

Get Ready for That Big Aviation Meet  
BY READING  
"HEARD AROUND THE HANGARS"  
—IN—  
THE SUNDAY CALL TOMORROW

# THE CALL

THE WEATHER  
YESTERDAY—Highest temperature, 72;  
lowest Thursday night, 51.  
FORECAST FOR TODAY—Fair; not so  
warm; cloudiness at night; light north wind,  
changing to west.

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## JUDGESHIP A PUZZLING QUESTION

### Burnett Reintroduces Bill to Add Four More Members to San Francisco Bench

### BAR ASSOCIATION IS OPPOSED TO INCREASE

### Gillett Refused to Sign Measure, but Johnson May Take a Different View

### GOVERNOR'S TASK WOULD NOT BE UNPLEASANT

By GEORGE A. VAN SMITH  
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

CALL HEADQUARTERS, SACRAMENTO, Jan. 6.—The San Francisco bar association, consisting of the city and county may receive an addition of four members to its superior bench of 12 judges. The verdict of the bar association may not be the all determining factor, but as the bar association is opposed to the creation of four new superior judgeships San Francisco in all probability will be compelled to worry along for two years more with its present complement.

Senator Lester G. Burnett reintroduced today his bill increasing the number of superior judges for San Francisco from 12 to 16. The bill was passed two years ago, but Governor Gillett declined to sign it for reasons entirely satisfactory to himself if unsatisfactory to the small army of applicants for the places and the quartet of near lawyers indorsed by the machine bosses.

### Pleasant Task for Johnson

Johnson does not expect that he will be compelled to dodge the embarrassments that confronted Gillett two years ago. The creation of four superior bench places in San Francisco would put in the hands of Johnson the means of elevating four lawyers of his own habit of mind to the bench. That would not be an unpleasant task, but the responsibility for such increase will be placed on the bar association if it becomes a reality in the next year.

The argument for the proposed increase is founded on the alleged inability of the present corps of judges to keep up the work of the courts, much less catch up with calendars that are said to be years behind.

If the increase is actually needed the bar association should be best equipped to inform the governor. Of course, if the bar association should declare that the four new judges were necessary and the governor disagreed with it, there would be no new judges by appointment, but if the legislature and the bar association should agree Johnson would probably sign the bill and undertake to select the judges.

### Democrats Are Busy

Thanks to the fact that the administration platform bills have been slow to appear the "Johnny on the spot" legislators have had a splendid opportunity to beat the administration elect by slipping in bills of their own designed to redeem the platform pledges.

Democratic Senators Sanford, Campbell, Holohan and Caminetti have come through on schedule time. Sanford has his name on a proposed resolution directed to congress, calling for a constitutional convention charged with the submission of an amendment providing for the direct election of United States senators.

Campbell is the proud author of a suffrage amendment and another providing for the jointure of portions of different counties in senatorial and assembly districts.

Holohan is to the fore again with his bill for the removal of the party circle from the official general election ballot.

Caminetti arrived promptly with his old bill, providing for placing the names of partisan nominees for United States senator on the official ballot and making the winner of the free for all contest the popular nominee, regardless of partisan affiliations.

### Held Puts a Few In

Industry as were the democrats they had nothing on Assemblyman Billy Held of Mendocino, who is again in our midst after an absence of two years. Held is one of the most prominent legislators California has ever had. The party platform impressed itself upon him. So deep was the impression that he came through today with measures designed to redeem the initiative referendum and recall pledges of the platform. Nor did he stop there. Just to show the people that he was not for delay he introduced a bill providing for the amendment of the direct primary law to conform to the state wide plurality plan for the nomination of United States senators provided in the original bill.

The so-called administration bills have been slow to put in an appearance. Senator C. W. Bell of Pasadena presented

## NATION'S LEADERS AT SENATOR'S BIER

### Simple Prayer Is Funeral Service for Stephen B. Elkins in Washington Home

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—A simple prayer constituted the funeral services over the body of Senator Stephen B. Elkins of West Virginia at his late home here.

