

GREAT MASS MEETING

P. H. McCarthy and Other Labor Leaders to Address Gathering This Afternoon

Greatest Public Meeting of Campaign to Be Held at Building Trades Council Temple

The greatest public meeting of the campaign will be held today for the endorsement of the Geary street bond issue, under the auspices of the labor council, and the building trades council. It will be a public meeting in every respect. Every one interested in the subject is invited to attend. The meeting will be called at 2 o'clock this afternoon in the temple of the building trades council, Fourteenth and Guerrero streets.

The speakers chosen for the occasion include the leading figures in the two large bodies of organized labor. Of special interest will be the addresses of Mayor elect P. H. McCarthy and Louis A. Weyand. McCarthy will discuss the situation of the incoming administration toward the Geary street issue. Weyand, who is the organizer for the international brotherhood of boiler makers, will discuss the traction situation in Cleveland, with which he is thoroughly familiar. Weyand lives in Cleveland and is here at present on business connected with his organization. He has consented to appear at the meeting to tell of the struggles between the city of Cleveland and the traction companies.

Three supervisors elect will also deliver addresses. They are John O. Walsh, John P. McLaughlin and Charles A. Nelson. They are strong supporters of the Geary street bond issue and will join in urging that the city operate the line.

FULL VOTE NEEDED

It is recognized that a complete poll of the city would show more than the necessary two-thirds in favor of the bonds. The difficulty lies in getting the voters to the polls. This is the problem that the labor leaders are undertaking to solve. At the meeting today special stress will be laid upon the necessity of a full vote.

The meeting will be called to order by William McDonnell, chairman of the general committee of the labor council, and the building trades council and the labor council on bond matters. He will introduce Andrew J. Gallagher, secretary of the labor council, who will preside. Gallagher will speak briefly. Addresses will then be made by the speakers mentioned above.

Mayor elect P. H. McCarthy, William R. Hagerty, Supervisor elect John O. Walsh, Daniel O'Connell, John A. Kelly, president of the labor council, Supervisor elect John P. McLaughlin, Frank C. McDonald, chairman of the executive board of the building trades council, Judge James G. Maguire, Supervisor elect Charles A. Nelson and Louis A. Weyand, organizer for the international brotherhood of boiler makers.

Hagerty has made a special study of municipal ownership and will be prepared to tell of the success of foreign cities in operating their street railways. The agents of the various unions and the delegates to the two big councils have been instructed to be present. In addition all union men have been urged to attend and a general invitation has been extended to the public.

UNITED RAILROADS ACTIVE

The active campaign against the bonds by the United Railroads and its allies was extended yesterday into the North beach district. New recruits were being "employed" in this section to make converts for the company. Money was expended liberally.

In the thirty-fifth district, John D. Hagerty, the anti-bond politician, was active yesterday in behalf of the corporation.

The endorsements of the bond issues continue to roll in. Practically every labor organization in the city has pledged its support. In most cases it has been by unanimous vote. In every labor body where it was considered the bond issue has been approved. With a few exceptions the improvement clubs have also given their endorsement.

The women of the city mean to keep up their efforts until the very day of the election. They will meet in conference again tomorrow in their headquarters, 501 Kama building, at 717 Market street. Mrs. Lillian Harris Coffin will preside. Encouraging reports have reached her from the women who are directing the campaign in the different precincts of the city.

RESOLUTIONS INDORSE BONDS

The following resolutions have been adopted by the Anti-Japanese laundry league:

Whereas, the supervisors of the city and county of San Francisco have submitted to the electors of said city and county a proposition to incur a bonded indebtedness in the sum of \$2,920,000 for the purpose of constructing a municipally owned street railway in Market and Geary streets from the ferry to the beach; and

Whereas, we believe that the municipality should own and control such public utilities for the reason that the profits accruing therefrom tend to reduce the taxes of the property owners in this city, and

Whereas, we believe this railway could and would be operated at a profit, for the reason that private capital is not being willing to undertake the same proposition; therefore be it

Resolved, that the anti-Japanese laundry league in regular session assembled declares in favor of assuming such bonded indebtedness and advises all its members and friends to cast their ballots in favor thereof at the election December 20, 1909.

