

The San Francisco Call

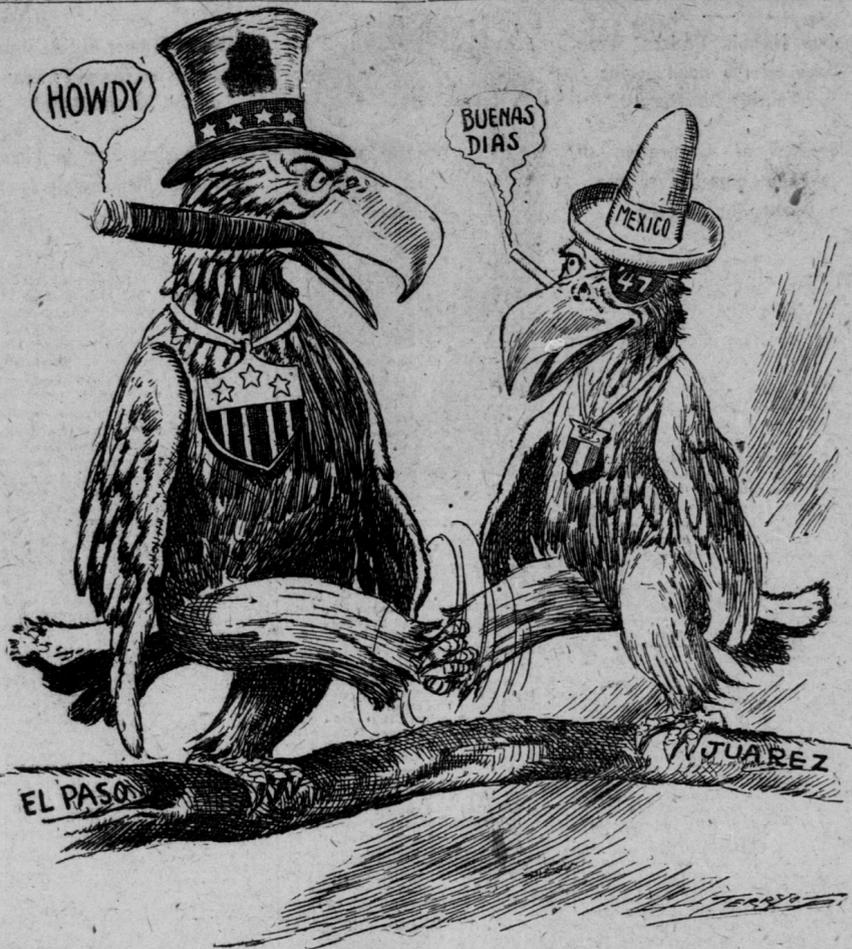
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Chums



LETTERS OF PORTOLA GIVE MEANING TO FETE

Commander's Writings Will Shed Full Light Upon the Discovery of San Francisco Bay in 1769

ANNOUNCEMENT has already been made in these columns of the discovery of a score of letters of the archives of Mexico by Prof. Herbert E. Bolton of Stanford University, which shed full light upon the discovery of San Francisco bay by the brave commander in 1769.

It should not be understood, however, that all the new light upon the expedition has also been found by Mr. Bolton and the contents of some of these letters is of greatest interest. After telling just how the bay was found Father Crespi continues in one of his letters: "The Senor Comandant ordered that it should be explored and passage beyond it made. They explored seven days, and in that time the explorers, who went in light marching order, were not able to go around the whole estuary, which enters at least ten leagues into the land, and which might be called a great arm of the Sea. It is wholly surrounded by the very high Sierras and amounts to a lake projected on all sides. At its narrowest part this estuary must be three leagues wide and it has in it three islands. From the point where its latitude was observed we went forward for three days' march, during which we covered about 8 leagues, stopping in a plain Leagues in extent, which borders this port and estuary, and is covered with Robles and some Enzinos. We pitched camp on the bank of a good Arroyo of Water which runs through this plain, about a league made in these columns of the five before reaching the head of the estuary. In this place we remained four days, which were the last ones in which they went out to explore. "This Port of San Francisco, according to what we saw and according to the Opinion of all the experts, is very large; and without doubt the Port in which the farallones are would contain not only all the Armadas of Our Catholic Monarch, but all those of Europe. The estuary, according to what the explorers who saw it best told us, is another extremely large (grandisimo) Port, with protection on all sides, because it is surrounded by high Sierras in every direction. This port has Leagues of plains, very good lands, two Arroyos of Water, one of which is larger than the other (for all run through these plains and have large volumes of Water) and a good River with much Water, and with a plenty of trees in its Bed. It likewise empties, in the Middle of these plains, into the extremity of the Estuary. We saw only the smallest Arroyo where the Camp was pitched. They (the explorers) gave account of the River and the other Arroyo, and said that they found them and crossed them in their last exploration. This Port of San Francisco is entirely surrounded by very large and numerous rancherias of Heathen, almost all bearded, very fair, affable, tame, and docile." The letters of both Portola and Crespi, as presented and brought into a consecutive account by Professor Bolton, form an article in The Sunday Call which no Californian can well afford to miss. They give meaning to the whole Portola festival, in which the entire world is manifesting so much interest.

