

Number of sports news items in the San Francisco papers yesterday morning:  
**THE CALL** ..... 44  
 Chronicle ..... 36  
 Examiner ..... 27  
 The Call leads in sports news.

# THE CALL



**THE WEATHER**  
 YESTERDAY—Highest temperature, 56;  
 lowest, Saturday night 48.  
**FORECAST FOR TODAY**—Showers,  
 breaking away during the day; light south-  
 west wind.

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## FIREMAN'S LEAP RESCUES WOMAN FROM FLAMES

Boy Drags Mother to Red Hot  
 Fire Escape and Man's 10  
 Foot Jump Saves Her

Two Possibly Dead in Fire That  
 Does \$1,000,000 Damage  
 in Minneapolis

Twelve Persons Taken From  
 Furnace, Into Which Wind  
 Turns Building

**MINNEAPOLIS, March 5.**—One of the most disastrous fires this city has ever known destroyed the Syndicate block in Nicollet avenue, between Fifth and Sixth streets, today. The total loss is estimated at \$1,000,000. It is possible that two lives were lost, although this has not yet been determined.

Twelve persons were rescued from the upper stories of the building, while the flames were roaring around them. Some of these sustained slight injuries, but none was seriously hurt.

### Origin Is Mystery

The origin of the fire is unknown. The alarm was given by passersby in Nicollet avenue, who saw the flames bursting from the second story window.

Before the firemen arrived the tenants of the building, who were asleep in the upper rooms, began to appear at the windows, calling for aid.

As a strong wind was blowing, in a few minutes the west half of the building was a furnace.

The entire fire department of Minneapolis was called out, but it was totally inadequate to check the flames. Then a call was sent to St. Paul for help, which was immediately furnished.

Elmer Franson leaped to the fire escape through flames. Holding to the hot iron, he aided his mother to climb through a window and step upon the platform beside him.

### 10 Foot Leap Made

As soon as her hands touched the rails, Mrs. Franson screamed and would have fallen to the ground had not Fireman Caldwell leaped fully 10 feet to her rescue from a ladder perched against the New England building, which adjoins the Syndicate building. He assisted her to the ground. Elmer Franson followed, shouting:

"There are two women back there in the flames. I saw them fall."  
 The firemen made every effort to break into the building at this place, but the heat was too great.

The firemen had little difficulty in rescuing those on the second and fifth floors.

In the progress of the fire there were several explosions, which lifted the heavy stone sidewalks in the air. The explosions were attributed to breaking gas pipes.

The high wind carried embers from the fire for fourteen blocks. A number of small fires started on the roofs of several buildings.

The Syndicate building was erected in 1882, by a number of businessmen. It was purchased by the Boston trust company about three years ago.

### List of Losses

The upper floors in the center of the building were occupied by numerous doctors, restaurants and other tenants, about 50 in all. These lost all their property. The largest individual losses are:

Model clothing company, \$175,000.  
 Minneapolis dry goods company, \$150,000.

B. E. Hudson & Son, \$100,000 outside of the safe, which contained merchandise valued at \$200,000.

Young & Quinlan, \$125,000.  
 Woolworth and company, \$20,000.  
 Other tenants (estimated), \$100,000.  
 Loss on building, \$200,000.

Most of these losses are fully insured. Although the fire started early in the morning, it was almost gone before it was under control. For several hours it was feared that the entire business district of Minneapolis would be swept by the flames.

## PACIFIC COAST STORM IS WENDING EASTWARD

### Center of Disturbance to Traverse Country by Wednesday

**WASHINGTON, March 5.**—Indications are the coming week will be one of moderate temperature with considerable cloudiness and well distributed precipitation, according to the prediction of the weather bureau.

The principal disturbance to cross the United States is now off the north Pacific coast, whence it will move eastward, crossing the middle west Tuesday and the eastern states by Wednesday.

This will be preceded by rising temperature and accompanied by general precipitation. It will be followed by a change to colder weather in northern and central districts from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic coast the latter part of the week.

