic hoists.

THE brief filed on behalf of the city in the water rate litigation pending in the federal courts for six years is a monumental work that illuminates a situation which has been so long obscured by the windy guesswork of President Bourn and the expensive experts hired on behalf of the Spring Valley water company. The brief does not rely at all on expert valuation, although enough of that is given to meet and destroy the absurd estimates supplied to order by the Spring Valley witnesses. But, in fine, all that class of testimony is discredited by the very nature of its employment. The expert valuations of the Spring Valley case do not even agree among themselves and range anywhere from \$40,000,000 to \$52,000,000 or more. The processes by which these valuations were arrived at, as described by the witnesses themselves, were purely fanciful and bore no relation whatever to the actual facts of the situation. The obviously misleading character of this class of testimony appears from the fact that the estimates made on behalf of the corporation were more than twice as high as those made by experts of equal engineering authority employed on behalf of the city.

If no other evidence of value were supplied besides these expert guesses a bewildered court might very well resort to the easy plan of splitting the difference or taking some sort of average, but that is not this case. There is record evidence of an actual sale of the property by which the corporation is bound. That transaction was bona fide, the result of an actual bargain in which two parties, after the bargaining customary in such cases, arrived at a compromise price. As conflicting interests were involved in this bargain the price may be regarded as fixing the fair market value at that time. In 1903 the Spring Valley water works sold its entire plant and property to the Spring Valley water company for \$25,000,000; in round figures. Deducting \$4,000,000 for property not in use for supplying the city with water this transaction fixes the value of the property in February, 1903, at a little less than \$21,000,000. There is no getting away from acceptance of this valuation, and its conclusiveness as a test of value is confirmed by the recent important decision of the United States supreme court in the celebrated Knoxville water case. The valuation fixed by this transaction is further established by its close coincidence with the sums paid into the company's treasury for the stocks and bonds, and still further by the amounts paid for land and construction. Thus we arrive by three methods at a figure rather below the valuation made by experts on behalf of the city, and on that valuation the rates allowed by the city have paid 5 per cent annually to the company.

The brief, as we have said, is a monumental document and its conclusive reasoning, backed by an exhaustive array of facts, is very much to the credit of Mr. Haven and Engineer J. H. Dockweiler, on whom has fallen the arduous labor of compiling the voluminous data on which the case rests.

WITH a deficit of \$100,000,000 certain to accrue in the national treasury at the end of the fiscal year on July 1 the need for economy in appropriations requires no argument, but the question at once arises, Where to make the cut? Mr. Taft is at the present moment getting estimates from the departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1910, and his orders are to keep the figures down so far as may be consonant with efficiency in the public service. But the truth is that under our system of government the executive has small control over the volume of appropriations. Even with a severe pruning estimates by the departments it is indicated that the necessary expenses of the government for the fiscal year 1910 will not be less than \$1,000,000,000. The appropriations made by congress for the year beginning next July are \$1,044,014,298. More than half of that vast sum was provided for military and naval purposes and for pensions. The total of these appropriations was \$525,720,000, of which about \$160,000,000 will be paid out for pensions. Obviously we can not reduce the pension account, and there remain the naval and military appropriations. For the navy \$136,935,000 is appropriated for next year and for the army and fortifications the total is \$112,000,000. We greatly doubt whether the country will approve any severe cut in these accounts. When this nation definitely adopted the policy of holding and protecting extracontinental possessions it accepted the burdens of militarism, and national pride demands that this burden shall be carried with the fullest efficiency. Something may be done in the way of curtailing internal improvements. The public buildings appropriations may be pruned with advantage, but we are certain that the country will not approve a slackening of the work on rivers and harbors or any neglect of the beneficial policies of conservation and development of national resources. Finally, the happy go lucky attitude of congress in this field and the anxious conflict among congressmen for "pork" help to swell the sum of appropriations without the slightest regard for income. The New York Sun describes some of these influences:

