

"Goldbricking Uncle Sam for Land"
HERE IS A DETAILED STORY
OF HOW THE TRICK IS DONE
SEE IT IN THE SUNDAY CALL



THE WEATHER
YESTERDAY—Cloudy; 20 of an inch of
rain; west wind; maximum temperature 54,
minimum 50.
FORECAST FOR TODAY—Fair; after-
noon warmer; moderate north wind.

CAUCUS SOUNDS DEATH KNELL OF NORTON'S PLAN

Democratic State Central Com- mittee Will Uphold Direct Primary Law

Los Angeles County Chairman Falls Easy Victim to Clever Talking Politicians

Theodore A. Bell Will Be Only Accepted but Unindorsed Bourbon Candidate

By GEORGE A. VAN SMITH
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

LOS ANGELES, April 11.—Failure is already written on the attempt of Albert M. Norton and his Los Angeles followers formally to array the democracy of California in opposition to the direct primary law.

The democratic state conference which will convene in Los Angeles tomorrow will reaffirm democracy's college allegiance to the direct primary system. It will not formally indorse Theodore A. Bell for governor. It will not nominate a state ticket by indorsement, nor will it attempt to employ the machinery of the party to defeat the aspirations of all democrats not chosen by itself.

Bell Real Candidate

Thanks to the efforts of Bell himself, acting in accord with the overwhelming sentiment of the advance guard bourgeois, Norton's attempt to play horse with Bell and his party probably will be smothered in committee.

Theodore Bell will undoubtedly leave the state conference the accepted and only democratic candidate for governor, but the state central committee will be at the service of any and all democrats who may wish to try for their party's nomination for governor or for any other office.

Norton Easy Victim

Norton, who is chairman of the Los Angeles county committee, admitted today that he was opposed to the direct primary law. His bumptiousness and inexperience made him the easy victim of clever men making him ridiculous and working Bell an injury. He ran amuck with a scheme which, if successful, would convert the conference into a state nominating convention composed of delegates from two-thirds of the counties of the state and in whose selection the democrats of the state had absolutely no voice.

His ticket nominated, young Norton purposed to charge the state central committee with the circulation of petitions for the conference nominees only, thereby employing the party machinery to defeat any democrat who might wish to become a bona fide direct primary candidate.

Uphold Direct Primary

The three hours' conference resulted in an agreement to leave the question of indorsement to the committee on resolutions. If the plans now accepted do not go awry, that committee will be composed almost exclusively of men opposed to the indorsement idea and convinced that a democratic slap at the spirit of the direct primary law would insure overwhelming party defeat.

To Name Committees

T. E. Gibson, the Los Angeles editor, is opposed to the indorsement scheme. He will be the temporary chairman of the conference. He will name the committees on credentials and resolutions. Those committees will consist of one member from each county. Forty-five counties have named delegates. If all are represented at the conference the committee on resolutions will consist of 45 men, 40 of whom at least will be expected to be opposed to the selection of a ticket by indorsement.

Bell declared before going into the caucus that he would fight the Norton scheme. Submission to a committee on resolutions was described after the caucus adjourned as a "nice way of letting Norton down easy."

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CORPORATIONS BLAMED FOR HIGH PRICES

Food Products Trust Accused by Ohio Grocer

CLEVELAND, April 11.—The high cost of living in Ohio and elsewhere is directly due to an arbitrary scale of prices enforced by the big food products corporations, according to testimony given here today before the legislative committee investigating food prices.

Edward W. Klausermeier, president of the Ohio retail grocers' association, was the principal witness. He said grocers were unable to make any profit on 70 per cent of merchandise bought from food products corporations.

BANK SWINDLER IS CAPTURED WHILE AT WORK

John R. Walker Believed to Have Operated Extensively Along Pacific Coast

With Two Confederates Prisoner Has Secured Small Sums in San Francisco

"You see, the detective had a string attached to his thumb, which ran over here to the window, and when the man came in we pulled the string," said C. Hellhouse, teller at the Savings and Loan society, yesterday, in explaining the capture of John R. Walker, who is being held by the police pending an investigation of his movements.

"But the detective could not get around in time and Mr. Hellhouse and Mr. Bush made a flying leap through the teller's window and grabbed him, holding on until the officer could get there," explained another attaché of the bank.

Detectives employed by the California bankers' association succeeded in trapping Walker, alias T. A. Bowles, alias Harvey Monig, yesterday, after he, with two confederates, had succeeded in swindling a majority of the local savings banks out of small sums. Police Detectives Murphy and Bell had been waiting for the trio also, and it was they who landed the supposed leader behind the bars. Walker's method was simple, but he is said by the police to have worked the savings banks up and down the entire coast.

About two weeks ago Walker deposited \$100 in coin with the International banking corporation and was given a check book. In less time than a week he withdrew the deposit, but withheld the check book. He then made small cash deposits with several savings banks ranging from \$50 to \$100 and tried to draw against the checks. He succeeded with the San Francisco savings union and, it is said, with the Mutual savings bank and the Hibernia savings and loan society.