THE carefully concealed background of the Crane incident, "now closed," according to Secretary Knox, would probably make interesting reading. It becomes evident that Mr. Crane's plain speaking hampered those mysterious processes described as "the resources of diplomacy" and were like to bring the interminable pourparlers concerning "the open door" in Manchuria to an acute stage. Mr. Crane prefers to keep on talking and has no stomach for a showdown.

The Resources of Diplomacy

"The resources of diplomacy" when not backed by force mean nothing at all. They may serve to delay or even confuse a settlement, but they can not affect results in any important way. If Mr. Crane is prepared to say that the United States will, if necessary, maintain the open door in Manchuria by armed force then the resources of his diplomacy will mean something, but if he feels he can deliver no such ultimatum he might as well address his careful and nicely worded communications to the trade winds that blow across the broad Pacific. No doubt Mr. Crane's incautious speech may have tended to bring closer the actual showdown which diplomacy abhors. Mr. Crane was a Chicago steer in the diplomatic china shop.

The situation is complicated by the virtual surrender of the Chinese government to the Japanese demands. China professes to be powerless to resist its warlike neighbor. It may be that this stand is not altogether sincere. The ways of oriental diplomacy are characteristically obscure, as Mr. Crane has discovered without ever leaving the United States. But China is not, in fact, as helpless as some people suppose. A great army is in process of creation in that country which even now could present a formidable front. Frank G. Carpenter, writing from Wuchang on this subject, says:

The biggest army of the world has now its beginning in this fast awakening empire of China. It already numbers 150,000 trained soldiers. Two years from now it will have 400,000, and within twenty-five years, if it goes ahead as did that of Japan, it will have 5,000,000 on a peace footing and 10,000,000 in times of war. Such an army is not a dream of the opium pipe. It is a live possibility, and it seems less improbable than did the present army of Japan twenty-five years ago. The Japanese army began its creation in 1872. On a peace footing it now numbers 600,000, and its war strength is close to a million. Today one Japanese in every eighty is serving as a soldier, and at a pinch, one in every forty can be thrown into the field. China is already in advance of the Japan of a quarter of a century ago. Its soldiers are now being trained by the best of foreign military talent. They are armed with modern weapons and their organization is on the lines which have brought up the army of Japan.

Of course the Chinese soldier is virtually untried. No one knows whether he can ever be made over by training into what is called "a first class fighting man," but the possibilities of the situation are obvious. For the present, however, the Chinese army must be left out of the count, and it seems as if Japan were to have its way in Manchuria, with Secretary Knox seated on the fence and crying "Stop thief" in nicely worded diplomatic language.

"A CAMPAIGN of education" is promised in relation to currency reform and particularly with a view to convincing the country that a great central bank with power to regulate note issues is the ideal system. Evidences that the campaign is in full cry are not wanting, and some of the apostles engaged in this missionary endeavor are intelligent, while others of them are not. For instance, "Raymond," in the Chicago Tribune, labors to convince a heedless public that the existing currency system is "full of dynamite" because a large proportion of the paper money in circulation is what he calls "fiat currency." His idea of fiat money includes any bank notes or government notes for whose redemption an adequate reserve is maintained. That definition would include the currencies of every nation in the world. The Bank of England and the Bank of France are seated on a load of just such dynamite. The gentleman is talking nonsense on a subject he does not understand.

