

CITY WILL WIN THE EXPOSITION, SAYS JOHNSON

Governor Elect Leaves New York for San Francisco, Predicting Final Victory

Reasons Given for Confidence, but Warning Added That Work Is Needed

Day With Roosevelt Described as Pleasant, but Nothing Revealed for Public

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Hiram Johnson left for home this afternoon on the Twentieth Century Limited.

Johnson said to The Call's correspondent at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria today:

"I go direct and expect to arrive in San Francisco next Thursday evening.

"I am thoroughly pleased with my trip east. In the first place, I feel that I have, perhaps, been able to accomplish some good with others of the delegation in setting forth San Francisco's claim to the exposition, and I, with others, feel encouraged.

Reasons for Confidence

"Making due allowance for the friendly expressions that may always be expected in the way of mere pleasantries, and which are sometimes to be discounted, I feel that San Francisco will win, chiefly for these reasons:

"First, her geographical situation, not from the standpoint of geographical representation in congress, but from the fact that it is everywhere conceded that San Francisco will be most gloriously benefited by the canal's completion, more so than any other city of the western hemisphere.

"Second, we are asking for no federal appropriation, but will ourselves subscribe a monster fund.

"Third, the sentimental view. Everywhere there is a feeling of warmest sympathy and admiration for the city that has heroically and gloriously rehabilitated herself within a few brief years, to the amazement of the entire world.

"These reasons, it seems to me, can not fail to impress congress and the public at large.

Hard Work Needed

"But we must beware of overconfidence. It is well to remember that New Orleans people are very active, and are relying very largely on the fact that there is now a democratic house of representatives that might possibly have a too friendly feeling for 'Dixie.'

"Only persistent and hard work will make San Francisco a sure winner."

Johnson was somewhat reluctant to discuss national politics. "All I would like to say is that I am glad I came east, having met so many people of note. My day with Colonel Roosevelt was pleasant. No, there was nothing discussed at our luncheon at the Hotel Seville (where several other gentlemen were present) that would bear repeating. Indeed, nothing of a national character was discussed except in a general way.

Discussion of Roosevelt

"I was, of course, pleased with the hearty and sincere congratulations Colonel Roosevelt extended to me, and I promised him a cordial California welcome when he comes out our way in March."

The Call's correspondent had heard a report to the effect that on his swing through the south and far west in March, Roosevelt expected to meet, somewhere in the far west (probably in California), some of the most prominent progressive republican leaders, otherwise known as insurgents, and that at this conference a plan of campaign to carry out some of Roosevelt's well known policies would be discussed in a general way, even if the plan of campaign could not be entirely agreed upon. But this was something Johnson was reluctant to discuss.

Contest Over Senator

A friend of Johnson was asked today if in the event of a deadlock between the adherents of A. G. Spalding and Judge Works Johnson would be willing to accept an election to the senate, and he replied:

"Without assuming to know Johnson's mind on this subject, I should say by no means.

"The California people wanted him for governor. They elected him governor and governor he will be. Besides, there will be no such issue between Spalding and Works."

A number of Californians who went to Washington in the interest of the exposition ran over to New York during the week and almost invariably expressed the opinion that Spalding had fairly won the United States senatorship and that the legislature undoubtedly would ratify the people's choice.

Poison May Have Caused the Death Of a Young Girl

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

FORESTVILLE, Dec. 18.—Finding all the symptoms of an acute case of poisoning in the death of Belle Sheridan, a schoolgirl, 16 years of age, who died this afternoon, Dr. J. R. Swisher, the attending physician, notified the coroner and an inquest will be held tomorrow.

The case is one of mystery. The girl, the daughter of Charles Sherman, a blacksmith of Forestville, was in good health until this afternoon, when she became violently ill. Doctor Swisher was called, but she died before he arrived. On questioning the relatives of the girl as to her symptoms, he discovered that they corresponded with those of poisoning by strychnine. He informed Coroner Blackburn of the facts and the latter ordered an autopsy and an inquest. The autopsy was held tonight, but its findings were kept secret. They will be made known at the inquest tomorrow.

The girl was popular and well liked. Any suggestion that she may have taken her own life is ridiculed, as there was not the slightest reason for any such act.