President Taft, Vice President Sherman, Chief Justice White, members of the cabinet and supreme court, as well as members of the diplomatic corps, senate and house, gathered at the Elkins home this afternoon and listened to an impressive prayer by Rev. Dr. Wallace Radcliffe, preparatory to the removal of the body to Elkins, W. Va., where final services will be held tomorrow morning.

Seven cars composed the funeral train which departed tonight, two of which were reserved for the Elkins family and the rest for the congressional committees and other friends.

Secretary of War Dickinson issued a general order that flags at all military posts throughout the country be displayed at half staff tomorrow out of respect for Senator Elkins, who was secretary of war during President Harrison's administration.

### Son May Succeed Elkins

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 6.—David Elkins, son of the late Senator Stephen B. Elkins, may be the successor of his father for a brief period, if Governor Gasscock determines to make an appointment pending an election by the incoming democratic legislature.

Petitions have been put in circulation in many counties asking the governor to appoint young Elkins.

The number of candidates for the democratic caucus nomination for senator was increased to seven, when the name of Judge John H. Holt of Huntington was added this evening.

### 109 ENGINES ORDERED BY HARRIMAN SYSTEM

### Price Will Be Nearly Four Million Dollars

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6.—Announcement was made here today that a contract for 109 engines has been awarded the Baldwin locomotive works of this city by the Harriman railroad system and that the price is between \$3,500,000 and \$4,000,000. The contract calls for the delivery of the engines during the spring and summer of this year.

### WIFE OF SANTA CLARA TOWN TREASURER DEAD

SANTA CLARA, Jan. 6.—Mrs. Refugio Fatjo, wife of Town Treasurer A. V. Fatjo, died last night at her home. She was a native of Monterey, and was in her seventieth year. Seven children, beside her husband, survive her.

### HONDURAS, FLAT BROKE, WOULD REVENUES SOAK

### Debt of Over \$1,000,000 May Be Paid by Bankers With External Revenue Put Up As Security

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—It was said today in reliable quarters that the negotiations by the commissioner appointed by the Honduran government and New York bankers for refunding the Honduran indebtedness are still pending and that the main feature of these negotiations is a loan to be secured by the customs receipts of Honduras, which are to be collected under a treaty to be arranged with the United States.

### DEFENSE OF PHILIPPINES DEPENDS ON NATIVE TROOPS, SAYS GENERAL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Should an emergency arise in the Philippines, the United States would have to depend upon native troops for defense of the islands, and the Filipino would be found a loyal soldier, according to the annual report of Brigadier General John G. Pershing, commander of the department of Mindanao.

### SENATE WANTS TO KNOW HOW MANY VOTES NECESSARY TO UNSEAT LORIMER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Whether it would require a two-thirds vote or only a majority of the senate to unseat Lorimer as a senator from Illinois is a question that has arisen in the contest about to be waged.

The answer rests upon whether the opposition to Lorimer seeks to connect him with any corrupt practices or merely attempts to show that he was

## CHIEF SEYMOUR URGES SPEED IN POLICE COURTS

### Judges Promise More Expedition in Trials After Talk on Dilatory Tactics

### District Attorney Fickert Asked to Advocate Severe Sentences to Diminish Crime

Openly charging an aggravating laxity on the part of the police courts in disposing of the cases called before them, Chief of Police Seymour called Police Judges Charles Weller, E. P. Shortall and Daniel Deasy before him yesterday afternoon and firmly requested that a change be made in the conditions that permit the dilatory tactics practiced in the operation of the judicial system.

The only reason that Police Judge Charles Conlan was not present at the session in the chief's office was the fact that he was ill at his home. His court was included in Chief Seymour's arraignment.

