

The San Francisco Call

JOHN D. SPRECKELS... Proprietor
CHARLES W. HORNICK... General Manager
ERNEST S. SIMPSON... Managing Editor

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THE CALL believes that the American people as a whole stand solidly in support of the general policy of conservation applied and worked out by Gifford Pinchot for the forestry service.

Taft, Ballinger and Pinchot

The only dissenters in this field are the timber power grabbers and the timber thieves. However, the people are not at all sure about Secretary Ballinger. He is on trial, and so far some of the evidence is far from being in his favor.

As secretary of the interior it is to his credit that he has not interfered with the Garfield award of rights in the Hetch Hetchy region to San Francisco.

On the other hand, people have regarded with grave suspicion Mr. Ballinger's hasty withdrawal of a great body of land from the forest reserves in the northwest; and these suspicions were promoted by the fact that this action was taken in secret, so far as the general public was concerned.

Confidence in Mr. Ballinger was not restored when, on the order of the president, he was compelled to rescind this action.

Now we learn from Washington that there is a conflict of authority between Ballinger and Pinchot. That fact should cause no surprise, because it seems obvious that the several policies that seem to commend themselves to these officials are likewise and acutely in conflict.

If it is a question whether Pinchot or Ballinger must go, let it be the secretary. Attorney General Wickersham likewise can be spared. The dismissal of Gifford Pinchot would be a sore black eye for the Taft administration, and its impolicy would be so grave that it is inconceivable.

It would be a distinct and injurious backward step in the policy of national conservation and could only mean that the administration had surrendered to the timber thieves.

Mr. Taft is not that kind of man.

Glad to Meet Mr. Hammond

WHEN the president visits the Pacific coast in the fall he will be accompanied by John Hays Hammond, citizen of California and the world. Mr. Hammond, although a beginner in politics, takes kindly to the pursuit. Having broken a maiden lance in the joust for a presidential nomination he is now content to take charge of the organization of republican clubs in the several states, and he applies to that undertaking the same energy and businesslike ability that were wont to characterize his work in the mining field.

In the interval of this laborious endeavor, Mr. Hammond likes to "do something for silver," and is one of the few remaining survivors of that already ancient work of the political imagination. It is an example of the strange vicissitudes of politics that a man who was a follower of Bryan in 1896 should now be earnestly employed in forwarding the interests of the republican party.

Mr. Hammond will be welcome. We do not know whether he still calls himself a citizen of California, and there was some controversy on the point at the time the steam roller was preparing to rovers over the Chicago convention, but that matter will make no difference in his reception by the people of this commonwealth. Neither shall we hold it up against him that he still cherishes dreams about silver, because, indeed, that brief madness that convulsed the country in 1896 is forever out of politics.

Mr. Hammond is known to be close to the president and was offered the place of minister to China, which scarcely filled the measure of his ambition, although intended as a compliment.

At present he is regarded as the prime minister of Mr. Taft's golf cabinet, although he does not play at that strange and fascinating game.

Threatening Controversy in South America

IT IS a strange quadrangular dispute that convulses the South American republics and appears to have set Bolivia at angry cross purposes with most of her neighbors. Peru, Bolivia and Argentina are under treaty to refer all disputes to arbitration, and the present dispute arises over the decree of the president of Argentina concerning a conflict over territory. It is natural that some politics should be mixed up with the unpleasantness, and there is a feeling in Bolivia that the existing entente between Peru and Argentina may have swayed the president's judgment in the disputed award.

The Acre territory, concerned in this arbitration, borders on Peru, Brazil and Bolivia and was claimed by all three. Brazil's rights were compromised on payment of \$10,000,000 to Bolivia, and the Peruvian claim was referred to arbitration with the results stated.

Peru declined to recognize the validity of the compromise between Brazil and Bolivia and the circumstances indicate an alliance between Peru and Argentina against Bolivia and Brazil that may involve the whole continent in war.

Loosen Your Purse Strings to Make Great the City's Festival

THE Portola festival committee needs money—a great deal of money. For the credit of San Francisco, subscriptions should be large and prompt. This thing has already grown to far greater proportions than was anticipated when it began. The nations of the world are coming to visit us and be the city's guests for the festival. The obligation rests on San Francisco to do her part worthily and in her accustomed manner of hospitable magnificence.

San Francisco has a reputation to guard and maintain. We can not bring people here to a cheap affair. The rule noblesse oblige applies, and the city should and will take her obligations seriously. If the ships and the ambassadors of the nations visit us by way of compliment and acknowledgment we feel certain that San Francisco will keep her end up in a worthy and splendid fashion.