WEAKNESS SHOWN BY NEW ORLEANS

Pennsylvania Delegation in Congress Favors San Francisco for Panama Exposition

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—A rousing meeting of the California state association, composed of Californians resident in Washington, was held this evening at the exposition headquarters. Speeches boosting San Francisco were made and the audience, composed of many residents of other cities, heartily cheered the speakers.

A report that the Pennsylvania delegation would vote for New Orleans was denied tonight by two leading members of the delegation. They pointed out that John Dalzell, chairman of the house rules committee, favored San Francisco by his action in the committee and suggested that this was a sufficient pointer as to the attitude of Pennsylvania. They said that Pennsylvania would be found voting for San Francisco when the pinch came.

The Pittsburg newspapers have printed strong articles favoring San Francisco and one of these papers, which formerly advocated New Orleans' claims, has come out with articles in favor of San Francisco. Strong work has been done among Pittsburg business interests by the California campaign managers and their friends in New York and Philadelphia.

Pittsburg business interests are urging New Orleans to accept the compromise suggested by the deep water ways advocates in order that New Orleans may emerge from this contest with some profit. They are telling the New Orleans people that a straight knockdown fight with San Francisco will be disastrous to the gulf city, whereas a compromise would enable New Orleans to hasten the water ways project and gain votes in favor of retaining the New Orleans navy yard.

The New Orleans people are beginning to see the force of these suggestions and a noticeable slackening of effort by the New Orleans boomers here is the consequence.

DUCHESS OF ORLEANS IS OPERATED UPON

Suffers From Appendicitis and Condition Is Critical

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The duchess of Orleans was operated upon for appendicitis at Wood Norton, Eversham, Saturday. She passed a comfortable night, but today her condition was considered critical.

Manuel II, the exiled king of Portugal, and his mother, Queen Dowager Amelie, are guests of the duke of Orleans at Wood Norton.

As the duchess has been ill for a long time she was unable to receive the Portuguese exiles on their arrival in England. She has been confined to her bed for two months. A few days ago serious symptoms developed.

QUEEN MARY EXPECTS THE STORK IN MARCH

First Birth in Buckingham Palace in 54 Years

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Queen Mary's accouchement is expected in March. This will be the first birth at Buckingham palace in 54 years. The last child born to King George and Queen Mary was Prince John Charles, July 12, 1905.

12 PERSONS DIE WHEN STEAMER IS WRECKED

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The Swedish steamer Cedric has been wrecked near Gefle, a seaport of Sweden. Twelve persons were drowned, including all the officers. The Cedric was coal laden.

FIGHT BEGUN ON BIG MAIL ORDER HOUSES

Rural Parcels Post Bill Before Congress Will Be Vigorously Opposed

Aim of Countrywide Body Is to Protect the Country Merchant

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—The American league of associations, a powerful combination of mercantile houses throughout the country, has started a vigorous campaign against the proposed establishment of local rural parcels post service, and a big fund is available to fight the bill now before congress.

For more than a year the organization has been in the process of formation, but heretofore all its movements have been marked with the utmost secrecy. The members have been meeting in the basement at 2008 Calumet avenue, the residence of Attorney George H. Maxwell, organizer and general counsel of the association, and the 17 Chicago houses which are members have obscured their identity by having credit men, clerks and others not filling official positions represent them.

But everything is now in readiness for attack and the personnel of the organization is disclosed.

Edward H. Butler of Butler Bros. is president of the association, George A. Partridge vice president and D. R. Forgan, president of the National City bank, is its treasurer.

On the board of directors from San Francisco are: F. A. Brand, of Baker & Hamilton; G. P. Ayers, of Holbrook, Merrill & Stetson; S. Dinkelspiel, of L. Dinkelspiel company; W. N. Moore, of Moore-Watson dry goods company.

The association has a total membership of about 300. Many of the local members are members of the Chicago association of commerce.

Members of the association do a wholesale mail order business and are aiming their fight against the retail mail order houses. The apparent purpose of the campaign, according to the promoters, is to save the country merchant from elimination.

TRUNKS HOLD THE SECRET OF ESTATE VALUED AT \$400,000

Son of Mrs. Jeane Allen Fiske-Marceau-Fennell Says He Was Defrauded of Fresno Property

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Legal documents, which it is believed will prove a claim to an estate valued at almost half a million dollars, are contained in several trunks now being held for a board bill by Mrs. Louise Stucker, owner of the Amandale hotel, at Annandale, Staten Island.

