

The San Francisco Call

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CHARLES W. HORNICK... General Manager
ERNEST S. SIMPSON... Managing Editor

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SPECIAL dispatch to The Call reports another of Walter Parker's visits to Washington for the purpose of showing Senator Frank Flint how he can be re-elected without submitting his candidacy to the people of California.

Machine Afraid to Face People at Primary Polls Parker, who is W. F. Herrin's man Friday and machine executive in southern California, has made two trips to Washington openly avowed purpose of inducing Flint to repudiate his refusal to seek re-election.

Flint has refused to submit himself to the people as a candidate at the primary election. While he talked about an expensive campaign the machine drummed up pledges insuring a fund adequate for two California campaigns.

The machine turned in disgust to other men. The quest was unsuccessful. Only one or two were frank enough to declare that they did not dare go to the people wearing the machine's collar.

Herrin's machine fought the enactment of a direct primary law from the day the movement was launched by The Call in 1906 until late in the legislative session of 1909, when, driven into a corner, self-preservation compelled a complete change of front.

The sanction of the senatorial provisions of all direct primary laws is in the people. The people have made them morally binding and effective in other states.

Eliminating Flint the cold fact remains that if Herrin can elect one man in defiance of the law and the people he can elect another. Flint can get his name on the primary ballot if he likes.

ANNOUNCEMENT of President Taft's new conservation policy and the withdrawal of 8,500,000 acres of public lands was convincing rather than surprising.

Probably no one thing has served more effectively to withhold the public confidence from President Taft than his administration of the public land office through Secretary of the Interior Ballinger.

These opinions were based upon an appreciation of the public mind and the public temper. President Taft's noontime recognition of the popular temper has more than a partisan significance.

The policy involved in the executive order of withdrawal of public lands is unquestionably sound. It will meet with the approval of the people generally.

Granting that President Taft's order involves sound public policy it by no means proves the wisdom of his selections for withdrawal. His order covers water power site areas aggregating 1,415,499 acres; phosphate lands, 2,594,113 acres; petroleum lands, 4,447,750 acres.

There is a radical difference between oil lands on the one hand and forest and coal lands or water power sites on the other. Conservation through withdrawal of coal and timber lands gives no advantage to the individual and does work benefits to the whole consuming public.

Water power will not be exhausted by use. The conservation of oil resources involves many different problems. Petroleum is a liquid asset that government may manipulate to the advantage of a few and corresponding disadvantage not only of the many actual and would be producers but of the public as well.

The Pickett law affords a measure of protection to those men who were actually at work on or before September 27, 1909. If the executive withdrawals were made merely to enable the drafting and enacting of new laws for the general good they will be acceptable.

Statistics available today undoubtedly will show that tremendous benefits were reaped yesterday for the nation by those communities which insisted upon the sane fourth. Those figures will show a great saving of fire losses which were inevitably the result of noisy, gunpowder fourths.

They will show another great saving for the public purse. They will record fewer widows and orphans to be public charges, fewer defectives and dependents for the crowding of public institutions, less misery and more of the genuine rejoicing in our American freedom.

At Beverly



—St. Louis Post-Dispatch

LADY OF LYONS—A. S. City. Who wrote "The Lady of Lyons," and when? Bulwer Lytton, 1838.

ATTENDANCE—San Jose, Reader. Have a dispute as to the number of persons who attended the baseball championship game in Chicago during the latter part of 1906. Can you give the figures? The game was played October 13 of that year and the attendance was 23,257.

GOLDEN—Subscriber, City. What steamer of the early days of California that came to San Francisco bore the name "Golden"? What became of it? There were three Golden's, all side wheelers, plying between Panama and San Francisco in the service of the Pacific Mail company during the sixties.

NAVAL POWERS—Subscriber, City. How do the six leading naval powers rank, including Japan? Great Britain, France, United States, Germany, Japan, Russia.

COINS—Subscriber, City. Some time ago sent the query department a letter in which I asked the value of a \$10 gold piece. Has been looking for the answer, but have not seen it. Coin questions are not answered in this department. Answer will be sent by mail when the query is accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

HOMESTEAD—A. Amos, Nev. Who, under the law, is entitled to make a homestead entry? The general land office says that "homestead" entries may be made for a quarter section or less by any person who does not come within the following classes: Married women, except such as are deserted by husband, or whose husbands are unable to earn a support for his family, or whose husband is confined in a penitentiary, or who has made improvements and settled on land applied for before her marriage; persons who have already made homestead entry, foreign born persons who have not declared intention to become citizens of the United States; persons whose owners are unable to earn a support for their families; persons under 21 years of age, except minors who make entry as heirs or who have served in the army or navy for at least 14 days, and persons who have acquired title to or are claiming under any of the public agricultural land laws through settlement or entry made since August 30, 1850.