Admirable and authoritative in many ways as was Mr. Aldrich's exposition of the causes of the extravagance of congress, it was not complete. He would have been wanting in comity to his colleagues and he would have had to be inconveniently and unblushingly frank if he had told the whole truth. There is a profusion which is essentially political, non-partisan. We wonder if the pension appropriations bill and the agricultural appropriation bill will ever be made in a businesslike mood. Then there is the sentimental mood, which inspires and passes occasionally bills for the relief of sufferers from some great calamity. It is easy to be sentimental and sympathetic with other people's money, and who will be sen-

Spring Valley Valuations Exposed
The Spring Valley water works sold its entire plant and property to the Spring Valley water company for \$25,000,000; in round figures. Deducting \$4,000,000 for property not in use for supplying the city with water this transaction fixes the value of the property in February, 1903, at a little less than \$21,000,000. There is no getting away from acceptance of this valuation, and its conclusiveness as a test of value is confirmed by the recent important decision of the United States supreme court in the celebrated Knoxville water case.

ungracious as to criticize a work of charity and humanity, albeit the government does not seem to have been intended to be a charitable or humane institution? Then a paternal government has been the "angel" of so many world's fairs, a form of show somewhat shopworn. Then there are the sociologists, miscellaneous reformers and kind hearts with nothing to do but to ask the government to start a bureau for the study of their hobby, the collection of statistics about it and the amelioration of something or other, with a lot of unreasonably obese salaries for the ameliorators. Congress is seldom able to resist this sort of thing long. All this is sufficiently familiar, but it needs emphasis at this time when a tariff is proposed which is likely rather to reduce than to increase revenue.

THE consolidation of big railroad systems proceeds without abatement and apparently the country is beginning to recognize the fact that this phase of industrial and commercial evolution accords with economic law. It is nevertheless forbidden by the Sherman law against trusts, but the enforcement of that law is virtually suspended pending its amendment by congress. The interstate commerce commission is watching the situation closely, but is apparently waiting for some more assured basis for operation. A Washington dispatch describing the recent operations of Edwin Hawley and his associates says: The activities of the Hawley group are being followed keenly by the commission. It has become known recently that Hawley and Hill are working in pretty close harmony. Hawley sold his Colorado and Southern to the Hill group, and although the fact has not been announced as yet, it will before long become known, according to reliable report from the inside, that Hawley has secured control of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas. This combination, it is pointed out, would enable Hill easily to perfect, in co-operation with Hawley, another line from the northwest, through the mountain and plain country, to the gulf of Mexico at Galveston. The Hawley system is coming to be looked upon as a rising factor in the railroad situation. Some persons say Hawley controls as much railroad mileage today as any other man in the country. He is the youngest of the big and potential factors in the national railroad finance situation. His backing consists, first, of his own ample fortune, and second, of the old Collis P. Huntington group. Hawley is allied with James J. Hill and J. P. Morgan, who have for years controlled the leading overland roads of the northwest, as well as the most important transportation systems south of Mason and Dixon's line. They represent a tremendous aggregation of mileage. When Hill and Morgan consolidated the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Burlington in a single holding company the government, proceeding under the Sherman law, dissolved the merger, but that action did not alter the situation in any respect. The control and management of those roads remains the same as before the Northern securities company was dissolved. What shape the amendments to the Sherman law will take nobody has any clear idea. Roosevelt recommended that combinations among railroads be permitted subject to consent and regulation by the interstate commission. That may be the solution of the difficulty, because it is evident that the movement for consolidation of railroad systems will go forward and not backward.

Justification For Business Optimism
The earnings shown were better than had been anticipated; but they nevertheless show that in the month of March, and in the three months considered as a whole, the company's net earnings were a fraction over 56 per cent of what they were in the similar period of 1907, and less than 63 per cent of what they were in 1906. Now a business 44 per cent smaller than in the recent "boom times" is not of itself a basis for enthusiasm; yet shares of the steel company rose a point and a half the day following the report. Furthermore, the day's top figure, 54 1/2, compared with a maximum price of 50 1/2 in the whole year 1907 and of 50 1/4 in the whole year 1906. If the price had any bearing on the state of the company's finances, it must have meant faith in the future rather than satisfaction with immediate conditions. A similar deduction may be drawn in a dozen other quarters of the market. The reports of gross earnings for a number of important railroad systems during the month of March show remarkable and uniform gains as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Railroad Name, March Gross, 9 months Gross. Includes Erie, Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, Atlantic Coast Line, Northwestern, Rock Island, Southern Railway, Atchafalaya, Baltimore & Ohio, Kansas City Southern.

