

Why is it difficult to smuggle treasures bought abroad through the custom house? Read the story of the jewel detective in The Sunday Call.

THE CALL

STATE THE WEATHER
YESTERDAY—Maximum temperature, 66; minimum temperature, 48.
FORECAST FOR TODAY—Fair; fog in morning, breaking away early; light south wind, changing to brisk west.

VOLUME CVIII.—NO. 115.

SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1910.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

TAGGART TRIAL MAY EXONERATE CAPTAIN PECK

Friends of Young San Diegan Declare He Was Victim of Commander's Plot

Correspondence Shows That Court Martial Expected Sentence Deferred

Mystery Hides Hand and Influence That Brought Officer's Unexpected Disgrace

STORIES of army life rife with unrestrained orgies, midnight revels and Salome dances in connection with Major Elmore Taggart's command of the Twenty-fourth United States infantry (colored) when stationed at Fort Ontario stirred local army circles yesterday as a result of the announcement from Washington that, following the disclosure and dismissal from the service of Captain Robert H. Peck, Major Taggart would have to undergo a court martial.

With the appearance of intimate correspondence between persons high in authority at Washington and friends of Peck in this and other states that established conclusively that the trial judges had ordered sentence on Peck deferred until after the investigation of the conduct of Major Taggart, mystery hides the hand and influence that brought on Captain Peck his unexpected disgrace.

Indications of a Plot

That Captain Peck was the victim of a plot entered into by Major Taggart and other officers of the Twenty-fourth infantry to discredit him and forestall charges that Peck was preparing to expose an army scandal is the declaration of friends of the young San Diegan, who say that his summary dismissal nearly accomplished this end.

Chief among these is H. H. Earle, superintendent of the Odd Fellows' cemetery, who has gathered correspondence to show that the findings in the court martial were favorable to Captain Peck, while throwing a baleful light about the command of Major Taggart. This is indicated in a letter to Congressman Francis Burton Harrison from Judge Advocate General George B. Davis, who sat in the case, and which, dated June 23, reads in part as follows:

Other Officers Involved

In this letter the counter charges filed against other officers of the command of Major Taggart are hinted at as being important in their bearing on Captain Peck's case before the facts should be submitted to the president. Notwithstanding this letter and others in which Major Taggart is mentioned as due to face court martial the records in the case were by some mysterious agency submitted to the president as a "closed incident" and Captain Peck was at once dismissed.

Opinion of Defender

The trial of Captain Peck was behind closed doors, but the statement of Charles N. Bulger, counsel for Peck, is to the effect that "in the entire record of evidence taken during this trial nothing whatever was established against the good name, fair fame or personal honor of Captain Peck" and "in a civil case Captain Peck would have been promptly acquitted of everything alleged against him."

His dismissal from the service of his country is one of the grave injustices of the world which occur here and there at intervals of time to shock the moral sense of decent men and women, and which form some of the blackest spots in the history of civilization.

Complaint Against Dances

The trial developed that words ascribed to Peck and made grounds for the charge of "criticizing a superior officer" had been uttered by a subordinate. Captain Peck testified that the house of Major Taggart was the gathering place for many white officers and that here the colored house keeper of Major Taggart, Ethel Roberts, entertained the army men with terpsichorean demonstrations of the latest fad dances until the small hours of the morning. On several occasions, Captain Peck stated, exceptionally wild orgies were treated to dances in which garments played an insignificant part.

Captain Peck resolved to put a stop to the shameless procedure, which he said had started all the tongues wagging and had excited indignant comment among the people of the town. Charges were anticipated and he was hailed before the court martial. Attorney Bulger, telling of the trial, says the testimony adduced "served to

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Millionaire's Son Offers to Give 1,000 Airships to Army

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—John Barry Ryan, son of Thomas F. Ryan, the New York multimillionaire, spent today in the war and navy departments and succeeded in driving the officials into a state of enthusiasm over the proposition to provide the army and navy with a fleet of 1,000 airships that would augment tremendously the offensive and defensive powers of the twin services.

The attractive feature of Ryan's proposition was its economical side; he did not ask a dollar of government money in return for the creation of a reserve of 1,000 aeroplanes that might be called immediately into service by the government in time of need. What he did want was the moral support of the two departments. This was given him with hearty good will. Efforts will be made to develop aeroplanes of greater size than those now in use, so as to transport a corporal's guard and to carry sufficient ammunition for effective bomb work.

RECONCILIATION OF CURRANS RUMORED

Millionaire and Wife Are Both in New York and May Make Up

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—Mrs. Ross Ambler Curran, wife of the New York millionaire, returned to New York tonight from San Francisco and is at the Hotel St. Regis. Her husband returned from Paris today on the Lusitania. It was reported last June that Mrs. Curran had gone to Reno to sue for a divorce. It is said now by friends, however, that there will be a complete reconciliation. Curran spent the summer at Trouville, while Mrs. Curran went to San Francisco, where her brother, Sterling Postley, married Ethel Cook in 1902.