Why They Want a Central Bank

The agitation for a central bank will not be promoted by such misinformation. Chicago would like to be the headquarters of such an institution and we may not dispute its fitness in this regard should the country decide that a central bank is the best means of regulating the paper currency. The motives that inspire the agitation may be gathered from an address made by George E. Roberts, president of a Chicago bank, to the Kentucky bankers' association, from which we quote:

We have in the vaults of the United States treasury now the greatest gold reserve in the world, which might serve as the basis of an institution greater than the Bank of France. I hold in my hand the treasury statement for October 1, last Friday. It shows gold coin, \$864,162,869, held as a reserve against exactly the same amount of certificates. The issue of gold certificates is absolutely inflexible; they are simply warehouse receipts. It is the greatest and most ineffective gold reserve in the world. If that reserve were under the control of an organization like the Bank of France it would be possible to issue, say, \$400,000,000 more of notes and still have a reserve of 75 per cent, or \$800,000,000, in occasion ever required, and still have a reserve of 50 per cent. An institution like that standing behind the whole banking situation with the ability to issue its notes and make advances to the other banks would absolutely protect this country from money panics, as other countries are protected.

It is abhorrent to the banking mind that this huge heap of gold should lie absolutely idle. Here are more than \$800,000,000 in hard cash on which not a penny is earned for interest. A central bank as custodian of the national funds would handle that huge pile of gold and would use it as a reserve against which four times as many notes could be issued and made to bear interest. It must be admitted that the present plan is unscientific finance and that the whole currency system is patchwork and especially lacks elasticity in time of stress, but whether the central bank plan supplies the ideal cure for financial troubles is not yet demonstrated one way or the other.

UNCLE SAM helps those who help themselves and in this view the people of Oakland realize that the most effective claim they can lay before congress in relation to appropriations for harbor improvement will be the evidence that they are ready to put their hands in their pockets and give liberally to build docks and supply other needs of a modern port.

Spirit of Progress in Oakland

The engineers of the war department will have completed their survey of Oakland harbor and their report will be before the next congress. We have every reason to believe that the report will be satisfactory. It will then be up to your representatives to obtain the money necessary to start the work upon the new and greater Oakland harbor. But I want to impress upon the minds of the people of Oakland that the strongest argument we can advance before the river and harbor committee at Washington for a large appropriation for Oakland harbor will be to read the election returns on the bond issue if carried by a large majority, thus demonstrating that the people of this locality have sufficient faith in the future commercial importance of this great waterway to be willing to do their part in its development.

The potentialities of Oakland harbor are very great. The estuary of San Antonio provides an interior basin absolutely safe for shipping. It is already the locus of an important commerce, which can be greatly multiplied by the co-operation of the national and municipal governments in the work of development.

THE ships are messengers of peace. "The navies of the world," or, at least, a representative part of them, float in San Francisco bay as concrete expressions of international good will and fellow feeling. A cruiser may constitute a compliment in steel and the foreign ships now in port are the heralds of good fellowship among the nations. In fine, the Portola festival and the Hudson-Fulton commemoration in New York are made to carry a deeper significance than merely local rejoicing.

The Peace of Portola

It is in this sense that the voyage of the American fleet around the world last year was really a statesmanlike proceeding. The visits made by that powerful armada to South American ports, to Japan and China and Australia served to promote cordial relations with the people of those countries. It was a mission of peace, not war.

San Francisco rejoices that its harbor has been made the scene of an international meeting of this peaceful sort. We welcome the visiting bluejackets gathered in from the seven seas and making a brief call of congratulation and friendship for a city struggling to its feet after going through the most destructive catastrophe that history records. It would be well for the world were its ships of war always confined to this function of amity.

Gossip of Railwaymen

At the annual meeting of the Northern Pacific, held the early part of this month, when results for last year were laid before the board, an extra salary bonus of \$20,000 was voted for Howard Elliott, president of the road. This is the annual custom where earnings are up to or more than a certain standard.

E. E. Mote, manager of the Pacific car service bureau, reports that for August, 1909, the second full calendar month of the operation in California of the \$6 demurrage rate on intrastate traffic, as compared with the \$1 rate on interstate traffic, the same satisfactory results were shown in the prompt release of cars, as was shown in the special report for July. Of cars reported by California agencies subject to the \$5 rate the percentage held over time fell from 1.21 in July to 1.18 in August, while of cars subject to the \$1 rate the percentage held over time increased from 6.29 to 6.71.