Without mincing words, Chief Seymour made it plain to the police magistrates that whenever there has been a prevalence of crime in this city it has been partly because of the leniency of the courts in granting unnecessary continuances in the cases of defendants charged with offenses. He also told them that he believed too much clemency was shown hardened criminals guilty of vicious crimes when they stood before the superior court for sentence.

### Promise of More Speed

Seymour directed the force of his suggestions toward correction of the conduct of the police courts and the interview closed with a promise from the police judges that attended that they would handle matters more expeditiously in the future.

Then Seymour sent for District Attorney Charles M. Fickert and discussed the matter with him. He asked Fickert to use his influence to secure early trials of criminal cases in order that the court calendars might be cleared for the presentation of the evidence and the judgment of the defendants by juries. The chief also impressed upon the district attorney the value of heavy sentences in aggravated cases as warnings to men implicated in burglaries and robberies that in this

Continued on Page 2, Col. 5

## MONEY TALKS IN FIGHT FOR WORLD'S FAIR

### New Orleans Is Unable to Get Around That \$17,500,000 California Raised

### Administration's Attitude Is Shown in Plans for Mare Island Improvement

[Special Dispatch to The Call]  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The exposition fight is living up on both sides. The Californians were disappointed to-night over the nonarrival of Acting President Hale, who was delayed by storms in the middle west.

A. W. Scott Jr. returned from New York and conferred with Leon Sloss and members of the congressional delegation.

The plans formulated by Theodore A. Bell will be laid before President Hale tomorrow and if approved the fight will go forward to the committee on industrial arts and expositions, which will begin hearings Tuesday. Bell left this morning for Columbus, where he will deliver a speech at Governor Harmon's Jackson day dinner. The eastern papers are printing much about the exposition, most of it favorable to San Francisco. The emphasized fact that Californians have raised \$17,500,000 and are not begging a dollar of government money is winning favor throughout the country. The New Orleans people fight shy of the financial argument and do not deny that they are asking government aid. They lay stress on "accessibility."

Former Congressman Charles B. Landis of Indiana is quoted in the Washington papers as follows:  
"This country has been expeditiously to death, and I do not think congress will give a dollar to another exposition. If any city wants an exposition let it pay for it. If San Francisco insists on holding an exposition all right, but congress has spent \$25,000,000 that way, and I know congressmen will not favor any more money."

### To Improve Mare Island

A strong indication of the administration's attitude toward San Francisco as a naval base is shown by the discussion in the cabinet today of the plan to make Mare island navy yard accessible to battleships of the largest size. Secretary Dickinson was authorized to forward to congress an estimate for \$150,000 to be used in dredging Pinole shoals in San Pablo bay in order to permit large vessels to go to Mare island.

Secretary Meyer will join the secretary of war in urging congress to make this appropriation.

Deeper waterways in San Pablo bay will make Mare island the rendezvous for battleships as well as smaller naval vessels, pending the establishment of a modern battleship repair station and docks on deep water in San Francisco bay.

Secretary Meyer is going ahead with that plan, and in due time congress will be asked to appropriate money for the purchase of a site. The Panama-Pacific exposition managers will use the action of the cabinet as evidence of the strategic importance of San Francisco and its capacity to harbor the world's fleets.

### U. S. TO SPEND \$510,000 TO OPEN PINOLE SHOALS

### Secretary Meyer Also Will Ask \$900,000 for Mare Island

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—In order to open the Pinole shoals in San Pablo bay, which obstruct the entrance to the Mare island navy yard, congress will be asked by the war department to appropriate \$510,000.

Secretary Dickinson today announced that the army engineers had arrived at this estimate.

When Secretary Meyer appears next week before the house committee on naval affairs he will request an appropriation of \$900,000 to clear away the mud from the Mare island navy yard and to erect jetties.

### ROBIN INDICTED ON EIGHT MORE COUNTS

### Banker Charged With Theft of \$207,000

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—Eight new indictments, one of them superseding the original, were found today against Joseph G. Robin, the banker and promoter.