GRAPHITE—W. C. C. Santa Clara. Are graphite and plumbago the same thing and how is the one or the other prepared for lead pencils? Plumbago usually applied to graphite is incorrect, as it does not contain any lead and is a composition similar to anthracite coal, containing usually from 90 to 95 per cent of pure carbon. Graphite is put to a number of uses. Besides its important use in the manufacture of lead pencils it is used for making crucibles, as lining for small furnaces, as an ingredient in lubricating compounds for machinery and for polishing purposes in electrotyping work. Graphite is seldom found in so pure a condition for use without previous preparation. The air is exhausted from the substance, after which it is made into solid blocks; this is sawed into fine plates, the plates are cut into thin sticks, and these are incased in wood to prevent breakage. It is also run into molds and made in round and hexagonal shape for pencils.

GERMAN—M. M. City. What is the nationality of a person born in Germany of Irish parents? German.

SETTLEMENT—H. T. Kentfield. To whom shall I write for information about government land open to settlement in California? To each of the following land offices, which for a small sum will furnish you

"FIGHT OF THE CENTURY" MAKES CULTURED FANS

Pugilistic Lore Flows From Unaccustomed Lips in Incongruous Places

By MARY ASHE MILLER

Now that the contest between James N. Jeffries and John Arthur Johnson has been made a part of history, and so large a proportion of the civilized(?) men of the world have, so to speak, taken a cold shower, put on an unwilted collar and returned to the bread and butter things of life—now, will some one please offer an explanation of why it has caused so tremendous an excitement.

Just why was this particular prize fight the main topic of conversation in such unexpected places, even if it was "the fight of the century"?

Of course, I have heard every one of the stock expressions about "man's instinctive joy in warfare," and "something in every man's nature a fight appeals to," and I know all about the fact of "every man with red blood in his veins," etc.; but that can hardly account for all the conversation wasted on Mr. Jeffries' disposition, Mr. Johnson's smile, and their other mental and physical peculiarities and assets. I have heard many men talk of the fight; some whose veins run fountain pen ink; some whose only "instinctive joy" lies in money making, and others, the only appeal to whose natures, is would seem, must be made on a dignified, scientific or intellectual basis.

More remarkable than these, however, are the women who have read and talked Johnson and Jeffries. I met one of the prettiest, cleverest debutantes of last winter who told me with enthusiastic delight that she had seen Jack Johnson arrested for speeding his automobile.

Two brides of the last few months, of unimpeachable training and social position, have gone on motor trips through the Santa Cruz mountains recently and have boasted that they went to Jeffries' training camp one afternoon when the "cave man" was gracious enough to condescend to enter the ring and box a few rounds.

Not long since I met a family whose ancestors ran largely to colonial dames, bishops and major generals. They are now as delicately conservative as their forefathers would lead one to infer. I acknowledged rather blushing—in anticipation of the shock expected to deliver—that I had just returned from Rowardennan and had interviewed Mrs. Jeffries. But did I witness the uplifted hands and eyebrows, the "your mother's daughter" sort of spectacle that I expected?

Not for a second, I was compelled to recount in detail every movement of my stay at Rowardennan, and the conversation on a cheerful note for some time on the subject of the fight, and at least a reading acquaintance with some of the most salient points was displayed by each and every

member of the family. Of course, they all agreed that it was a horrible and brutal thing and that Governor Gillett did the right thing—even if it was a trifle late in the day—but I thought the horror was perfunctorily expressed and about as personal as their feelings meant the French revolution.

And so it has been with scores of women of all classes that one meets. Probably they would recoil in a most satisfactory way from an actual suggestion or invitation to be present at the affair. Nevertheless as a feminine mass they know a great deal more than they do about Uncle Joe Cannon and the insurgents.

I have asked many women why they took this interest and when they were honest enough to acknowledge that they were touched by curiosity their answers were varied.

One woman told me it was because such well known men were sending stories on the subject. I asked, "Who, for instance?" and she said, "Oh, well, Fred Becholdt and Edward F. Cahill."

Another said she read it to talk to her husband about it. I happened to know that her husband was one of the type who would no more waste his prize mighty intellect discussing a prize fight with his wife than he would consider taking her into his law firm. One woman confessed that she was hypnotized by the attitude and atmosphere of the daily papers. Some one else said she read it because every one else did, and yet another because she was interested in the psychology of the contest.

