

The San Francisco Call

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The Concert of the Powers



Claus Spreckels Jr. to Mary Miss Ellis Moon

Student Romance Will Culminate in Wedding of Prominent and Popular Couple

FROM San Jose comes the announcement of the engagement of Miss Ellis Moon of that city and Claus Spreckels Jr. Nothing has been given out as to the date of the wedding, but it is thought by the intimate friends of the young couple that the event is not far off.

Miss Moon is the daughter of Mrs. Frank Hall Moon, long a resident of San Jose. Her father, the late Frank Hall Moon, was a retired capitalist and lumberman of Wisconsin. He came to California a number of years ago and settled in San Jose, also building a spacious summer home in the mountains near Saratoga.

Weddings and the plans for weddings with the gossip of engagements make an attractive collection of subjects for tea table chat this week. One of the latest weddings that is announced for the first day of June is that of Miss Margaret Thompson and Ensign Charles Conroy of the Navy.

A pleasant surprise is in store for the guests who are bidden to the tea to be given this afternoon by Miss Aileen Doe. The engagement of the young hostess to Paul Johnson of Berkeley will be announced.

Miss Doe is the charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Doe and has many friends in the younger set. She is a sister of Miss Laura Doe and a cousin of Miss Marguerite Doe. She is a cousin also of that attractive young matron, Mrs. Aileen Green. The date for the wedding is not announced.

The wedding of the week will be that of Miss Zillah Lee Gibson and Dr. Henry Matthew Elberg of San Luis Obispo, which will be celebrated at high noon tomorrow at Woodland.

The Misses Morrison of San Jose, who have remained over the weekend, entertained yesterday at a tea given in the Palace.

Cards are out for the marriage of Miss Anna Nicholson Scott and Almer Newhall that will take place Thursday evening, April 28, in St. John's Presbyterian church in this city. The reception will be held at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. Nicholas G. Kittle, in Broadway. Several hundred friends have received cards for the church ceremony, but the guest list for the reception has been restricted to the relatives and closest friends.

Mrs. Walter Scott Franklin was hostess at an informal luncheon given yesterday at the Palace in compliment to Mrs. Harry Thornton Lally. There were half a dozen friends at the informal affair.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

THE SAME SUIT—C. F. P. City. In playing cribbage, the dealer has lost the same suit in the crib does this count four, provided they are not of the same suit as the turn up? No.

CARDIOPHYDIA—Mrs. C. F. City. What is cardiophydia, said to be a disease of the heart? The word does not appear in any of the dictionaries.

PAPERS—P. Monterey. Print the name of some daily paper published in Atlanta, Ga., and Des Moines, Ia. Atlanta, the Constitution; Des Moines, the Capital.

HORSECARS—S. City. When were horsecars first run in Mission street in San Francisco? July 2, 1869.

THIS RED LINE—T. W. F. City. What is the historical event depicted by the picture known as the "Thin Red Line"? This picture, by Robert Gibb, A. R. S. A., represents an incident at the battle of Balaclava, October 25, 1854. Sir Colin Campbell formed the Ninety-third Highlanders in a long line two deep, which successfully resisted a tremendous charge of Russian horse. The event was described by Russell, the war correspondent for the London Times.

TIDES—Subscriber, Pleasanton. How can I find out the difference of low tide at different places in this state? By consulting an almanac or watching the tide reports in the daily papers nearest the point you wish to be informed about.

ARBOR DAY—Subscriber, City. Who first suggested arbor day, and who was the great advocate of "plant trees" while a member of the cabinet of one of the presidents? The idea of an arbor day in the

INHAIBITED BUILDINGS—Subscriber, Los Angeles. What are the latest inhabited buildings of the European continent? The highest in Europe that is inhabited all the year round is an observatory near the top of Mount Etna, Sicily, which is 9,250 feet above sea level. There is a hut on the Matterhorn, Switzerland, built by the Alpine club, which is 3,500 feet higher than this, but it is not permanently occupied, being used only by mountain climbers during the summer months.

THE HOPE OF ST. BERNARD. In the Pennine Alps, at the summit of the great St. Bernard pass from Switzerland into Italy, is 1,200 feet above the sea level.

BUTCHERS—M. O. Santa Clara. Is there any law in the United States that prohibits a doctor from serving on a jury in a trial for murder? No.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

W. S. WEBB JR., the son of Dr. Seward Webb, the personal representative of Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt in New York, came up from Monterey yesterday by auto, accompanied by his cousin, H. Walter Webb. They will go to Yosemite tomorrow. Dr. Seward Webb is expected in this city in a few days.