## Mrs. J. C. Wheeler, Who Was Married Again Yesterday



## GRIDIRON ROMANCE PROVED FLEETING

Daughter of J. P. Whitney, Former  
 Wife of Football Star,  
 Weds Coal Dealer

Mrs. Helen Beryl Graydon was married yesterday morning to J. Columbus Wheeler Jr. of Baltimore. The ceremony took place at the Fairmont hotel. Mrs. Wheeler is the beautiful daughter of J. Parker Whitney. While still in her teens she upset convention by an elopement from boarding school with a famous Harvard football star, Tom Graydon. Later she obtained a divorce on the ground of nonsupport. Arrangements for her second venture into matrimony were made so quietly that the young couple were well on their way east before the bride's closest friends had any inkling of the affair.

Mrs. Wheeler's first romance was the outgrowth of a Yale and Harvard football scrimmage, in which Thomas H. Graydon was the star. Mrs. Wheeler, then Miss Whitney, the beautiful California heiress, was present, properly chaperoned, on the bleachers, and promptly lost her heart to the young gridiron hero. An introduction followed, and from then on Graydon's wooing smacked of his football tactics. The fact that Miss Whitney was incarcerated behind the walls of the Misses Ely's fashionable boarding school in Riverside drive, New York, had added fuel to the flames. One afternoon Miss Whitney, with a couple of girl friends, slipped away and went to town on a sort of a schoolgirl lark. Discovery of their prank resulted in the sending of all three, chaperoned by one of the teachers, to Sharon, Mass., as a punishment. Graydon hastened to the rescue. Impersonating Miss Whitney's brother, he gained favor in the eyes of the duenna, with the result that an elopement was planned. That night by means of a ladder made of sheets Miss Whitney slid from a second story window, and they were married in a neighboring town.

The parental forgiveness was the kind that had to be coaxed. However, in time, it was obtained, and the young couple went abroad on an extended honeymoon trip, later returning to Cincinnati to live. Graydon, who had been left a fortune, engaged in the shoe business, but it proved a failure; he didn't even provide shoes for his wife.

The ceremony yesterday morning was solemnized by Rev. William Guthrie of the First Presbyterian church in the presence of only the immediate relatives of the bride. There were no attendants. Mrs. Wheeler was attired in a simple tailored suit of black and white checked cloth, and with it wore a smart spring hat. Immediately after the marriage service an informal wedding breakfast was enjoyed, after which Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler departed for the east on a brief honeymoon trip. They will make their home at Fort Thomas, Ky., where Wheeler is engaged in the coal business.

Among the wedding guests were Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Whitney, who came from Rocklin to be present at their daughter's nuptials; the bride's brothers and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Parker Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Whitney, and the latter's sister Mrs. Frederick Tallant.

## ROAST WILL BE SERVED TO FISH AND GAME BOARD

Assembly Committee to File  
 Charges of Gross Negligence  
 in Handling Funds

That Story of 1,100 Mountain  
 Lions Killed Will Be  
 Investigated

[Special Dispatch to The Call]  
**CALL HEADQUARTERS, SACRAMENTO, March 5.**—Sensational charges of gross negligence on the part of the fish and game commission in handling the immense fund at its disposal and in protecting the game of the state will be made in the report of the committee of the assembly which was named by Speaker Hewitt to investigate the numerous complaints against the commission.

Already the work of the committee is proving effective. When it delved into the charges in San Francisco a few days ago that certain deputies had been extorting money from the Chinese shrimp fishermen of San Francisco bay most incriminating testimony was adduced. C. B. Wood and E. M. McMillan, two of the deputies under investigation, have been discharged as a result. Following is a copy of the letter received by each of them from Chief Deputy John P. Babeck of the commission:

You are hereby removed as a deputy fish and game commissioner of the state board of fish and game commissioners of California for conduct unbecoming such an officer. The conduct referred to was testified to by you under oath before the investigation committee of the legislature now conducting its hearings at San Francisco and consists, according to your statements, of drinking in saloons with Chinese representing other Chinese accused and then on trial for infractions of the fish and game laws, and also in playing the Chinese lottery game, which in itself is a violation of the law of this state. You will forthwith surrender your commission and badge as such deputy to this office. By order of the board.