Their owner is Mrs. Jeane Allen Fiske-Marceau-Fennell, the former wife of Colonel Theodore C. Marceau, the fifth avenue photographer. She is suing Mrs. Stucker to gain possession of the trunks, which she values at \$350, and the case will be heard at Stapleton on Wednesday.

That the trunks contain evidence which will show that his inheritance amounting to \$400,000 was fraudulent

TEMBLOR SINKS SMALL ISLAND; MANY PERISH

Disaster Follows Series of Shocks and 170 Inhabitants Lose Their Lives

Frightened Women and Children Flee to Mainland, but Others Are Engulfed

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 18.—A special cable to this city from Port Limon, Costa Rica, announces the sinking of a small island in the Ilopango lagoon following an earthquake shock. It is asserted, though without confirmation, that nearly all of the inhabitants, about 75 families, were destroyed.

The sinking of the island is said to have followed a series of earthquake shocks which were felt throughout the republic.

The shocks began early in the evening and increased in frequency and violence as night progressed until about midnight, when the watchers on the shores heard the sound of the guns fired by the people on the island.

Flee From Island

Soon after that a huge bonfire was lighted on the island, and at about 1 o'clock a boatload of frightened women and children reached the mainland. The survivors reported that other boats were coming as fast as they could be filled, as the island was slowly sinking under the feet of the inhabitants.

The boatmen of the mainland were asked to send aid, but in view of the continued shocks and the steadily increasing violence of the sea in the lagoon, the boatmen were afraid to venture.

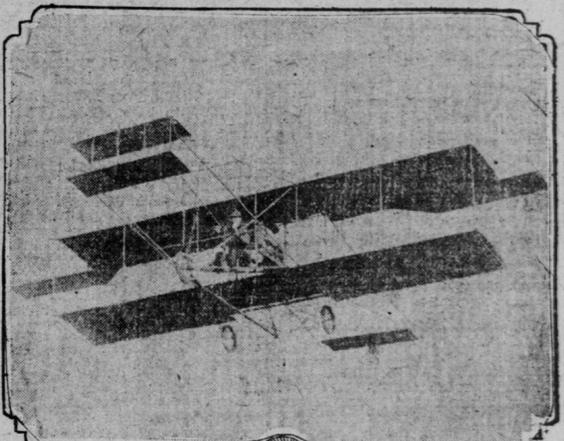
Lost Number 170

Indeed, there was no time. While they debated another and more violent tremor shook the mainland, and the fire and other lights on the island vanished. In the morning not a vestige of island remained.

It is estimated that about 170 persons perished in the catastrophe. This is not the first time that small islands off the mainland have sunk after earthquake shocks.

Aviator Drops 4,000 Feet Mars Escapes by Cool Nerve

J. C. MARS IN FLIGHT AT FRESNO



Daring aviator, who guided his aeroplane safely to earth yesterday when his engine "went dead" 4,000 feet up in the air.

HARRIMAN'S WIDOW WILL RAISE SHEEP POETICALLY

College Bred Youths With Shepherd's Crook to Be Guardians of Blooded Flocks

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Sarah Bernhardt said recently: "When I travel through England I always think of two things—sheep and Shakespeare."

When the twentieth century sheep farm has been fairly established at Arden, the county seat of Mrs. Mary Harriman, widow of the railroad magnate and wizard financier, its description will read like a pastoral poem. It will resemble a bit of old England transplanted.

Mrs. Harriman and Mrs. Charles Rumsey, formerly Miss Mary S. Harriman, have an ambitious plan to raise sheep poetically. College bred youths will oversee the pastures and flocks of place a money maker, but to give a blooded merinos. The shepherds will

each be armed with the traditional shepherd's crook, and perhaps the flute or shepherd's "Q" pipe."

Cattle raising and the dairy will not be abandoned. Stone and rail fences will be torn down and the blooded Jerseys, Guernseys and Holsteins will roam over the 10,000 acre estate in the Ramapo valley, not after the manner in vogue on the great plains, but as in the time of Abraham, superintended by cowherds in tyrolean costumes and, naturally, who may be expected to yodel Tyrolean melodies.

Mrs. Harriman has always tried to make her dairy as nearly ideal as possible. Her object is not to make the place a money maker, but to give an object lesson to the milk trust.