MORE WORKMEN SAID TO BE MISSING FROM SHOPS

Rock Island Employees Insist Explosion Victims Still Unemployed

SHAWNEE, Okla., Dec. 25.—Employees at the Rock Island shops insist that several men are still missing as a result of the engine explosion yesterday, but they give no names, presumably because they are awaiting an official checking up of the 600 men employed in and around the shops.

In the morgue today only the bodies of Robert Kerr and John Johns remain. The report that an unidentified boy was killed proved a hoax. Albert Cook, who was missing yesterday, reported today, uninjured. Company C of the national guard remained on duty until late today.

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THE STRAPHANGER FAMILY—Are They in Favor of Geary Street Bonds? Yes?



HAWAII SOLVING THE LABOR PROBLEM

European Immigrants May Supplement Asiatic Hordes on the Plantations

[Special Correspondence of The Call]

HONOLULU, Dec. 15.—In an effort to cast off the domination of the Asiatics in the Hawaiian islands and loosen the tension in the labor situation immigrants are being brought from Europe by the board of immigration, which is practically the Planters' association. Some time ago several hundred were brought out from Harbin by A. J. Pearlestrous and former Secretary of the Territory Atkinson. Now they have gone for more.

NOT PLANTATION LABORERS

The arrivals on the ship proved to be persons evidently from the cities of Portugal and apparently unfitted for labor on the plantations. As soon as they were sighted on the ship by their fellow countrymen the latter loudly advised the newcomers not to sign contracts engaging themselves as plantation laborers. The tumult became so violent that the hose was resorted to as a means of dispersing the disturbers.

The Swanley brought nearly 800 passengers. Arrangements had been made to carry not less than 600 and the steamer was provisioned for that number, but just before starting a number of those who had signed a willingness to go over seas backed out, so the steamer came in short handed.

THE ANVIL CHORUS

When the expedition was being arranged several Portuguese, each believing he was best fitted in every way for the work, sought the position as recruiting agent for the board. Most of those after the plum had mixed, more or less, in politics and the position was demanded on the score of what they had done for the party. Failing in their attempts to get the billet it is said each drew a mallet and knocked the scheme to their friends in the Azores, and in that way many were kept from coming out.

NO WHITE SLAVERY

Honolulu is one of the few places under the United States laws where white slavery is not made a crime. It is a crime committed but rarely, even by the Japanese, and the United States district attorney is handling such offenses in a manner that is fast putting an end to the business. Practically, Honolulu is as cleanly, in a moral way, during the week as it is dry on Sunday, except among Orientals.

Personal Brevities

Mr. and Mrs. R. Scott of San Jose are at the Manx.

Mr. Nathan, a Sacramento merchant, is at the St. Francis.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Durand of Stanford university are at the Palace.

Dr. Charles Plus, a prominent physician of Guadaloupe, is staying at the Argonaut.

R. E. de Quinne, a machinery dealer of New London, Canada, is at the Argonaut.

Lieutenant C. C. Burt, U. S. A., and Mrs. Burt spent Christmas day at the Palace hotel.

C. P. Kindelberger, surgeon in the United States navy, and his wife are at the St. Francis.

Mrs. Agnes H. B. Judd and Miss Agnes E. Judd of Honolulu are registered at the Fairmont.

Frank P. Hogan, wife and daughter, of Spokane arrived in the city yesterday and are registered at the St. Francis.

Joseph L. Eastland, well known in local society circles, who went east a short time ago, returned yesterday and is staying at the St. Francis hotel.

J. A. Moore, a Seattle capitalist, who has been east on matters pertaining to the steel business in which he is interested, is at the Palace on his way back home.

OPENS IN NEW PLAY—Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Ferreus Roberts opened here today, under the management of the Shuberts, in the new play by Rupert Hughes, entitled "The Transformation." She was well received.