During all of this time the bankers' association had been on the lookout for him, and when he entered the Savings and Loan bank yesterday to deposit a check on the International and draw against it the police effected his capture, but not without a struggle. It took the combined efforts of Detectives Murphy and Bell and Detective Meinbrech of the Pinkerton force to place him in the patrol wagon. He was placed in the city prison and his name entered on the detinue book pending the efforts to capture his pals.

FOUR SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY TOWNS 'DRY'

Anti-Saloon Element Victorious in Hanford, Dinuba, Fowler and Turlock

FRESNO, April 11.—Elections were held in a number of San Joaquin valley towns today at which the liquor question was the issue, either directly or indirectly. In Hanford the citizens' or good government ticket won after a hard fight. The three trustees elected who are for a "dry" town are John Dawson, Freeland Parish and A. W. Bass.

Dinuba voted directly on saloons, the "dry" winning by 138 to 86. The entire good government ticket was elected. In Fowler the good government ticket, standing for opposition to saloons, won by a vote of 125 to 91.

Madera voted on Sunday closing, which was defeated by a vote of 270 to 210. The incumbent officials were re-elected. Merced went wet by a majority of 100.

DATA OPENED TO "CLIENTS," BUT CLOSED TO CITY

Mrs. E. L. Baldwin, Before Clubwomen's Convention, Scores Secretary

Gave Cunningham Coal Land Claimants Free Access to All Reports

By MARY ASHE MILLER
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SANTA BARBARA, April 11.—"Ballinger withheld the information about Hetch Hetchy from San Francisco as long as he could and referred to the city as 'the other side.' As it is well known that he was giving the Cunningham claimants free access to all data, one is compelled to wonder what 'side' Ballinger is on," said Mrs. E. L. Baldwin, president of the California club, this morning in her address before the State Federation of Women's Clubs, explaining the San Francisco side of the Hetch Hetchy controversy.

Under the head of forestry Mrs. Baldwin set forth the replies to a number of the objections made to the development of the water rights needed by San Francisco in Hetch Hetchy valley. Mrs. Baldwin began by reading the following resolution, which was passed at the last annual convention held at Del Monte:

Resolved, that the California Federation of Women's Clubs, whose members believe that our state and national parks should be extended instead of destroyed as civilization goes on, protest against the invasion of this grand landscape garden of our national park for commercial purposes, and pray that our members and senators from California, will use their best endeavor to have this proposed grant of water right in the Hetch Hetchy valley to the city of San Francisco postponed until a complete and impartial investigation of the matter is made by Congress as to the necessity to justify such a sacrifice of this valuable asset to local and selfish interests.

Investigation Courted

She explained that although some chagrin may have been felt by San Francisco clubwomen at that time at the form of the resolution, they could make no valid objection and simply waited for the desired probing of the matter.

"Truth is never afraid of investigation," the speaker said.

She then told of the bond election in San Francisco in November last, which carried 20 to 1 in favor of Hetch Hetchy.

"Shortly after this," said Mrs. Baldwin, "we received from the forestry committee a request to protest to our representatives in congress against the proposed promised municipal water supply of our city. San Francisco clubwomen felt a decided loyalty to their federation, but could not go against so decided a stand of the voters of our city."

She went on to say that Mrs. Hume had considered the matter settled by the resolution at Del Monte, but finally acceded to the request of the women's clubs of San Francisco that further explanation be given at this convention.

Aid to Irrigation

Mrs. Baldwin then said that the statement had been made that the Modesto and Turlock regions would suffer in their irrigation districts. She asked the delegates from those districts to look up the facts with the officials of Hetch Hetchy. The scheme would be, in fact, she declared, a safeguard in the dry seasons, because three years' supply of water would be stored. She pointed out, also, that the Hetch Hetchy could not be dealt with at all until Lake Eleanor was fully developed and the population of San Francisco had passed the several million mark.

Ballinger Is Accused Flayed by Clubwomen

Mrs. E. L. Baldwin, who ably defended San Francisco's rights in Hetch Hetchy yesterday before the State Federation of Women's Clubs



"We are not here to commit the convention to one side of public policy. We only ask you to investigate. We have great influence and we must use it for all parts of the state. We only ask the privilege of storing the water which flows through the mountain meadows."

BURIED GOLD LURES SEARCHERS TO FARM

Hunt for Hidden Horde Tinged With Plottings of Prison Cells

[Special Dispatch to The Call]
REDWOOD CITY, April 11.—Tinged with the mysterious plottings of prison cells is the search now being made for the money buried by Joe Briggan, a Swiss rancher convicted of murder eight years ago and sentenced to life imprisonment at San Quentin. The hunt was revived by the appearance on the scene last January of Jack Manning, a paroled convict, who declared he had a diagram of the ranch showing where the treasure lies buried. The money, amounting to \$1,250, is claimed by the relatives of Joseph Mattil, the murdered man.