These systems are representative of the whole country and show that in a majority of instances the gain for one month was about equal to the decline in the previous nine months. In fine, the industrial situation supplies plenty of reasons to justify the prevailing optimism as to the future.

Clubwomen and Their Work

By MARY ASHE MILLER

THE event of today will be the annual meeting and breakfast of the Pacific Coast Women's Press association, which will take place in the red room of the St. Francis hotel, and which is being anticipated eagerly by the members and their guests. The election is to be held before the breakfast and, although the ticket is kept a secret, it is known that Mrs. W. C. Morrow, who has served so admirably as president for the last two years and who has declined re-election, will be succeeded by Mrs. Josephine Martin, who has been so enthusiastic a worker in the association.

The Daughters of California Pioneers will meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock for the election of officers for the ensuing year and the transaction of other business. Monday, May 17, a meeting of the directors will be held, and Monday, May 26, will be social day, when a program of interest will be presented, as is usual on these occasions. A feature which promises to be something delightfully unique in the month's calendar will be the basket picnic to take place Saturday next at the home of Miss O. Meusdorffer, 249 Hanover street, at 11 o'clock. To reach there the guests will take the San Mateo or cemeteries car and get off at Whittier street.

The California club members will hold their annual department council Tuesday, when the achievements of the club in all its ramifications will be told by the heads of the different departments, as follows: Civics, Mrs. Louis Hertz; education, Miss Juliet Greninger; art lecture, Mrs. Jacob Brandt; outdoor social league, Mrs. Lovell White.

Many of the members of the club, besides the delegates, are planning to attend the state federation convention at Del Monte, and it is expected that no club will be more thoroughly represented than the California. Laurel Hall club has sent out cards for its open meeting reception Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, when the installation of officers will take place and a program of music will be given. Each member has received two guest cards, and in many instances efforts have been made to have this number increased, all of which goes to prove that the occasion will be one of great interest.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Society of California Pioneers will hold a directors' meeting Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock, which will be the last regular meeting of the fiscal year. The organization of the new board will take place on this occasion. The Corona club will meet Thursday afternoon at Mission Masonic hall, and the program will be preceded by a brief business meeting.

The annual election of the Papyrus club will be held Friday next at the regular meeting; the officers to be chosen by ballot. No members who are six months in arrears with their dues will be allowed to vote. After all business is attended to, an informal reception will be tendered the new members by the old members, and all of the latter are requested to volunteer their services in entertaining that afternoon.

The San Francisco Musical club rendered the following program at its meeting Thursday last: "An Pays Bleu" (Chaminade), "Si tu Veux" (Debussy), "Pastorale" (Bisni), by Mrs. Leon Lewis. Four sketches for violin—"Idylle," Humoresque, "Tradic Song" and "Polka" (Trot Air), by Miss Caroline Nash. "Pensee d'Automne" (Massenet), "Bon Jour Suzon" (Thomie), by Miss Marion Cumming. "Trio Improvisé," Op. 18 (Schubert), "Finlandia," Op. 24, No. 7 (Sibelius), by Miss Martha Dulak. "Air des Violes" ("Bon Jour Suzon" (The Niel), "Bols Etais" (Lully), by Mrs. A. E. Phelan. Concerto C minor (Beethoven), orchestral parts on second piano, played by Miss Clara Raubert, by Miss Emille Graueck. Accompanists—Mrs. S. H. Beckett, Miss W. S. Noyes, Mrs. R. L. Howitt and Miss Pratt.

Impertinent Question No. 102
What's a Trolley Car?
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.