DR. C. F. S. TATE of Los Angeles, R. Hess, a dealer in furs, from New York, and J. B. Montgomery, a candy manufacturer of Seattle, made up a group of recent arrivals at the Plaza.

R. E. PEASE, president of the Goodyear rubber company, and Arthur B. Watson, connected with the same firm, who have been in the east for the last six weeks, will arrive home today.

DR. AND MRS. C. W. FOX of San Jose, for years permanent residents at the Palace Hotel, returned yesterday, four years after leaving, and are again making the Palace their home.

DR. J. H. KARNER of Oroville, Joseph Morris, a mining man of Blair, Nev., and L. Woodrum, a merchant of Salt Lake, are among the recent arrivals at the Argonaut.

THOMAS FLINT, former state senator, returned to this city yesterday from his home in San Juan Bautista with Mrs. Flint. They are at the Palace.

MRS. J. DIERFON MORGAN and her daughter, who are now in Santa Barbara, are expected in this city at the end of the week.

J. McLAUGHLIN, an insurance man of Los Angeles, and H. S. Cook, a prominent fruit grower of Colusa, are at the Dale.

J. O. BARMADUE, a capitalist of Seattle who is interested in the Hotel Washington, is registered at the Palace.

W. L. RODDEN, a banker of Oakland, and C. B. Green, a hotelman of Jackson, and his wife are at the Turpin.

Attorney General Wickersham, Insurgent

WHEN Attorney General Wickersham in his Chicago speech rebuked the insurgents and bade them depart from the republican party because they continued to express dissatisfaction with the Payne tariff and the methods by which it was "fixed," he nevertheless felt constrained to make an admission that virtually surrendered his position and, in fact, vindicated the policy of the progressives in the party.

Speaking of what had been accomplished by the Taft administration, Mr. Wickersham lauded the work of the tariff commission as a beginning with promise of greater and more useful work in the same relation for the future. Because of this commission he promised that "congress would never again be in the position of being compelled to legislate on the tariff on the advice furnished by interested ones in aid of their own contentions."

It is a significant admission and destroys the whole case made by the attorney general. It is because the tariff schedules were framed to meet the demands of greedy interests that a large part of the republican party is insurgent. This tariff commission, about whose work and purposes Mr. Wickersham brags, is poison to the stand-patters. They sought by every means in their power to deprive it of power and for the very reason that its work would make untenable the position of the "hog combine" which hitherto has been all powerful in making tariff schedules.

Mr. Wickersham is himself insurgent, if he only knew it. His doctrine about the uses of a tariff commission would make Joe Cannon gasp and stare. The fact is that the gospel of standpatism is not capable of statement in a way that will bear analysis by a reasonable mind, and accordingly when a man trained in logical processes makes a speech he must sooner or later find himself marching on the way of insurgency. But it is too much to expect that Wickersham will read himself out of the party.

Wanderers Coming Back to California

COWS at a distance have long horns, as is learned from proverbs not scriptural. So, in the Lodi Sentinel, support is found for the teaching of this homely adage from the experiences of certain San Joaquin county farmers who listened not wisely to the glozing tongue of a Canadian immigration promoter while he painted the glories of Alberta, way up north among the snows, and called it, with truth and poetry mixed, the "promised land."

Put to the proof of experience, Alberta shows better promise than land, and the San Joaquin wanderers are coming home, which means California. Thus the Sentinel:

That the lands in Alberta, Canada, which have recently been thrown open for settlement are not "just what they are cracked up to be" is apparent by a recent letter received by Henry Bechtold from his brother, George, in which he states that he, as well as L. Reinche, are coming back to Lodi to live.

These two men were the forerunners of the large crowd of Germans who left Lodi a few weeks ago to take up government land in Alberta. Upon their leaving, it is stated, they were very enthusiastic over the land, but by the fact that they are coming back home it seems as if the soil is not as it was represented.

It is also reported that Heitzmann, who was one of the first to leave this place, has left Canada and will return to Lodi. When the crowd investigated the proposition as it actually is, they found that the land they were seeking was from 50 to 75 miles from a station. The climatic conditions, which were reported not so severe as the Dakotas, are reported to be very severe. In winter the thermometer goes as low as 62 degrees below zero.

It can readily be understood that Canadian missionaries operating the ultramontane east, where blizzards roam and cyclones blast, might easily make converts ready to take chances on the borean rigors of Alberta, but when an adventurer leaves the fat and sunny plains of San Joaquin to dare a thrilling region of thick ribbed ice and frozen ears—well, he quickly learns his lesson and comes back, if he has the price. There is only one California, and it is the garden of the gods.