Quite as amusing as the inability of woman to explain her obsession—mild or wild—are the impressive assertions of mankind as to their interest being largely scientific.

Perhaps there may be a preliminary, perfunctory quiver of scientific love and admiration for adroitly placed words, clever "foot work" and good dodging—whatever the technical term for that may be—from all I can hear, and I have sat at the feet of the mighty in sporting circles and heard much wisdom, the ringside produces elemental man, rampant, and the sight can not be a pretty one.

There is one man of my acquaintance, as mild mannered, cool headed and correct, understood by the application of "thorough" to his name, who has a porter house in Pearl street, New York, which was a favorite resort for the bay pilots, who were always sure to get a pot of ale and a hot steak. On one occasion, in 1831, Morrison ran out of the cuts he served as steaks, and to serve one of his customers he had to cut from the piece for roast for the next day. The old pilot who was served this piece realized it so that he went for another. After he left he told his fellows of the good steak he had had and the result was that the butcher was told to cut the roasting piece into steaks and in giving orders to his men would say "Cut steaks for the porter house." From this came the name porter house steak.

THOROUGH—D. L. A. City. What is understood by the application of "thorough" to a horse's name? When used without any qualifying word it means that the word refers to horses bred for speed, with undisputed pedigree in the studbook.

BEES—C. R. Alameda. In swarming, do the old or the young bees leave the hive? The first swarm of a season leaves the hive under the guidance of the old queen and the most part is hatched. This swarm consists of most of the old workers and the drones. As soon as the new brood is five or six days old young queens leave forth other swarms, composed for the most part of young bees, until only one queen remains in the hive with a swarm.

THE AUTHOR—G. M. O. City. Who was the author of the following and in what poem is it to be found, and what was the name of the poet? As if he found not she, did walk Nor pressed a flower, nor saw a stalk. Ben Jonson, in "Vision of Delight."

A POEM—A. C. S. Oakland. This correspondent wants to know who is the author of the poem from which he quotes the last lines of the first stanza: 'Till I came to where you stood, Like an oasis, sent by God To make a better man of me.

LADY'S DAY—A Reader. What is "lady's day"? The name given in England to Annunciation day, which falls on March 25 of each year. In France it is known as "Notre Dame de Mars."

BEAR FLAG—A. M. Sacramento. Was the original bear flag of California destroyed? It was in the historical room of the Pioneers' building and was destroyed with the many other historical relics there by the fire in April, 1904.

INTEREST—P. L. City. What is the legal rate of interest a pawn broker may charge on a loan in California? Two per cent a month.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

WALTER J. TRASK, an attorney of Los Angeles, is at the Palace. He is on his way to attend the funeral of E. B. Frazer, a banker of Stockton, who died suddenly in the south.

JUSTICE JOSEPH E. NEUBURGER of the New York supreme court is at the Palace with Miss H. Neuburger. They intend to spend the summer in Alaska.

GEORGE T. MYERS, a salmon packer of Seattle, returned with Mrs. Myers from a trip to Europe yesterday and took apartments at the Palace.

ROBERT A. BROWN of Los Angeles and Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Chapman of Chicago are among the recent arrivals at the Palace.

H. CLAY BREEDEN of Los Angeles returned from an automobile trip to Portland yesterday and registered at the Palace.

H. C. McLEAN, who is interested in oil properties in Bakersfield, is at the Argonaut in Bakersfield.

MR. and MRS. FRANK H. RAY of New York are among the recent arrivals at the Palace.

HARRY D. CLARK, a hotelman of Santa Barbara, is at the St. Francis with Miss Clark.

J. H. TUCKER, a lumberman with interests in the northwest, is at the St. Francis.

J. A. HUGHES, a businessman of Bakersfield, is at the Palace with Mrs. Hughes.

T. B. C. TAYLOR, a land owner of Turlock, is at the Argonaut with Mrs. Taylor.

GLEN BIERLY, a rancher of San Luis Obispo, is staying at the Fairmont.

E. B. GAGE and A. N. Gage of Phoenix are staying at the St. Francis.

HARRY WHITE, at the St. Francis, registered from Los Angeles.

J. B. CASTLE, a merchant of Honolulu, is registered at the Fairmont.

J. F. COONAN, an attorney of Eureka, is a guest at the Stewart.

DR. G. A. DUNGAN of Eureka is at the Stewart.