Two more of his companies fell foul of the law, this time represented by the public service commission, which will order an inquiry into their books.

The indictments charge the theft of funds aggregating \$207,000 from the Washington savings bank.

### WRESTLER ARRESTED AS MAYBRAY SWINDLER

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Jan. 6.—Thomas Davies was arrested here last night as a member of the James C. Maybray gang, 85 members of which were indicted two years ago at Council Bluffs, Ia., charged with swindling.

Davies is a wrestler, and his picture advertising a wrestling match led to his arrest.

PARIS, Jan. 6.—The Paris papers were nearly unanimous this morning in reporting that it was Senator Elkins who opposed the match between his daughter and the duke of the Abruzzi, resulting in the breaking of the engagement. It was solely a question of the wish of Katherine Elkins, and her parents may have influenced her decision.

## FOURTH MAIL POUCH STOLEN

### TOTAL OF LOOT NOW \$60,000



Four railway mail clerks, from whom sacks of registered matter were stolen on ferry boats

## HEARST BEATEN IN SUIT OVER FATAL EXPLOSION

### Court Holds That City May Recover Amount Paid for Death Caused by Election Night Fireworks

[Special Dispatch to The Call]  
NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—William H. Hearst may be called upon to pay into the city treasury the amounts of the judgments paid by the city to persons injured or the heirs of the persons killed by an explosion of fireworks in Madison square on election night, November, 1902.

The appellate division of the supreme court today ordered a new trial of the suit brought by the city against Hearst to recover the amount of a judgment the city paid to the widow of Dennis Shea, one of the men killed by the explosion.

In the lower courts the complaint of the city against Hearst was dismissed, but the appellate division, Justice Dowling dissenting, held that Hearst, as president of the National Association of Democratic Clubs, the organization that had charge of the display of fireworks, might be held liable.

## BIG FIRE MAY DEVASTATE GOTHAM, SAYS INSURANCE COMPANY PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—The Merritt joint legislative committee of inquiry adjourned sine die today, still with no word from the missing city chamberlain, Charles H. Hyde.

The closing hours of the session were given today to fire insurance. Harold Herrick, president of the Niagara fire insurance company, told the committee that New York might yet see such a fire as devastated San Francisco.

"A holocaust in New York," he said, "is quite within the bounds of possibility. We have an excellent fire department and an efficient chief, and thus far they have jumped on every fire and put it out; but no fire department ever extinguished such a conflagration once it got under way. It only ceased when it reached a natural obstacle."

"If New York ever has a fire like San Francisco, God help us. There would not be a solvent company left in the world. No one could compute the billions of loss."

Hurried cheap construction by speculators and poorly installed heating plants, said Herrick, were responsible for a third of all fires and a greater share of their spread.

## CONTINENTAL BILL FOR \$8 FOUND IN BIBLE AFTER 100 YEARS' CONCEALMENT

[Special Dispatch to The Call]  
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 6.—An \$8 bill of Continental currency was found today in an old bible by Claude I. Parker, United States internal revenue collector for this district.

The bill is numbered 7808 and bears the date of May 9, 1776. It is about half the size of an ordinary bank note, and on one side is printed the following:  
"Eight dollars. Printed by Hall & Sellers, 1776."

On the other side is a design, which has been almost effaced by time, and the following inscription:  
"This bill entitles the bearer to receive eight Spanish milled dollars, or their value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of congress passed at Philadelphia, May 9, 1776."

Parker believes the bill was placed in the bible by his grandfather and has been there for more than 100 years.

## ACTORS FORM TRUST TO EQUALIZE PROFITS AND ENFORCE UNION RULES

[Special Dispatch to The Call]  
NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—The "actors' trust" came into being today and hereafter the productions of Shakespeare, as well as those of modern playwrights, will be subject to union rules. Miss Kathryn Kidder, Miss Mabel Moore, Wilfred Buckland, Edward Emery and several others have joined the organization. It will be known as the Lyceum Players.