To do that takes a lot of money, and ample funds should be placed in the hands of the committee. Subscriptions in this cause are not gifts, but investments, if one likes to regard the affair in a selfish light.

As a business proposition the festival will pay large returns on its cost. It will bring us thousands and tens of thousands of pleasure seekers with money to spend, for the world has learned that this celebration carries a significance that finds no parallel in history.

The rebuilding of a great city in three years is unexampled and presents one of the wonders of the world that all should see. It is a monument of human audacity and confidence in the future.

There is another aspect than the merely business end of the undertaking, and that is the appeal to local pride and patriotism. San Franciscans have always been proud of their city and like to see her bear a worthy part. The Native Sons are forward in this work and are setting an example that will inspire imitation.

It is within the power of San Francisco, standing at the crossroads of the world, the "warder of two continents," to plan and make a festival that will inflame the imagination of the nations and create a spectacle with a background that carries an impressive meaning as a monument of American energy and daring.

The Revolt Against Aldrich

THE situation created by the conference committee on the tariff in consultation with the president is remarkable and unprecedented. The committee is packed by Aldrich and Cannon with standpatters who do not represent the republican party, and do represent those greedy interests which hope to profit by increasing the already exorbitant cost of living.

The president in this debate behind closed doors represents the whole people and we learn that a deadlock is threatened in consequence.

We have said that the tariff as proposed does not represent the sentiment of the republican party and on this point plenty of indisputable testimony is available.

It is not that the independent press of the party, like The Call, the Springfield Republican, the Providence Journal and the Indianapolis News, have condemned the bill, but a similar stand is taken by such strict party organs as the New York Tribune, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat and the Toledo Blade.

Thus the Tribune in remonstrance: The republican press will not be unwilling to modify its judgment of the senate's work if the conference report discloses an abandonment of what is rightly condemned as an illiberal and narrow policy. A general return to the lower house rates, the restoration of hides, iron ore and coal to the free list and other evidences of a desire on the part of the conference committee to make good the republican promise of reasonable downward revision will be welcomed by republican newspapers broad minded enough to give due credit for progress, although long delayed. The republican press will bear no ill will against the senate, even if that body has for three months past steadily ignored its protests and warnings.

This is a mild but unmistakable warning that the judgment of the party will be pronounced against Aldrichism.

Here is the opinion of that ancient stalwart, the Globe-Democrat: Four-fifths of the republican newspapers of the country opposed the advances in duties which Mr. Aldrich and the old guard of the republicans in his chamber, aided by the band of democratic guerrillas, made. The republican press favored the bill in the shape it had when it came from the house and combated the senate's upward revision. Messrs. Aldrich, Lodge, Hale and the rest of their element of the republicans know all this, and so do their democratic auxiliaries. However, the republican newspapers have some hope that in the conference committee they will get a little of the consideration which was denied to them in the senate.

The Toledo Blade is much more pronounced in its judgment on Aldrich and his course in the senate. We quote: Who is this man Aldrich that he should be installed on the throne of the tyrant and vested with the scepter of absolutism? Has he performed notable labors for his country? Is his statesmanship of the order of greatness, his achievements high and conspicuous? Aldrich is no more than a concentration of political shrewdness, little removed from the ward heeler and precinct manipulator. He has done nothing noteworthy in his long presence in congress, fathered no measures of general benefit, led no reforms, brought no depth of understanding to legislation or made a single sacrifice to patriotism and loyalty.

Throughout the tariff debates he has been shifty and deceitful. One case in point was his suppression of information concerning the German wage scale obtained at some cost of humiliation of the Berlin authorities. These schedules did not fit into the Aldrich argument and he caused the documents to be hidden. He has posed as a tariff expert. Dolliver of Iowa proved that Aldrich was not only not familiar with the intricacies of the protective policy, but that he misrepresented facts given by manufacturers and merchants in the proceedings of the house committee of ways and means. "I will not sit quietly by," said Senator Tillman, "and hear falsehood blandly spoken on this floor." And the insult passed unchallenged.

It was discovered only last Tuesday that amendments were offered as indorsements of the finance committee which, as a matter of fact, had never come to the eyes of the minority members of the committee until presented to the senate.

Like testimony could be multiplied indefinitely, but these should suffice for demonstration of party sentiment.

The revolt against Aldrich is not confined to the middle west. It finds vigorous expression right at his own door in Rhode Island.