Ben Greet's Reply to His Critics

BEN GREET, whom all this side of the continent knows as a protagonist of the romantic drama pure and undefiled, finds himself embroiled in controversy with certain critics of the New York press whom he accuses of a hidebound attachment to conventional methods on the stage. In particular Mr. Greet resents the word "amateur," which some of the critics like to fling at his players in lieu of the sanguine carrot or other convenient missile of protest. By way of specifications he complains that the critic of the New York Tribune has been belaboring him in this fashion for seven years and he is weary of the damnable iteration.

For rats and mice And such small deer Have been Ben's food For seven long year.

Mr. Greet retorts: I've had a good many years' experience as actor, manager, producer and teacher (as all producers are), and I don't believe I'm an impostor at all these trades. With a combination of the four I fancy I must know something. May I therefore say here that I am responsible, to a large extent, for that particular style, or method, or expression, that is prevalent upon my stage? I do not allow my actors to behave like roaring bulls or human windmills. I never allow a false quantity or condone a wrong emphasis or pronunciation nor that undue importance to the personal pronoun by voice and gesture so common upon our stages. At the same time, I certainly prefer the human reading of a character to the scholastic. I venture to believe our audiences over here are bred on traditions—a good many of them bad traditions—and they, as well as some of the critics, expect us to shout—calculated—over the footlights! Really, sir, the assumption that because people do behave like human beings in the poetic drama, they are, as actors, amateur, is grotesque. At least three-fourths of my players are people of excellent experience.

The Call congratulates Mr. Greet on his stout defense. It is no sin to behave like a human being on the stage. The conventional critic naturally prefers the conventional actor and, like the historical personage in holy writ, is quite willing to serve seven years at it, or more, while the "ghost walks."

WHAT to plant in town? Many cities of California find themselves municipally perplexed to answer this question acceptably.

We do not speak of the little patches of garden wherein the thrifty citizen nurses flowers or, it may be, the frivolous lettuce, full of frills and inviting culinary kickshaws. Rather the question concerns the planting of trees to make an otherwise arid wayside grateful and umbrageous. It has always been the habit of urban dwellers in this state to plant the roadsides with trees in variety. But unfortunately it is found that certain kinds of trees have had town manners. They resemble the Arab's camel which, if he gets his nose inside the tent, very quickly takes possession of the whole place. Visitors who have admired the magnificent elms that shade the streets of Stockton, for instance, do not know, perhaps, that these aggressive trees in many respects resemble the invading and intrusive camel. They break a way into the housewife's kitchen, it may be, or at best usurp the treasured precinct of her front garden. They creep into sewers and obstruct. They make their way through pavements and generally are bad actors.

Trees Convicted of Bad Manners

The Santa Barbara Press records a recent experience in that city, where certain insurgent sprouts from a cane hedge broke their way upward to the light of day through an asphalt and concrete pavement. We quote: One would hardly believe that the small and supposedly tender sprouts of this cane would penetrate through an asphalt pavement. But this is what occurred in the newly laid asphalt in Bath street. A sample of the street was brought into the meeting of the board of public works yesterday morning and two sprouts were shown where they had penetrated a two inch foundation of rock and asphalt and a one and a half inches wearing surface of asphalt, making a total of three and a half inches of hard substance. The sprouts that caused the trouble spread from the hedge growing along the fence of the Potter grounds and were a good ten feet away. This example gives a pregnant illustration of the thrusting force of trees and plants stimulated by the vital forces of a California sun. Los Angeles has had like experience with the obstruction of sewers and rending of pavements by growing trees; and some of the leafy towns of Alameda county have had to cope with similar troubles.

These are not reasons sufficient to discourage the practice of planting trees by the roadsides. The problem is to find the sort of tree that will behave in lawful and orderly fashion when introduced to city life. It should not be a difficult problem to solve with the help of the collective wisdom of our schools of forestry and silviculture. The Outdoor Art league of the California club might give some useful study to the difficulty.

REPRESENTATIVE AMES of Massachusetts has offered a resolution pledging the sense of the house that negotiations for reciprocity and freer trade relations with Canada should be instituted.

The resolution in due course will go to the ways and means committee and, equally of course, would be put to sleep there unless powerful outside influence were exerted. It is intimated that Mr. Taft may himself try to persuade the standpatters that reciprocity and cordial relations with our nearest neighbor and our second best customer is demanded by the interests of the whole people. The political situation as it affects congress is thus described by the Boston Transcript:

It will be remembered that President Taft and Minister of Finance Fielding of the Dominion of Canada are on record in black and white as promising to meet again and discuss the possibilities of freer trade between the two countries. It may be that from his unfamiliarity with the history of attempted reciprocity, President Taft does not realize what a task he has undertaken in even promising to talk the subject over with the statesmen of the Dominion. They have made it very clear, in talks and in the American congress a good many times has made it equally clear that it had no use for reciprocity. But the two countries have just been on the verge of a tariff war, which was averted only by a kind of gentlemen's agreement which either side could modify at a moment's notice; and the country is still shivering with a realization of the terrible political and financial catastrophe that has been so narrowly avoided.