The purpose of the organization is to separate the acting portion of the play business from the box office end. The players themselves will each draw a certain percentage of the box office receipts, no matter whether they are cast for a minor part or the leading role.

They will appear in any "open door" theater.

## ELKINS' DEATH MAY HAVE REMOVED OBSTACLE TO DAUGHTER'S MARRIAGE

[Special Cable to The Call]  
PARIS, Jan. 6.—The Paris papers were nearly unanimous this morning in reporting that it was Senator Elkins who opposed the match between his daughter and the duke of the Abruzzi, resulting in the breaking of the engagement. It was solely a question of the wish of Katherine Elkins, and her parents may have influenced her decision.

## REGISTERED MATTER IS STOLEN

### Ferry Boat Robbers Capture Valuable Packages While Guards Are Watching

### BAG DISAPPEARS FROM CENTER OF BIG TRUCK

### Thief Eludes Observation and Escapes Without Leaving Clew to Identify

### LOSS ONLY DISCOVERED ON MAKING LAST COUNT

GUARDED by a railway mail clerk and two postoffice inspectors with special instructions to exercise the greatest vigilance, a fourth bag of registered mail was stolen Thursday night while in transit across the bay on the ferry steamer Newark.

Three previous thefts, covering the period from December 25 to December 29, had stirred the entire local postoffice department to its foundation. The Thursday night robbery threw the whole force into turmoil. Extraordinary efforts were put forth to effect an immediate capture, but the culprit is still at large.

The latest coup of the mysterious thief will swell his loot to well nigh \$60,000. It was executed under circumstances that stamp it as an astounding performance.

### Officials Are Baffled

The mail clerk and the two inspectors can merely shake their heads by way of explanation. At the main postoffice at Seventh and Mission streets there are only conjectures to account for the baffling series of robberies.

The pouch that disappeared Thursday night contained 23 packages of first and second class matter. It was directed to the cities of the northwest.

The bag was in charge of A. S. Ward of the railway mail department. He had gathered his shipment at Mission and Seventh streets and was about to leave for the ferry to connect with the Shasta Limited when summoned by A. D. Stephens, superintendent of the railway mail service.

### Mail Clerk Was Warned

"Now," said Stephens, "I want you to guard this mail as you never guard anything in your life. We have lost three registered bags in a little more than a week. They have all been stolen on the ferry boat during the trip to the Oakland mole. I want this thing to stop. Now, see to it that you get these safely across. I am detaching two inspectors to go with you to be on the watchout."

"They won't get anything from me," replied Ward. "You can lay your bets on that."

Ward and the two inspectors rode on the mail wagon to the ferry, where they gathered up more letters, including a registered pouch. They wheeled the load onto the Newark, leaving the ship at 7:40 in the evening. Count had tallied and every bag was in its place.

### Registered Sack Missed

The truck bearing the sacks of mail was moved to the front of the steamer and Ward and his two guards took up positions about the vehicle. Ward stood beside the mail, his arm stretched across the bags. The two inspectors remained near by, their keen eyes riveted on the load.

The boat was crowded with passengers. They walked to and fro on the lower deck, passing close to the mail pouches, but the clerk and the two guards watched with unwavering eye.

The registered package obtained at the ferry had not been thrown loosely on the top of the stack. It had been carefully secreted in the center as a measure of precaution.

When the boat reached the Oakland side the truck was run across the gangplank to the mia lot of the waiting Shasta Limited. Bag after bag was transferred to the train and checked as it was handed over. As the tally was completed, the clerk and the two inspectors observed to their utter amazement that they were one bag short. The registered pouch from the ferry was missing.

### Ferry Passengers Searched

They telephoned back to the main office at Seventh and Mission street. Just 40 minutes after, he had issued his warning to Ward, Superintendent