City Has Much to Gain and Can Not Lose by Voting Bonds

By MATT I. SULLIVAN

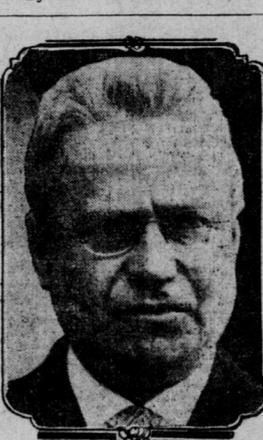
"I AM heartily in favor of the bond issue for the construction of the Geary street railroad. The strenuous efforts being made and the large amount of money being expended by the United Railroads to defeat the measure should impress every one with the magnitude of the interests at stake.

"The United Railroads is now, according to its own published reports, collecting in cash fares more than \$21,000 a day, or more than \$7,500,000 a year. More than \$3,000,000 of that income represents a net profit, excluding interest on bonds.

"It is safe to assume that 10 years hence, by reason of natural development and the great influx of immigrants after the completion of the Panama canal, our population will exceed 1,000,000. With twice the population naturally the business and income of the street railroads will double. Twenty years from today far seeing people predict a population from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000. It is the future that is now worrying the United Railroads and the Pittsburg corporation which holds all of its stock. It is the future welfare of our city that should interest all thoughtful citizens and induce them to favor the bond issue.

"The franchise of the Presidio and Ferries railroad will expire in 1913. Certain other franchises of less importance will expire before that date. If the bond issue is carried next Thursday and thereafter the city shall construct and successfully operate a railroad from the ferry to Geary street, thence to the ocean and a branch to the market. The franchise of the Presidio and Ferries railroad will equip and operate a railroad over the lines of that company.

"In 1929 the franchises under which



Matt I. Sullivan, prominent local attorney, who is strong advocate of Geary street road.

the United Railroads operates in Marin county, Hayes, McAllister, Haight, Mission, Howard and other main thoroughfares will expire. As surely as night follows day if the municipality successfully and profitably operates the Geary street and Presidio and Ferries systems the people will take over all of the franchises expiring in 1929. In such an event it is safe to predict that the net income from the municipally owned roads will amount annually to more

than half the taxes levied for city purposes.

"Many excellent citizens doubt the wisdom of transferring the ownership of our street railroads to the municipality, and therefore declare their opposition to the bond issue. They should be willing to try the experiment of operating a road in Geary street. We can not lose by the experiment. The income of the road in 1908, notwithstanding its dilapidated condition, amounted to \$226,000. With a modern up to date system and with commodious cars and enough of them the line is sure to pay from the start.

"The total bond issue called for amounts to \$2,920,000. Interest on the bonds at 4 1/2 per cent per annum will be \$90,900, or \$126,000 less than the income of the road in 1908. The bonds if issued will not increase taxation, but, on the contrary, will reduce our taxes. If municipally owned street railroads are a success in England, Scotland, Germany and other European countries, as statistics prove them to be, there is no reason why they should not be a success in San Francisco. At all events the city can suffer no harm by testing the efficiency of municipal ownership by operating a road in Geary street.

"The evils of ownership by the city can not exceed the evils of ownership by the United Railroads. No Government could long remain in office in any civilized community that would tolerate a management as disgraceful, inadequate and unpopular as the management of the United Railroads. When the people have a voice in the selection of those vested with the control of the railroads the comfort, safety and convenience of passengers will be considered of prime importance. Now the chief purpose of our street railroad corporations is to pay interest on bonds of inflated value and dividends on watered stock, regardless of the rights of the traveling public. It is time for a change."

TWO BIG SEATTLE BANKS TO COMBINE

New Institution Will Be Largest in the Northwest, With \$1,000,000 Capital

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 25.—The Seattle national bank and the Puget Sound national bank, two of the largest banking houses in the northwest, are to consolidate. An official announcement to this effect was made today.

The consolidated bank will have a capital of \$1,000,000 and a surplus of \$200,000, each bank contributing \$500,000 to the capital and surplus of the new institution. The name of the consolidated institution will be the Seattle national bank, and the quarters will nearly double the present banking facilities of the Seattle national.