An American in Ireland

M R. SUTHERLAND'S interesting series of letters on conditions in Ireland, now in course of publication in these columns, have a distinct value for the light they throw on the fortunes and vicissitudes of a much troubled land and people. They serve to explain why Irishmen, who do so well under other rule and circumstances, have suffered so much and so constantly from British domination and the jealous ascendancy which for centuries treated them as a conquered people only to be exploited for the profit of the ruling race. The same political and social phenomena which have plagued British rule in Ireland are already beginning to make themselves felt in India, and the rebellious spirit bred by oppression is seen to raise its threatening head among the unhappy famine stricken people of the great Asiatic peninsula. Time brings its revenges. Ireland for a hundred years has been a thorn in the side of the British government. India promises with the awakening of a national sense to follow in the same path. It is the inexorable law of social evolution that the oppressor shall reap as he has sown. Things are improving in Ireland, as Mr. Sutherland points out. The long night of penal and restrictive laws has ceased. The national cancer of absentee landlordism is being slowly eradicated. The Irish people will soon own their own soil. It is only a question of time when they must be permitted to run their own government and conduct their own schools.

KING CROWNS ON VAIN WOMAN

Edward's Treatment of the Fair Mrs. Spottswood Has Its Lesson

DISCRETION is demanded of the favorites of royalty evidently, and the lesson given the beautiful Mrs. Spottswood of New York should serve as a warning. The radiant blonde American, who was so successful abroad last year, has gone to England this year to repeat her triumphs, but pride cometh before a fall.

Mrs. Spottswood was presented to the king, who smiled on the fascinating American, and was evidently charmed by her beauty and wit. Mrs. Spottswood was appropriately delighted, of course—in fact, a little too much so, for she boasted openly of her conquest.

Whether a hint came from his majesty that he disapproved, or whether jealousy prompted them, is not known, but the little coterie who surround the king downed Mrs. Spottswood at once.

Her gown was all prepared for her presentation at court, but Mrs. White-Laird Reid, on whom she had depended for further admittance to the charmed circle, is obdurate, and will do nothing for her.

Fortune Hunters Busy

Marjorie Gould is in Paris just now, chaperoned by Mrs. Isabelle Scott-Grant, at the latter's beautiful home in the Avenue du Bois de Boulogne, and there is a mighty gathering of the fortune hunters, titled and otherwise, cautiously or boldly suing for the hand of the American heiress. Whether she will succumb to the glamour of a title or an aristocratic name remains to be seen. Mrs. George Gould will have naught of the princess de Sagan, and does not see her at all. Curiously enough, the Princess Anna's former husband, Bosil de Castellane, is on the friendliest of terms with his erstwhile sister in law.

Now 'Bughouse' Party

Something European has finally out-classed the wildest of American "freak" entertainments, for word comes from Paris of a ball recently given at Puteau by a number of the gayest young bachelors of Paris. It was termed a "bughouse" ball, and among the striking features of the event was the costuming. Every guest present came as some sort of a bug, and the result is said to have eclipsed anything seen before in the way of costume balls.

Court Airs Too Much

The atmosphere of royalty proved too much for the good democratic nerves of Miss Townsend, daughter of Mrs. Lawrence Townsend of New York, for when the young woman was presented the other day at the British court she collapsed entirely.

At the moment when she should have been making her courtesy to the king and queen, she suddenly threw up her arms, screamed wildly and went into a violent state of hysterics.

The royal guards rushed in and, in a state of bewildered astonishment, removed the excitable American.

Answers to Queries

GEM ALPHABET—Subscriber, City. What is known as the Gem Alphabet, what stones are used to make up the alphabet?
Transparent—Opaque—
Amethyst—Agate
Beryl—Basalt
Chrysoberyl—Krokidolite
Diamond—Diopside
Emerald—Egyptian pebble
Feldspar—Firestone
Garnet—Granite
Hyaline—Heliotrope
Iodocase—Jasper
Kyanite—Krokidolite
Lapis-lazuli—Malachite
Milk opal—Nephrite
Natrolite—Onyx
Opal—Porphyry
Pyrope—Quartz-agate
Quartz—Rose-quartz
Ruby—Sardonyx
Sapphire—Turquoise
Topaz—Ultra-marine
Vesuvianite—Vard-antique
Water-sapphire—Wood-opal
Xanthite—Xylolite
Zircon—Zurite

NATURALIZATION—W. D. City. How soon after declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States can an alien become a citizen, providing he has resided in the United States five years? Does the same hold good throughout the entire country?
If, at the time he makes application for final papers he has resided in the United States five years, the application for second papers must not be less than two years and not more than seven years after such declaration. The rule is the same all over the United States.