Ross Curran is a son of the New York millionaire who was so closely connected with Andrew Carnegie, and was president of one of the Laird of Skibo's undertakings. Mrs. Curran is still very young, being only 25 years old. Six years ago they married in the Church of the Heavenly Rest. As she was the only daughter of the dowager Mrs. Postley, the vast Postley fortune was divided with her at the time of the marriage. Mrs. Curran was madly in love with her handsome husband, and the settlement the Postleys made on Curran was almost equal to that which some American girls have paid for titled foreigners.

The Postleys and the Ross Ambler Currans went over to Paris with the intention of residing there permanently. Mrs. Postley took a splendid place in the Rue Bassano, quite close to the mansion of Prince and Princess del Drago. In addition, she bought for the Currans a historic chateau in the Lours district. Meanwhile, the Currans and the elder Mrs. Postley lived together until recently.

OAKLAND GIRL TO RENOUNCE WORLD

Miss Constance McKeand Will Take Veil of Catholic Sisterhood

OAKLAND, Sept. 22.—Friends of Miss Constance McKeand have been informed that she is preparing to renounce the world and to take the veil. Miss McKeand has entered Our Ladies Home, a large philanthropic institution at Fruitvale, which is conducted by an order of nuns of the Catholic church. There she will secure her novitiate and she has given her closest friends evidence of her decision by parting with her worldly possessions.

To those who were nearest to Miss McKeand, she has made gifts of her personal effects, jewels and the like, in token of remembrance of her decision to take the solemn vows of renunciation. Miss McKeand is the daughter of the late George W. McKeand. He was a pioneer of Alameda county, and for many years was a searcher of records and title abstract expert.

McKeand came here from England. He died September 12 last year at the age of 80 years. The only surviving member of his family was his daughter, who by her aged parent's death was left without a blood relation.

GIRL MISSING MORE THAN YEAR IS FOUND

Mother Charges That Daughter Was Abducted

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—Dorothy Barrow, 13 years old, missing from her home in Houston, Tex., for more than a year, was found, poorly clothed and penniless, in a hotel in Vincennes, Ind., and was restored today to her mother, Mrs. Eloise Barrow, who says the girl was abducted. Chicago police to whom she told the story of the child's disappearance and recovery are investigating.

ROBBERS' TOTAL LOOT MAY GO TO \$85,000

SEATTLE, Sept. 22.—It is believed in Skagway that the same robbers who got \$57,500 from a strong box of the Yukon river steamer Tanana also stole the missing Canadian registered mail pouches. The amount of gold contained in this pouch is now stated to be \$27,500, making the total loot \$85,000.

JEALOUS WOMAN WIELDS WHIP ON HER NEIGHBOR

Wife of Sea Captain Is Called to Door and Beaten by Former Friend

Son Holds Alleged Object of Father's Attention as the Lash Is Applied

LAMEDA, Sept. 22.—Mrs. Charles Evans, wife of a sea captain, was called to her front door at 7:30 o'clock this morning by her former friend and neighbor, Mrs. Alec La Plant, accused of accepting attentions from La Plant and thrashed with a horse-whip on her own threshold. The lash was applied by Mrs. La Plant, according to Mrs. Evans' story to the police, while a son, Alec La Plant Jr., aided his irate mother by holding the victim within range of the whip cord. Mrs. Evans lives at 2301 Clinton avenue. Mrs. La Plant dwells nearby at 840 Oak street. Both have adult children. The mariner, Charles Evans, was friendly with Alec La Plant, a cement contractor. The women have known each other for years. Mrs. La Plant went east a short time ago. Evans was then at sea. The cement man's wife returned only today, to learn, according to the police report, that La Plant

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PENDING DEAL INVOLVES BIG OIL COALITION

Agency and Associated Company to Form Marketing Board and Control Supply

Southern Pacific Corporation to Buy About 7,000,000 Bar- rels at 35 or 40 Cents

BAKERSFIELD, Sept. 22.—Persons in a position to know stated positively today that the negotiations now pending between the Associated oil company and the Union-Producers' transportation company interests, news of which was published exclusively in The Call, included the sale of from seven to ten million barrels of oil by the agency to the Associated at 35 or 40 cents and the absolute control of the future marketing of crude oil by a coalition of all interests in a marketing board. It is said that the Associated has agreed to handle a portion of the agency production on practically the same basis as the Producers' transportation company is now doing, with the exception that the Associated, which owns its own carriers, will charge a rental for the use of its facilities. It will thus be to the advantage of