The fact is that \$6 releases cars promptly, while the \$1 rate does not accomplish that end. This difference is particularly noticeable at San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles, which in the order named show intrastate cars held over time of 1.46, 2.60 and 1.39 per cent, and of interstate cars 9.55, 14.67 and 7.35 per cent.

F. W. Mahl, general purchasing agent of the Denver and Rio Grande, has resigned to become assistant to Julius Kruttschnitt of the Harriman lines.

The San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake has announced the removal of its office to 680 Market street, a ground floor location.

In conjunction with the vast amount of Portola literature that is being distributed by the Southern Pacific, a handsome program folder has been gotten out and is now being distributed. The folder, besides announcing special rates from Oregon, Washington and Nevada points, contains the full program of the five days of festivities.

Local trafficmen are wondering what kind of a surprise the entertainment committee of the Transportation club is going to spring at the jinks tonight.

J. H. Lothrop has been appointed general traffic manager of the north coast with office at Spokane.

The Shore Line Limited, the new Southern Pacific fast train between this city and Los Angeles, which was to have been placed on the run next Sunday, will not be inaugurated until Sunday, October 24.

The Pennsylvania reports that its freight cars are now all in use—the first time in two years.

THE SMART SET

THE Portola dinner party is the latest fad that society has adopted in view of the approaching festivities in honor of the Spanish hero of vague renown. The shade of Portola is an excuse with picturesque possibilities for the ingenious hostess of the present, however, and in consequence the Portola dinner party of the hour is a delightful affair, with the accessories of red and yellow decorations and Portola favors. Among those who entertained at a Portola dinner last evening was Mrs. Eleanor Martin, who presided at the informal affair given at her home in Broadway for Senator and Mrs. G. Russ Lukens, Frank Douglas Murray, Lieutenant Mrs. Bane. Another hostess of last evening at a Portola dinner party, where the decorations were in the effective combination of foreign colors intertwined with the stars and stripes, was Miss Marcia Fee, and among those entertained at the hospitable home in Buchanan street were: Miss Rena St. Goar, Dudley Sales, Miss Alice MacFarlane, Philip Paschel, Miss Josephine P. P. P., Miss Fernand Pratt, Jerome Fee, Miss Margaret Ross, Melvin Pfaff.

Captain and Mrs. Sterling P. Adams entertained last evening at a dinner party given at the Presidio for less than a dozen guests. The decorations were in the Portola colors and the pretty affair was in compliment to Mrs. Waggermann, a visitor from Washington, D. C., who has been the incentive for several of the recent parties in the army set. After the dinner party Captain and Mrs. Adams, with their guests, attended one of the local theaters, and among those who enjoyed the occasion were Sam Hamilton, Captain Wilcox, U. S. A., and Mrs. Francis Kates.

The Portola dinner parties during the celebration are to be brilliant affairs and will be given at the Fairmont hotel in an interesting series beginning the first evening of the week. There are to be elaborate dinners every evening, but Wednesday evening is the favored date, on account of the ball, when many of the hostesses will entertain distinguished guests preceding the great dancing party. Among those who will entertain at elaborate dinners next Wednesday at the hotel are: Mrs. Florence Boster, Mrs. Warren S. Palmer, Mrs. J. Parker Currier, Mrs. Louis Euston Mead, Mrs. Selah Chamberlain, Mrs. C. H. Wilson, Mrs. S. C. Houghton.

Edward M. Greenway was host yesterday at an informal luncheon given at the Fairmont for less than a dozen guests, and among those who enjoyed the hospitality of the host on this occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Athole McBean.

Bradley Wallace, who has been abroad all summer with his mother, Mrs. Richard Wallace, has returned to the east, where he will attend Harvard. His young friends here who were expecting that he would return for the

colonial and Greenway dances this season are disappointed. Mrs. Wallace and her mother, Mrs. Bradley, are coming home, however, after a delightful summer in Europe.

Mrs. George Heilman is enjoying an early winter visit in New York and other eastern cities, but expects to return some time this month, while Mrs. John D. Tallant, who left here with Mrs. Heilman, has gone to Europe and will travel about for several months. Mrs. Tallant is accompanied upon the European trip by Mrs. Kate Locke.