TO CLEAN SHELLS—Subscriber, Briceland, Cal. How can the rough outer coat be removed from abalone shells?
To clean shells make a lye by boiling strong ashes and allow the same to settle. Then pour the lye over the shells and let them boil for six or seven hours or longer if they are large. Then soak and wash often in fresh water. That will remove the rough coating.

DENTISTRY—Subscriber, Madera, Cal. How long does it take to learn dentistry?
That depends upon the individual. A prominent dentist who graduated many years ago says: "A man who wants to be a first class dentist has to study as long as he remains in the profession."

DEEP SEA FISHES—W. F. C. City. At what depth do fishes live under the surface of the sea?
In an article on this subject Thomas C. MacMillan, A. M., of Chicago wrote: "Fishes have been found, it is said, three miles below the surface of the sea, and when a specialty has been made of deep sea soundings, as in the voyage of the Challenger and others, the ocean depths have been found very populous. Plants, however, do not live in the deep-sea, and it is supposed that the deep sea animals either prey upon one another or get their food from dead organisms and plants which sink down to them. The phosphorescent fishes, which light up the waves about them

The Insider

Observes that the Owl's children are wandering back home intent on participating in the Bohemian club's midsummer jinks in the redwoods on the Russian river

Midsummer Jinks Is Magnet for Bohemians
THE Owl's children are coming in for the Bohemian club's midsummer jinks in the redwoods. Dr. George Goodfellow, hailing from South America, registered at the club Tuesday. Thomas J. Barbour, who is on the road to a copper kingdom in Shasta county, has arrived from his New York office on the way to the groves of the Russian river.

Word comes from New York that Clay M. Greene, one of the old timers of the club, will make another pilgrimage to the coast this year. Of the old guard there remains in New York Jennings S. Cox, Joseph R. Grismer and Clay Greene, Andrew McFarland Davis and Horace Hill are in Boston.

Colonel D. M. Burns returned from Bartlett Springs and his Lake county farm a few days ago and will run down to Catalina for a fishing jaunt. Since barley is quoted at \$1.50, the colonel, having 2,500 acres of island land in that kind of grain, feels that he can indulge the luxury of a fishing trip south and the joys of an outing in the grove.

By agreement with his family, the ashes of the late George T. Bromley will find their final resting place beneath the giant redwoods in the Bohemian grove in Sonoma county. The body of the late high priest of Bohemia, which still reposes in the vault at Laurel Hill cemetery is to be cremated, and the ashes will be conveyed to the grove this month. The club intends to raise a monument over the spot where the ashes are buried, and Uncle George will sleep forever beneath the shadow of the great trees he loved so well, and in the grove where every year come the friends he loved best in life.

Von Meyerinck Was Clever With Camera

The late baron von Meyerinck was a fine amateur photographer, and had a splendid collection of prints which he took himself in his various trips. When his wife went to China to start her music school in Shanghai she brought back a large number of views taken on board ship and in the orient. These prints were developed by her husband, and afforded much pleasure to those who had the privilege of examining them.

The baron had considerable literary ability and was a musical critic of excellent discrimination. Had it not been necessary for him to gain his living in commercial pursuits, he might have attained some eminence in literature or journalism. When the Von Meyerincks lived in Fulton street, before they moved to Larkspur, their studio gatherings, had they cared to term them thus, might have been dignified by the name salon. They knew all sorts of celebrities, and often entertained European stars who came here concertizing or in the grand opera, in an informal but delightful manner.

Fat Soldiers of No Use, Said Shafter

I found this in a recent issue of Tit-Bits, the little English weekly, which publishes anecdotes about everybody under the sun, from prize fighters to clergymen and actors and the royal families, of all nationalities, and which gives a guinea a column for jokes. As General Shafter lived so long in San Francisco and his stout proportions became familiar to most of us, the story possesses local interest:

The late American commander, General Shafter, although a man of corpulence, had a deep dislike to fat soldiers. "They're no use!" he would bluster in his tremendous bass. "They pant, they wheeze, they snort, they choke, they grunt, they groan, they waddle, they slouch through the world! Not a particle of good on earth, fat soldiers! Would not have one of 'em, if I could help it!"

"Er—but—er—you would not exactly call yourself slight, would you, colonel?" a major once asked Shafter after one of these outbursts. "Slight? No!" Shafter thundered in reply. "I've been a fat old nuisance ever since the day I tipped the beam at over 200 pounds, and then I ought to have been court-martialed and cashiered for outrageous and malicious adiposity, sir—for scandalous corpulence to the prejudice of military discipline!"