Ames may succeed in one way or another in getting his resolution before the house, and it is possible that it would receive a majority in that body. But of course the matter would end there as far as the present congress is concerned. The resolution does not in its present shape pledge the senate, and if introduced in that body it could not live five minutes in the face of opposition from the compact band of standpatters who dominate "the upper house."

Nevertheless the country favors reciprocity and more friendly trade relations with Canada, and these will come in spite of the reluctant struggle of the standpatters. The resolution offered by Ames is chiefly intended to bring the matter up for public discussion.

Gossip of Railwaymen

FRED THOMPSON nearly lost his temper today when I poked my head through his broken door and asked if he was in," said W. H. Sneed, maker of the Illinois Central yesterday. "That's a good idea of Thompson's. If my private office was near the door I think I would adopt the same system."—Sam Booth of the Union Pacific.

"A good scheme all right, but we could never do it over here on the Powell side of the building on account of the draft."—Clyde Colby of the Erie.

"I am going to confer with Thompson this afternoon about his system."—Lou Stanton of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul.

"What do I think about Thompson's scheme? I tried to tell him this morning and he told me to get out of his office."—William F. Schmidt of the Missouri Pacific.

"This comment may be all right, but there'll be a new earthquake glass in that door in the morning."—Thompson.

The board of railroad commissioners of Kansas have filed a complaint with the interstate commerce commission alleging that the rates charged by the Adams and other express companies to Kansas shippers are excessively high and unjust and affect the prosperity of the businessmen of that state. They request the interstate commission to make an investigation of the matter and compel the express companies to fix reasonable rates.

E. E. Calvin, vice president and general manager of the Southern Pacific, returned yesterday morning after conducting Judge Robert S. Lovett and party as far as Sparks.

M. L. Bell has been promoted to be general attorney of the Rock Island, with offices at Chicago, succeeding E. C. Lindley, who resigned to become general solicitor of the Great Northern at St. Paul.

H. E. Montague, traveling passenger agent of the Southern Pacific, with headquarters at Los Angeles, is in the city for a few days.

R. S. Stubbs, general freight and passenger agent of the Randolph lines and general freight and passenger agent of the Southern Pacific, with offices at Tucson, is in the city.

The Rock Island lines are in the market this time for 2,000 more freight cars and 19 locomotives. All the cars are to be built with steel frames. The purchase will consist of 800 boxcars, 500 automobile furniture cars and 500 stockcars, all of 80,000 pounds capacity each, and 200 ballast cars of 100,000 pounds capacity each. The locomotive purchase comprises 25 Pacific type passenger engines and 34 consolidation freight engines. The passenger locomotives will be equipped with superheaters and each will weigh 225,000 pounds, 150,000 pounds being the weight on drivers. The freight engines will weigh 205,000 pounds, with 132,000 on the drivers. When this order is delivered it will give the road a very large amount of strictly new equipment.

F. E. Batturs, assistant general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific, returned yesterday morning from Coalinga, where he went last Saturday with the San Francisco merchants on an inspection trip of the oil districts.

J. W. Chapman, traffic manager for the Pacific hardware and steel company; John McEwing, traffic manager for freight cars and 19 locomotives. All the cars are to be built with steel frames. The purchase will consist of 800 boxcars, 500 automobile furniture cars and 500 stockcars, all of 80,000 pounds capacity each, and 200 ballast cars of 100,000 pounds capacity each. The locomotive purchase comprises 25 Pacific type passenger engines and 34 consolidation freight engines. The passenger locomotives will be equipped with superheaters and each will weigh 225,000 pounds, 150,000 pounds being the weight on drivers. The freight engines will weigh 205,000 pounds, with 132,000 on the drivers. When this order is delivered it will give the road a very large amount of strictly new equipment.

The railroad commission took the testimony of the Los Angeles jobbers and adjourned until June 2, when it will meet in Stockton, which city has intervened. San Francisco will be heard after Stockton has presented its case, after which will come the defense of the railroads.

J. N. Githens, general freight agent of the Missouri Pacific and of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern, with offices at St. Louis, is in the city on a trip over the Pacific coast.

The inspection department of the continental freight bureau reports that it has made for the bureau between \$650,000 and \$700,000 during the year 1909. The inspection department is for the purpose of inspecting freight cars and shipping certain commodity in an effort to detect if the shippers are billing the goods wrong in an effort to secure a cheaper rate.