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PRACTICAL JOKE BANDITS BARELY MISS REAL POSSE

ELY, Nev., Sept. 22.—Rev. C. E. Charlton, pastor of the Methodist church, and a dozen members of the Epworth league of Ely were held up this morning at 8 o'clock by a gang of masked persons with guns, while returning from the mining camp of Ruth, near here. While the robbers were searching the crowd, one of the party, a woman, pulled the mask from the face of one of the robbers, revealing the fact that the bandits were fellow members of the church engaged

probably cure it. Governor Marshall likes the suggestion, but doubts the legality of offering pardon on that condition and is averse to taking the responsibility on his own initiative. The doctors will try to remove his scruples by getting a judicial opinion and reinforcing it by public petitions. It is a mooted question whether human beings can contract the disease from the milk or meat of cows afflicted with it.

CONVICT OFFERS HIMSELF FOR TUBERCULOSIS TEST

MUNCIE, Ind., Sept. 22.—Great interest is taken in this state in the announced plan of pardoning a convict under sentence for life who is willing to take the chance of inoculation for bovine tuberculosis. The experiment would be made in the interest of science. Physicians say that as they would be on watch for the disease they could detect it at its first inception and

SULTAN OF SULU WANTS TO SEE PRESIDENT TAFT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—The sultan of Sulu will arrive in New York on the steamer St. Louis, probably Saturday, and will be accorded honors due his rank. A wireless message was received at the war department today from the sultan, Haji Mohammed Jumabul Kiram, announcing to Brigadier General Ed-

CHANLER BALKS ATTEMPT TO COLLECT HIS INCOME

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—Robert Winthrop Chanler has revoked the power of attorney he gave Lina Cavalleri to collect the income from his estate under their famous ante-nuptial agreement. This statement was made today by Sidney Harris, Chanler's attorney. This move is intended to make it

BISHOP RECOVERS CASH FROM A NEGRO PORTER

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—The timely discovery today by Benjamin Jackson, a negro porter, of a fat wallet on the French line pier was all that prevented Mgr. Fouchot, bishop of Orleans, France, from sailing for home penniless. Jackson was gloating over his find, when two detectives discovered him.

"TWO PRESIDENTS," SAYS NEGRO, "TEDDY AND TAFT"

Lunacy Prisoner Startles Judge into Releasing Him
WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—"Who is president of the United States?" asked Judge Muldowney of William Thomas, a jail prisoner, who was being examined today by a lunacy jury. "Ded, Jedge, Ah doan rightly know. They say they's two of 'em—one's Mr. Taft and the other's Teddy," was the prisoner's reply. "Not guilty," was the verdict.

Miss Ives Sets Date Nuptials in October



Miss Florence Ives, who will become Mrs. Othello Scribner next month

ELEANOR GATES NOW PLAYWRIGHT

Dramatization of a Magazine Story Makes Hit on Vaude- ville Stage

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—There are now two playwrights in the family of Richard Walton Tully, author of "The Rose of the Rancho" and other successful plays. Mrs. Tully, who has written popular stories under the well known name of Eleanor Gates, decided to enter the field of theatrical writing herself, and her first attempt was produced as a playlet in vaudeville at Elizabeth, N. J., tonight. It is called the "Justice of Gideon."

The piece was staged by Edwin Holt, who toured last season in George Ade's comedy, "The Mayor and the Manicure," and who made a decided hit as the father in Ade's comedy, "The College Widow."

An interesting fact regarding the venture is that some time ago Holt went to Tully and outlined a story which he had read in an eastern magazine, saying that he would like to get a dramatization of it. He could not remember the author's name. It proved to be Mrs. Tully's story and the dramatization was undertaken by her.

There were five in the cast tonight besides Holt. That it is to be a success was shown by his enthusiastic reception tonight. There were five curtain calls. The piece will be produced in New York in about three weeks.

CARDINAL VANNUTELLI ENTERTAINED AT OMAHA

Prominent Officials Attend Ban- quet in His Honor

OMAHA, Sept. 22.—Cardinal Vannutelli, who represented the pope at the eucharistic congress at Montreal, accompanied by a party of distinguished ecclesiastics, arrived here this morning. Today's program of entertainment for the visiting party included an automobile tour of the various Catholic institutions in the city, luncheon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Cudany and a banquet and public reception at the Paxton hotel this evening. Governor Shallenberger and staff, judges of the federal and state courts, Congressmen Hitchcock and Maguire and others prominent in official and private life attended the banquet.