REV. CHARLES R. BROWN MAY BECOME PRESIDENT OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Rev. Charles R. Brown of Oakland, who has been under consideration by the trustees of Boston university as the successor to Dr. William E. Huntington, president of the university, is in Boston. It is believed the office has been offered to and that Doctor Brown will accept it. He said tonight:

"I have had several meetings with the trustees regarding the presidency, but have made no decision. I will go to Iowa to spend Christmas with my parents. I will return in a fortnight and will announce my decision then."

Doctor Brown is a graduate of Boston university, which is a Methodist institution. The fact that Brown is a Congregationalist will, in the opinion of the trustees, in no way hinder his selection.

ROBBERS HOLD UP STUDENTS' PARTY, BUT DO NOT MOLEST YOUNG WOMEN

LONG BEACH, Dec. 18.—Nine young people returning last night from a party given by the senior class of Long Beach high school, to which five of them belonged, were stopped by two highwaymen and lined up in the shadow of a row of pepper trees. The robbers did not molest the

young women, but the men were robbed of \$30 and a watch.

The robbers stopped their victims within a few feet of the home of one of the party, Miss Myra Taylor, and spent 45 minutes in securing their valuables, but the sight of their revolvers prevented any outcry being made until they had fled.

"BUD" MARS MAKES MOST THRILLING DESCENT

Aviator's Engine "Goes Dead" but He Guides Machine to Earth From Height of 4,000 Feet

FEARFUL BATTLE ENDS IN THE BIRDMAN'S VICTORY

Brother Aviators Are Horrified Spectators of Daring Performer's Skillful Handling of Craft

PLANES TILTED DOWNWARD IN SWOOP TO REACH SAFETY

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

FRESNO, Dec. 18.—Dropping from a height of more than 4,000 feet after his engine had "gone dead" and his machine had been left to the mercy of the elements, J. C. Mars, a member of the Curtiss camp of aviators, today came safely to earth following one of the most sensational exhibitions of aerial navigation ever witnessed. The downward swoop of the plucky birdman took place before 10,000 persons at the fair grounds in this city.

Skillfully Guides Craft

So skillfully did the aviator guide his frail craft, however, that a realization of the awful battle taking place did not reach the big crowd until Mars had returned to the earth.

Mars had started out to break the Pacific coast record for altitude made by Louis Paulhan at Los Angeles. Gracefully he rose into the air, and as he swept around the field he mounted higher and higher into the sky until no longer could the crowd below hear the whirr of his engine.

Darts Toward Earth

Suddenly the other aviators were horrified to see Mars suddenly dart toward the earth. Involuntary cries broke from the lips of both Curtiss and Willard, and Mrs. Mars, who was seated in an automobile, shrieked with horror as she, too, realized what was taking place thousands of feet above her. Once around the field Mars glided, his machine swiftly losing its momentum. Unable to hold it in the air any longer he tilted the planes downward and swooped toward the earth.

Mechanics made frantic efforts to remove Willard's machine, which seemed to be directly in the path of the oncoming aeroplane, but Mars passed 300 feet over them heading directly for a row of automobiles which lined one edge of the field.

Saved by Cool Nerve

His cool nerve saved the daring young birdman at the last moment. Had his machine gone straight ahead it would have crashed into the automobiles, but Mars almost stood it on end as he turned it right about and glided down in perfect safety.

Glenn Curtiss described the drop as one of the most thrilling bits of aerial navigation he had ever seen. He was the first to grasp the hand of Mars when he left his machine, and congratulated him on his success.

While climbing upward Mars struck a cold strata of air which froze his engine and put his biplane out of commission for the remainder of the afternoon. Earlier in the day, however, he made a thrilling glide to earth from a height of about 1,200 feet.

Curtiss Makes Record

Glenn Curtiss added to the features of the meet today by making the fastest time for five miles ever made by an aeroplane on a circular track. The time was 5:05. Curtiss used his new biplane, and in circling the track never rose to a height of more than 20 feet at any time. Three of the miles were made in three minutes.

The crowd was also entertained, and frightened as well, when the aviators all made individual flights, dipping and plunging, sometimes skimming close to the ground, and other times shooting up to a height of 50 feet.

On one occasion Mars almost struck a dog that had wandered into the field, diving down from a height of about 20 feet to reach the animal.

Fails to Lift Cup

ETAMPAS, France, Dec. 18.—Henri Farman, competing for the Michelin