Mrs. Charles Freese of Los Angeles and her attractive daughters, Miss Louise and Miss Katherine Freese, will have been enjoying an extended visit in this city, will leave this afternoon for their home in the southern city. Mrs. Freese presided at a farewell tea given yesterday afternoon at the St. Francis and the affair was one of the prettiest given at the hotel within the month. The guests were seated at a large round table and a centerpiece of carnations was the focal point from which violet colored ribbons radiated to each place, and each guest received a corsage bouquet of violets as a pretty memento of the reunion. Among those present were: Miss Helen Bowie, Miss Helen Glenn, Miss Josephine Yusak of Miss Dwyer, Berkeley, Miss Leo Merle, Miss Carmelita Glenn, Miss Mollie Merle.

The talented young amateurs who took part in the society vaudeville at the Menlo park golf and country club and later contributed the same program in benefit for the reading room and library for the blind, have consented a third time to appear at this occasion will be also for charity, and Fabiola hospital in Oakland is to receive the proceeds from the evening of entertainment given at the Liberty theater across the bay. Willard Barlow will again have charge of several of the clever stunts during the rehearsals and Joseph Rosborough is giving his time and talent toward the success of the performance. Among those who will take part and who were in the former success in town are Miss Enid Gregg, Miss Merritt Reid and Miss Edith McMullin.

Mrs. J. Downey Harvey, who has been visiting Mrs. Elmer M. Mead at the home of the latter in Broadway, has gone out of town for a brief stay as the guest of Mrs. J. Athearn Folger at the country home of the hostess at Woodside, but will return probably for the Portola festivities during the week.

Mrs. George H. Powers, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Chapman, in Detroit, will leave soon for Boston, when she will be the guest of her son, Dr. George H. Powers, for several weeks in the eastern city, but will return before the holiday season to her home in Clay street.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

SQUIREL SKINS—H. M., Castle Springs, Cal. How are squirrel skins tanned? The skin is laid on a smooth board, the fur side underneath, and fastened down with tin tacks. It is first washed over with a solution of salt, then with a solution of two and a half ounces of alum to one pint of warm water. This is applied with a sponge and the surface is well moistened. This is repeated at intervals for three days. When the skin is quite dry, the tacks are taken out and the skin is rolled loosely the long way, the hair inside, and it is then drawn quickly, backward and forward through a large smooth ring until it is quite soft; then roll it in the contrary way of the skin and repeat the operation. When the skin is first stretched care must be taken to scrape it, so as to remove any fatty matter.

or end a straight. For example, ace (highest), king, queen, knave, ten is a straight and the highest. Five, four, three, two and ace (lowest) is also a straight and the lowest. The ace can not occupy an intermediate position: Thus, king, queen, ace, two, three is not a straight. A straight will beat three of a kind and as a flush will beat a straight. It follows that it will beat three.

NATURALIZATION PAPERS—C. B., City. Where can I obtain citizenship papers? In either the Federal or interior court. As you do not state whether you want first or second papers, suggest that you go to one of the courts, where you will be given full information by the clerk.

DECREE—E. E. R., City. What are the conditions that govern an interlocutory decree in a divorce case? The principal one is that during the year after the granting of such decree neither party can marry and then only in case that decree is followed by a final decree. Conditions may be imposed by the court, but these are controlled by circumstances in each case.

WINE—H. M., Castle Springs, Cal. Please publish the directions for making wine from grapes. This department refers you to works on wine making, as it has not the space to describe the methods from the picking of grapes to the bottling of wine.

CIRCUS—C. H. H., San Jose, Cal. Did the circus show in San Francisco Sunday, September 12th is customary for circuses to show on Sunday? It did. It is customary for circuses to give shows on Sunday.

ACE IN POKER—E. Berkeley, Cal. Does the ace count at either end of a straight in poker when playing with a deck of three aces, leaving out 2, 3, 4 and 5? Is that true does three of a kind beat a straight or a flush in that game? In poker the rules do not recognize a "short" deck. The rules call for 52 cards. The rules of the game say that a straight is a sequence of five cards not all of the same suit. An ace may begin

NAVAL ACADEMY—Subscriber, Woodland, Cal. What is the age limit for appointment to the United States naval academy at Annapolis? Sixteen to twenty years.

Going Up and Going Down

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