Jacob Furth, at present president of the Puget Sound national bank, will be chairman of the board of directors and E. W. Andrews, at present president of the Seattle national bank, will be president of the new bank.

This merger will form the largest bank anywhere in the northwest. According to the last report to the comptroller of the currency, November 16, 1909, the combined deposits of the two banks at that time were \$16,569,000 and the aggregate resources upward of \$19,000,000.

A Swede has constructed an aerial torpedo which is claimed to be capable of destroying a fortification or the biggest battleship afloat. It weighs 22 pounds.

Miss Edna Cockrell, formerly a teacher in the Tonkawa public schools, is now assistant superintendent of the girls' industrial school at Clarkson.

One hundred thousand gallons of water sterilized by electrically generated ozone are used daily by the Pittsburg homeopathic hospital.

During the last season the Pennsylvania railroad company set out 308,030 trees, including pines, larches, spruce and hardwoods.

Represented graphically, the United States now consumes yearly a roll of white paper 830 feet high and 377 feet in diameter.

Dr. Mary Wolfe, superintendent of the state hospital at Norristown, Pa., has under her supervision more than 800 patients.

LORD CURZON MAY MARRY MRS. ASTOR

Friends Believe He Stands Better Chance Than Youthful Captain Ponsoby

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Friends of Mrs. John Jacob Astor are inclined to doubt the report from London that she is to become the wife of Captain Cyril Myles Brabazon Ponsoby, giving more credence to the rumor that the man in the case is Lord Curzon, former viceroy of India. Captain Ponsoby is but 28 years of age and the disparity in years between him and Mrs. Astor is regarded as too wide to make the match possible. He is at least 10 years her junior.

Cablegrams from London have mentioned Captain Ponsoby as an active and probably successful aspirant for Mrs. Astor's hand. He is very youthful in appearance and looks a mere boy. He is popular in society and a favorite with the fair sex.

The youthful captain comes of an ancient family. One of his ancestors was Sir John Ponsoby, who commanded a regiment of horse in the service of Cromwell. The young man himself was decorated with the Victorian order for his services in South Africa. He is an aide to the duke of Connaught, the king's brother. His family is immensely wealthy, owning large estates in Ireland and a heavy interest in the Gordons hotels company, which maintains hotels in many leading English cities.

Mrs. Astor was worth several millions in her own right before she married Astor. Her friend, Mrs. Benjamin Guinness, insists that Lord Curzon will be the man of Mrs. Astor's choice. In the meantime Mrs. Astor is spending the Christmas holidays at Caslobery park with the earl and countess of Essex. She is preserving a discreet silence. She denies nothing. At the same time she confirms nothing.

AUTHOR BEARS SHOCK OF BEREAVEMENT SPLENDIDLY

Gives Directions for Removal of Daughter's Body

REDDING, Conn., Dec. 25.—Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) has borne up splendidly in the bereavement which came to him yesterday in the death of his daughter, Jean.

France has 7,883 postal savings banks.

Several of the household servants and a few of the family's most intimate friends will accompany it.

The plan outlined in the bill is somewhat similar to the government administered in the Philippines under the Taft commission.

FORGER RELEASED ON BAIL—St. Louis, Dec. 25.—Al. Dwight Fetter, who spent last night in jail following his conviction for third degree forgery, was released on bond of \$12,000 today.

MISS KATE GORDON of New Orleans, as president of the Juvenile court circle, is leading a movement to establish a state industrial school providing manual training for boys and girls.

EXPERT UNEARTH'S BIG DISCREPANCY

Report of Former Mill Valley Engineer Clark Found Incorrect

Difference of \$5,212.24 Found in Examination of Records by Mayor J. W. Amrath

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

MILL VALLEY, Dec. 25.—Mayor J. W. Amrath, who has expended the report of former Engineer W. Lewis Clark, read a report to the local board of trustees at its last meeting, in which he stated that there is a discrepancy in Clark's report to the amount of \$5,212.24 for materials used in street work.