Big Snake Story Comes From Tropics

Since the recent arrival here of the cruiser Albany, after four months in Central American water, a vague rumor has floated from that redoubtable little craft, circled Goat island, visited the navy yard and oozed in and out of the Army and Navy club to the effect that a naval branch of the Nature Fakers' club is to be established. The rumor was first seen, it is reported, shortly after Captain James H. Oliver, in command of the Albany, told his story of how the gifted boa constrictor of Central America connects with the most toothsome delicacy its reptilian appetite knows—the Central American buffalo.

"The boa, you see," the captain said, "lies around in the jungle, picking its teeth and keeping a weather eye on all the buffalo within sight, until one of the stupid animals wanders out on a narrow point of land, while grazing, and becomes engrossed in admiring the view. While it is enraptured with nature's beauty the materialistic boa softly glides up behind it and stretches across the neck of land, thus shutting off the buffalo's retreat.

"The animal may discover its predicament by this time, but all that remains for it to do is to play the waiting game, and employ its native wit in frustrating the boa's plan.

"The boa rolls over like a log, thus still blocking the way of egress and still keeping a watchful eye on its intended prey. The buffalo retreats at each roll. Finally the big animal is backed right down to the water's edge, with a cliff 1,000 feet deep yawning below, and, in desperation, it tries to jump over the snake. The boa seizes it and starts wrapping.

"It wraps and wraps and wraps until it has wrapped all of itself around the buffalo's body and then prepares to exert a great squeeze and crush his foe. But the clever buffalo all this time has been holding its breath, and just as the boa fills its lungs for the grand squeeze, the buffalo draws in a prodigious amount of wind, and with a swift intake of breath breaks the enveloping boa into a thousand pieces. Then it goes on its way rejoicing.

"But, captain," quavered a midshipman, "are there boa constrictors as far north as Central America, and no buffaloes grow there, sir?"

"Take the cutter out!" ordered Captain Oliver, sternly, "the men need exercise."

so brilliantly, are found as far as a mile below the surface. The most of the fishes inhabiting the surface are called the "abyssal zones" have only rudimentary eyes, but have long feelers, which enable them to grope their way along the bottom of the sea. The reason that fishes and mollusks living even three miles under the surface are able to bear the pressure of the waves above them, which amounts to several tons to the square inch, is because they have exceedingly loose tissues, which allow the water to flow through every interstice, and thus to equalize their weight. Indeed, it is asserted that when this pressure is removed they perish. The account of the Challenger expedition states that all the sharks brought up from a depth of three-quarters of a mile were dead before they reached the surface."

ADDRESS—J. S. City. How should a letter intended for the president of the Mexican Republic be addressed?
To his excellency, General Porfirio Diaz, City of Mexico, Mexico.

TONNEAU—A. A. G. City. What is the proper pronunciation of tonneau?
As that is a French word, it should be pronounced as the French pronounce it. It should be pronounced as if written tun-o.

SCHOOL BOOKS—Mrs. K. E. City. To whom shall I apply for information as to school books and studies to prepare a child to enter the fifth grade next term?
Apply at the office of the board of education.

THE CORRECT SENTENCE—A. S. City. Which is the correct sentence: "It is not allowed to speak other language but English." The former is the more euphonious.

THE BANDIT—A. O. Post Office, Ore. What was the name of the bandit who lived in California many years ago and whose first name was Joaquin?
Joaquin Murietta.

AIR LINE—C. G. City. When will the Chicago-New York air line between the two cities, that is, train running between the two

BOOKS—W. E. Berkeley, Cal. Is there any book published that gives information about capital stock, number of shares of corporations, etc.?
In the free library in Oakland you will find information of that character in Moody's "Annual of Bonds and Securities," etc.

LETTER TO LAWYER—H. K. D. City. What was the letter written by 15 jurors in the Calhoun case to Judge Lawlor?
It was a letter calling attention to the fact that the jurors were becoming tired of the introduction of certain matters in the trial.

AUTHORS—F. D. M. Valley, Cal. Is there any way of ascertaining what authors obtain for their writings and under what conditions they place their manuscripts with publishers?
That is a matter of private understanding between writer and publisher which neither makes public.

PORTOLA—Mrs. A. N. Alhambra, Cal. To quote an anxious mind please state who Portola was.
He was the first Spanish governor of California, and held office from 1767 to 1771.

HOLIDAY—Subscriber, Redwood City, Cal. In a recent answer you say that there is no national holiday in the United States. Why?
Because no such holiday has been declared by congress.