ROOSEVELT PREDICTS VICTORY

Utter Rout of "Old Guard" at New York Convention Is Now Expected

COLONEL ESTIMATES HIS MAJORITY AS 100

Final Conference at Sagamore Hill Wipes Away Last Trace of Doubt

EVERY DELEGATE WILL BE PLACED ON RECORD

OSTER BAY, N. Y., Sept. 22.—The utter rout of the "old guard" by Theodore Roosevelt at the republican state convention in Saratoga was predicted today by Colonel Roosevelt himself. At the conclusion of a long conference with half a dozen of his lieutenants, Colonel Roosevelt said:

"I think I may be reasonably safe in saying that we shall have 100 majority."

Final Reports Made

Reports from all parts of the state were received at Sagamore Hill today. Otto T. Bannard of New York Lloyd C. Griscom, president of the New York county republican committee; F. J. Krack of Brooklyn, naval officer of the port; Representative William M. Calder of Brooklyn, Controller William A. Pendergast of New York city and Herbert Parsons, Griscom's predecessor, motored down from New York late in the afternoon for a final survey of the field of battle.

Colonel Breaks Silence

All through the fight, which began with the Sherman incident, the colonel has refused to express any opinion as to the outcome and none was expected from him today, but the reports here this evening convinced him that it was all over but the shouting. Unless some unexpected reversal should be met, he was positive that the republican organization would be forced to give ground before the progressives when the test came at Saratoga next week. His estimate of 100 majority is concurred in by the others who attended the conference. The attitude of the Roosevelt forces toward the Taft administration was outlined by Bannard. "In my opinion," said he, "the Saratoga convention will adopt a resolution strongly endorsing the administration of President Taft. In accordance with the president's expressed wish no mention will be made of any renomination in 1912. No opposition to an endorsement of the administration will come from delegates friendly to Roosevelt and Griscom."

Program Agreed Upon

Bannard's statement, coming directly after the conference, was taken as a plain indication that Roosevelt had agreed with the others on this program. Griscom said that he had brought good news to Sagamore Hill.

"I reported to Roosevelt," he said, "that there had been several accessions to our ranks among the delegates from Dutchess and Montgomery counties. There may be more. Roosevelt will be temporary chairman. There is no question about that. We shall have a majority of more than 100 delegates."

Roosevelt said that the names of several candidates were gone over once more, but that no agreement of any kind on any of them had been reached. The platform also had been discussed, but it had not even been tentatively outlined outside of the understanding that it would be progressive.

Definite Action Deferred

Colonel Roosevelt feels that no definite action can be taken until the up state men have been heard from at Saratoga.

He understands that his forces plan to go to Saratoga without a slate, to find out what the majority of the delegates want and to settle upon candidates and a platform in accordance with these wishes.

Colonel Roosevelt said that from the beginning he had asserted that he was trying to find out what the people of New York state wanted. He disclaimed any idea of attempting to force his own ideas on the convention. In his speech at Syracuse last week he outlined in a general way his own ideas as to the program.

What would be the nature of the plank on direct nominations he had no idea, but he felt that such a plank would be placed in the platform. What form it would take would depend upon the desires of the delegates. Parsons said that an effort would be made to force a roll call on every delegate to the convention in the vote for temporary chairman. He explained that it was proposed to put every man on re-

WEDDING TO BE AN EVENT OF AUTUMN

Othello Scribner Will Claim His Accomplished Bride at Af- ternoon Ceremony

Society will be delighted to learn that Miss Florence Ives has announced the date of her wedding to Othello Scribner. The nuptials will be celebrated Wednesday, October 19, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. E. J. Ives, 2220 Washington street. It will be an afternoon wedding and only relatives and the most intimate friends of the couple will be bidden to the ceremony.

No social announcement of the year has aroused more interest than that of the engagement of Miss Ives to Scribner. Both Miss Ives, who is a sister of Mrs. Henry J. Crocker, and Scribner are extremely prominent in the smart set, and he is one of the financial and commercial strong men of the city.

A beautiful home is being made ready for the couple.

250 SHEEP DIE FROM EATING GREEN ALFALFA

Charges Get Away From Young Herder

ALTURAS, Sept. 22.—Two hundred and fifty sheep belonging to the Nevada packing company are dead as a result of eating green alfalfa. The sheep were in charge of a youth who had been warned against letting the sheep into the alfalfa, but the sheep got away from him and ate their fill.

VICTIM OF TRACTION ACCIDENT IDENTIFIED

STOCKTON, Sept. 22.—The identity of the man who was killed by being hit by a Central California traction company interurban car last Tuesday night, has been established as Giovanni Coteffi. He has a married sister in San Francisco.

COMPANY GO TO CAMP—The members of Company C. N. G. C. are making arrangements to go into camp at Alameda from October 1 to 15. The company will leave the Oakland mole at 7:30 o'clock Saturday evening, October 1. Company G will be in the first section of the first battalion, which comprises four companies in this county.