Amrath's report in part is as follows: "The report of the town engineer is substantially correct, as far as the compilation of labor is concerned. There is, however, a discrepancy in the engineer's report of \$5,212.24 for materials. The report states on page five, labor and team hire as \$11,591.11. Specific items in this amount bring a total of \$6,011.09. This would seem to leave a balance for other roads of labor of \$5,970.02, which is stated on the engineer's report, page 15, as \$10,988.25. Deducting \$5,970.02 for labor leaves \$5,018.23, being a difference of materials.

"It would seem that the engineer's report states that about \$5,000 worth of material was used on 'sundry roads.' This is clearly erroneous, to say the least, since while there was work done on sundry roads there was comparatively little of material used.

"It follows that the materials unaccounted for in the engineer's report must have been used in the specific items accounted for by him, and that these specific items cost about \$5,000 more than the engineer's report states. "The conclusions drawn from the data furnished above will probably prevent a recurrence of like performance, aside from the fact that the within procedure was undoubtedly illegal. I call attention to warrants for cement charged to the street fund. Aside from a possible \$150 for cement used in constructing curbing and gutters there was no cement used on the streets, and the charge against the street fund is therefore erroneous.

In another portion of his report Amrath comments on the use of six cars of oil as follows: "On page 3 of the summary of materials a payment appears of \$1,253.58 for six cars of oil, invoices September 9 to 15. The oiling commenced early in the undertaking of the work and it is not evident where six cars of oil could have been disposed of to advantage in September."

Amrath says that he believes the board will take no action against Clark in the matter.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR EMPLOYES OF GARAGE

Chauffeurs and Machinists Enjoy Turkey Dinner

So that none of his chauffeurs and machinists might eat a lonely dinner Harry Jerome of the reinforced concrete garage that covers the large corner at Pacific avenue and Polk street invited all yesterday to a turkey feast in the garage club room. More than 75 enjoyed the spread, which took in all of the traditional dinner dishes down to nuts and cigars. The club spirit that exists among the employees made the dinner an attraction even to those who have relatives and intimate friends in the city. It was doubly welcome, therefore, to those not so fortunate.

The dinner was not strictly a garage affair, as the employees were privileged to invite others. Besides Jerome there were present Herbert Powers, superintendent of the garage, secretary, and Foreman Ray Hallaway and Frank Kerwin.

This is the second Christmas that the Jerome garage has seen. Its fireproof structure, with the auto elevator carrying machines to the upper and underground floors, was completed a year ago in May. The building's capacity is 175 live machines, besides large storage quarters for those not in use.

Miss Kate Gordon of New Orleans, as president of the Juvenile court circle, is leading a movement to establish a state industrial school providing manual training for boys and girls.

NEW YORK

ALL FURS

1/2 Price

PARIS

Coats Reduced

Regardless of Cost

139-141-143 GEARY ST., Bet. Grant Ave. and Stockton St.

Altman's

Clearance Sale

Suits, Coats and Dresses

It's an absolute fact that we will offer here tomorrow many garments for less money than they cost us, simply because we can't afford to take a chance of carrying a single garment over to next season.

The garments priced below include splendid assortments of mixtures, blacks and navy blue, broadcloths, diagonals, chevrons and chevriots in all wanted shades.

<p>LOT 1</p> <p>Includes every Suit and Dress in stock which regularly sold up to \$30. All going this clearing sale at.....</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$13.75</p>	<p>LOT 2</p> <p>Comprises Suits and Dresses in the store that formerly sold up to \$40. On sale tomorrow....</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$18.75</p>
<p>LOT 3</p> <p>Includes every Suit and Dress in stock that formerly sold up to \$55. On sale tomorrow....</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$24.50</p>	<p>LOT 4</p> <p>Comprises our entire stock of high grade Novelty Suits and Dresses, including many showroom models. Formerly sold up to \$75. On sale tomorrow at.....</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$34.50</p>

150 Junior and Misses' Tailored Suits, \$15.00

(Values up to \$30.00)