Briggan had his ranch on the Coast range, back of Woodside. Mattil was employed by him, and in the spring of 1902 the latter's murdered body was found in a gully. Briggan was arrested on the charge of murder, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge George H. Buck, August 25, 1902. At the time of his conviction it was generally known that Mattil was possessed of a large sum of money, and the belief was that Briggan, after killing him, had taken the money and buried it. On this matter Briggan maintained a sullen silence. A search was made, but without success, and as the years progressed without bringing any reward, it was dropped.

A few days before Briggan was taken to San Quentin Jack Manning of Placer county also became a prisoner there. According to the latter he and Briggan struck up a peculiar penitentiary friendship, the ultimate result of which was that the Rancher told Manning of the buried money.

"He gave me a diagram of the ranch," said Manning to Deputy Stanley Murray, "and told me that in case I was paroled I was to get the money and turn it over to his relatives, who were to use it in trying to have him paroled. I went down to his sister's home in Redwood City when I was paroled with the diagram of the ranch, and got her to give me a couple of guns to defend myself against mountain lions and dogs on the ranch. It was my intention to secure the money, but before I visited the ranch I became drunk and was arrested in Mountain View. Then I was sent back for breaking my parole. The money's still on the ranch."

Murray did not believe Manning's story, but it is corroborated by Mrs. Alexander Fraser of Redwood City, sister of Briggan.

Truce Is Declared

At the afternoon session Mrs. J. E. Cowles spoke of the biennial and at the close of her speech asked the privilege of personal remarks. She explained that it was all a mistake. Mrs. Moore was in the habit of sending her duplicates of many letters sent out and the copy of the greetings had come to her. She, being a close friend of Mrs. Barnum, had shown the letter to her.

PINCHOT IS RETICENT, BUT HE SMILES

Has All Day Conference With Roosevelt at Maurizio and Emerges Looking Happy

AMERICAN PROBLEMS ARE DISCUSSED AT MEETING

Former President Refuses to Make Statement, but Says He Is Much Attached to Former Forester

LONG TRIP IN HILLS TAKEN BY NOTED MEN

ALL THAT ROOSEVELT SAID AFTER HIS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY WITH PINCHOT

"I personally am very much attached to Pinchot. I was very glad to see him, and listened to everything he had to say, as I shall listen to any friend of mine on any side of any public question. We came to no conclusion. I shall make no statement after any other conference I may have."

By JOHN CALLAN O'LOUGHLIN
[Special Cable to The Call]

PORTO MAURIZIO, Italy, April 11. No event in Theodore Roosevelt's entire trip has been of greater importance or interest to the American people than the conference of Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot held here today in the Maritime Alps.

It was an ideal day, with brilliant sunshine and a breeze softly whispering through the palm and olive leaves. It seemed to be a setting for a peaceful idyl rather than for the Homeric tale of human conflict that Pinchot told. But filled full as Pinchot was with the subject and with Roosevelt, militant as of old, strengthened by battles with the beasts of the jungle and desirous of learning from a tried friend who had been a member of his "tennis cabinet" his views on what has transpired in the United States during his long absence, the beautiful scene was forgotten and the two wrestled mentally with the same forces and discussed the same great evils with which they had dealt while one was the chief executive of the country and the other the head of the forestry bureau.

Pinchot Wears Smile

When Pinchot returned to the Riviera Palace hotel after the all day conference his face wore a smile outshining that on President Taft's face the day of the latter's election to the presidency. It is, of course, impossible to say in detail what Pinchot said to Roosevelt or what Roosevelt said to Pinchot. It is only known that Pinchot observed his usual policy in making no attack upon President Taft.

Pinchot had an early breakfast and was at Miss Carew's villa by 9 o'clock, where he was greeted by Miss Carew, Ethel and Kermit Roosevelt, and, accompanied by them, walked to the Villa Raphis, a short distance away. Mrs. Roosevelt was in the garden, enjoying the fragrance of the flowers, and when she caught sight of Pinchot she greeted him in her usually pleasant manner with which she would receive an old friend. While she was chatting with Pinchot Roosevelt emerged from the house.

"Hello, Gifford," he shouted. Pinchot immediately hastened to him and the two men shook hands. Roosevelt asked the former forester to excuse him for a moment and then turned to a stenographer and began dictating from a pile of letters and cablegrams lying on his table. The moment he asked for turned-out to be an hour. Pinchot passing the time talking with the Roosevelts and picking out varieties of trees not known in America.

Conference Is Lengthy

Then Pinchot and Roosevelt began the discussion to which both had looked forward. Pinchot speaking with enthusiasm and Roosevelt listening with the deep interest of a man who had inaugurated policies which had promised to be of such inestimable value to the people of America. The conference continued during the luncheon at Miss Carew's home and during the long walk and ride over the mountains taken in the afternoon.

Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Carew and Ab-

PILOT BOAT SUNK WITH NINE MEN—Gy-
read, Belgium, April 11.—An unknown steamer
today ran down and sank a pilot boat off the
West Lander lightship. Nine men were
drowned.