

The San Francisco Call

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both NEW and OLD ADDRESS in order to insure a prompt and correct

compliance with their request.

THE CALL congratulates the commercial bodies of Los Angeles

on the liberal and generous spirit shown by their support of

the proposition to bond the state for \$5,000,000 in aid of the

Panama-Pacific exposition in this city and on

behalf of San Francisco thanks and assurances

of good will are tendered. The example of

Los Angeles in this relation must exert a

powerful influence among the other important

urban communities of the state. The great and prosperous southern

city displays a spirit of magnanimous co-operation and brotherhood

which should go far to make the exposition a success.

The proposition is treated from the broad point of view as a

California affair, an affair for all California. Louisiana is expected

to stand behind New Orleans, and it is not likely that the state pride

of this commonwealth will be less warmly enlisted in forwarding the

home project. California will not be backward about calling the

New Orleans bluff and even may be expected to do better on the

call. The exposition will be for the benefit of the whole state, and

although it is to be held in this city the myriads of visitors from

abroad will not leave our confines without examining our resources

and our natural wonders. The annual tourist influx due to such

attractions must always be an important feature of life in Cali-

fornia, and the exposition will give this yearly invasion an extraordi-

nary stimulus.

The stand taken by the commercial bodies of Los Angeles is

backed by the support of the influential press of that city, as we

have shown by quotations in these columns, and we find numerous

expressions of editorial good will in the interior press. It is true

that there are occasional exceptions to this tone, but we believe

that on consideration of the whole case these will be withdrawn in

recognition of the fact that the advancement and growth of all

California cities must proceed with equal step and that the pros-

perity of one makes for the good of all. No California city or

community can better its condition without improving the home

market for the products of all its neighbors. It is a recognition of

this fact that has inspired the Los Angeles commercial bodies to

take the broad stand that the exposition represents a movement in

which the whole state is interested.

MAYOR McARTHY'S proposition in relation to the purchase

of the Spring Valley properties waits for further particulars

and specifications. The people want to know what is offered

in exchange for the upset price of \$33,000,000

or whether any offer of the sort has been made

or is contemplated. So far as present informa-

tion goes, we do not know whether any sort

of proposition has been advanced on behalf

of the water company, and the officials of that institution are dumb.

As the matter stands, apparently it is Spring Valley's move.

The mayor has opened the affair for renewed negotiations, and the

city is no doubt in a receptive mood, willing to consider calmly and

without prejudice anything that the corporation may wish to

contribute to the discussion. That the city will do well to buy the

property is conceded, and the only difference of opinion likely to

arise concerns the price.

If we can not buy the Spring Valley properties at a fair price

the sooner we ascertain that fact the better, for with this information

we can set ourselves resolutely to the task of installing an inde-

pendent supply from Sierra sources. We can begin on Lake Eleanor

in the fullest confidence that our rights in Hetch-Hetchy will be

recognized by the government as soon as demonstration of need is

made, and when it is shown that no other means of supply is avail-

able except at holdup prices. If the Spring Valley people insist

on an exorbitant or unreasonable price they must abide the

consequences. The question is still open, but it can not remain

open forever.

NEWS comes that the wine crop of France and Germany is

a complete failure this year as far as the vineyards are con-

cerned. There are people who assert that the production of

European wines bears small relation to the

supply of grapes, but although this statement

may have some basis of truth it can not be

true in any large sense so far as the importa-

tions of wine are concerned because of the

enforcement of the pure food law.

If the report of European crop failure is well founded it should

be a great help to the California wine market, which has suffered

severely in the last five years. We are making sound and merchant-

able wines in commercial quantities and this should be the time to

press their market.

The same conditions apply to the European dried fruit crops,

and by consequence the California market for prunes and dried

peaches was never so strong as at present. In fact the whole crop

has been sold at good prices in advance of delivery. A strong

demand already is felt for the new crop of raisins at advanced prices.

Old stocks are exhausted, and although this promises to be an

unusually prosperous year for our horticulturists and vineyardmen.

THE permanence of the oil supply on the Pacific coast has its

bearing on the proposition to use this fuel for the navy and the

troopship fleet of the government. Apparently there is no end to

the California supply, which appears to come

from the greatest oil field yet developed in any

part of the world. The present supply is prac-

tically unlimited and the field is not more than

scratched. If this were not sufficient guar-

antee of supply Alaska stands in the background with promise of

untouched oil measures that may even yet exceed those of California.

Recent explorations of this wonderful country give reason to regard

it as equally rich in oil and coal. Much has been said about the

wealth of Alaska coal fields, but the oil measures are a comparatively

new discovery.

Experimental wells of no great depth already sunk in Alaska

are making good returns and these are only of the shallow sort,

such as prevailed in the early stages of California oil development.

An exploration party from Seattle makes this report:

The party visited Katala wells, Redwood wells, Chilcot wells and

headquarters at Chilcot and Buris creeks. The members saw the oil

bubbling in the borings and numerous seepages. The only pump already

rigged up at Katala, well No. 1, pumped fifty-six barrels in a two hour

test. The high quality of the oil was unmistakable, and the party was

surprised by the extent of improvements on the property, which include

twenty-one miles of good wagon road, two and a quarter miles of tram-

ways, camps and machinery. While the party was in the fields the com-

pany shipped seven miles of pipe to carry the oil from the wells to deep

water, and also shipped a complete refining plant. This plant will be in

operation within ninety days.

Members of the party who were interviewed on their return gave it

as their opinion that 3,000 barrels a day is a small estimate of the pro-

duction of the wells already sunk in the Katala and Chilcot fields. The

Amalgamated development company has taken over the holdings of the

other companies in the fields.

Oil croppings and seepages are common in that region, even as

they have been observed in California for forty years and long before

the first beginnings of development were undertaken. The first

oil wells in California were bored in the seventies, but it was not

until the last decade that the real development took place.

SEA SERPENT—B. F. D. F., City. Is there any such thing as the sea serpent? If not,

on what are the stories based? If not,

No sea serpent has even been discovered, but it is possible and even

probable that the stories arose from

encountering in the South American

seas the lamnariae, a species of

water plant known as the algae. This

plant and the macrocystis of the Pa-

cific ocean varies in length from 100

to 1,500 feet and in thickness from the

size of a man's thumb to that of a

man's thigh. It has been reported

that these have stopped the course of

vessels and that a crew has had to go

out in small boats and with axes cut

away the wood to allow free passage

of the ship. That is about all that

there is to the "sea serpent."

WATERMELONS—House Keeper, City. Can

watermelons be kept over winter?

A work on home economics says:

"Wash a sound watermelon. When dry

give half the melon a coat of odorless

varnish, then wait until next night

and give the other half a coat. Keep

this on until the melon has had three

coats, taking care not to crack the

varnish. When it is dry hang in a

burial in a cool place, and at Christ-

mas you will have a first class melon."

PORTOLA—Subscriber, Patterson, Cal. Is

there a city, town or school in California

bearing the name of Portola?

There is a town of that name in San

Mateo county 12 miles from Redwood

City. Also a school bearing that name

in San Francisco.

AUTHOR WANTED—A. S. O. C., San Luis

Obispo. Have looked in vain for the name

of the author of a song in which are the following

lines. Can any of the readers of this column

give the information?

Tell me that you love me.

When off in the heart's rose garden

You pluck the flower that blooms.

WATER AND AIR—Subscriber, City. How

much heavier is water than air?

A pint bottle will hold 11 grains of

air. If filled with water it will hold

8,000 grains of the fluid.

VINEGAR—H. W. H., Lewis Springs, Ariz.

What is the formula for making cider and vin-

egar from watermelons?

Possibly some reader of this depart-

ment can give the information.

POEMS—H. Y., San Jose. Suggest

that you go to the free library in your

city and search the several volumes of

that poet's works until you find the

line you want.

CHORUS GIRL—Subscriber, City. Is it ad-

visable for a young girl to become a chorus

girl?

It is not.

STAMPS—W. H., City. When was the law

passed forbidding the printing of the portraits

of any living men on the postage stamps

of the United States?

In 1875.

GENERAL ROBERT WANKOWSKI of the na-

tional guard of California, is up from Los An-

geles and is staying at the St. Francis.

R. E. MULCAHY, manager of E. F. Hutton &

Co., leaves for New York on business Friday

morning on the Overland Limited.

H. R. WARNER, manager of the Hotel del

Monte, is at the St. Francis accompanied by

Mr. Warner.

Z. L. PHELPS and R. L. Patterson of Coalinga

are among the recent arrivals at the Stewart.

THOMAS PATTERSON, a banker of Fresno, is

staying at the Palace with Mrs. Patterson.

M. H. SHERMAN, president of the Los Angeles

electric railway company, is at the Palace.

C. B. KINNE, a manufacturing jeweler of Co-

lumbus, is staying at the St. Francis.

BENJAMIN K. KNIGHT, an attorney of Santa

Cruz, is staying at the Argonaut.

DR. AND MRS. WEST HUGHES of Los Angeles

are guests at the St. Francis.

O. C. HUFFMAN of Buchanan, Va., is at the

Fairmont with Mrs. Huffman.

MR. AND MRS. H. LAZARE of Chicago have

apartments at the Fairmont.

L. A. LARSEN of this city is at the Moore.

W. G. TAFINDER, editor of the Pacific Under-

writer, will leave this morning for Detroit

to attend the annual convention of the national

life underwriters, which will be held in that

city September 7-11. W. L. Hathaway, man-

ager of the Mutual life insurance company

of New York, will also depart this morning

for the scene of the convention. Hathaway

will make a light for the 1915 convention of

the underwriters.

H. W. O'MELVENY of Los Angeles is in this

city on legal business and is making the

Palace hotel his headquarters.

L. S. HAMMOND, a businessman of New Or-

leans, is at the Normandie.

T. A. GRAPP, an automobile man from Los

Angeles, is at the Colonial.

H. L. DUNNE of this city and Mrs. Dunne are

stopping at the Bellevue.

M. E. DITTMAR, a mining engineer of Red