### Investigation to Continue

The investigation of the commission has not been concluded. There are many things which the special committee wants explained, if possible, before it reports to the assembly. Particular attention will be paid by the committee to a charge of \$22,000 against the fund during the last two years as bounty on 1,100 mountain lions alleged to have been killed in this state.

Intimation that there has been gross fraud practiced in draining the fund for the payment of bounties on mountain lions has been made. Whether there has been collusion between deputies of the fish and game commission and the men to whom the bounties were paid is one of the things the committee will attempt to determine. There is a possibility of a repetition of the notorious coyote scalp scandal of 10 years ago, when great frauds were uncovered by an investigation committee.

Mountaineers are not slow to question the figures in the report of the commission indicating that 1,100 lions have been killed in this state in two years. Suspicion has been raised that many of these lions' scalps were imported from western Oregon and Washington, where mountain lions are plentiful.

The absurdity of the commission's figures is indicated by an assertion by one of the officials that a lion would destroy three deer a week. At this rate the 1,100 lions, slaying three deer each a week, would destroy 171,000 deer per year.

### Queer Things Uncovered

"We have discovered some very queer things so far in the course of our investigation," was all that would be said today by Frank J. Walker, chairman of the committee, of which the other members are J. W. Strickland, John C. March, Fred H. Hall and George H. Harlan.

An expert is now at work on the books of the commission and is expected to have his report ready in a few days. With this information in hand, the committee will then draft its report to the assembly. It will dwell particularly upon the lax business methods employed by the commission and will charge that the system of handling money is one of the most careless the state has known. There has been practically no checking up of the accounts of the deputies, according to one of the investigators. The committee will recommend in its report that a proper system of accounting be established and that greater diligence be shown to prevent unscrupulous persons from defrauding the state.

## MANACLED NEGRO SHOT BY WOMAN'S FATHER

Oklahoma Avenges Daughter  
 in Presence of Deputies

**SHAWNEE, Okla., March 5.**—Following a suspected assault Saturday evening on his daughter, Mrs. Lydia Woods, J. C. Williams of McCloud early today shot Lee Brown, a negro, who was in the custody of two deputy sheriffs at the McCloud depot, waiting for a train. The negro was handcuffed. Williams surrendered to the deputies.

## RUEF WILL BE PUT TO WORK IN JUTE MILL

Entering Prison as Novice, Con-  
 demned Politician Will Begin  
 by Sweeping Floors

Briber Who Baffled Courts for  
 Three Years Starts San  
 Quentin Term Tuesday

When Abe Ruef goes to San Quentin tomorrow he will be assigned immediately to work in the jute mill. That was the announcement made yesterday by Warden Hoyle of the state penitentiary. Ruef will begin by gathering waste jute from the floor and storing it into cans. It is the employment given novices and no exception will be made in Ruef's case.

"He will be treated like any other prisoner," said Hoyle, "and will begin in the jute mill."

The erstwhile boss will also go at once on the prison diet of two meals a day. The menu consists of stew, beans, bread and coffee. On special occasions, pudding will be served.

Yesterday Ruef held a levee at the Ingleside county jail. Hundreds of his friends and old supporters called on him through the long day and pressed his hand and expressed their devotion and fidelity.

Tomorrow Abraham Ruef's hands will be too busy to acknowledge the grasp of friends and adherents, as they sweep swiftly over the floor of the jute mill at San Quentin, in search of the wisps of yarn that are flung from the looms.

Deep down in his heart Ruef realizes

Continued on Page 7, Column 2

## Homeric Fury Kindles Redress Is Demanded

Richard de Fontana, Greek consul, and El Pohlman, who yesterday denounced him.



## REV. CHARLES AKED ASKS FOR PRAYERS

Baptist Pastor Regrets Failure  
 of Eastern Plans and In-  
 clines to This City

**NEW YORK, March 5.**—Frankly stating the disappointment he had experienced in his ministry to the wealthy Fifth Avenue Baptist church, the Rev. Charles F. Aked announced today that he had received a unanimous and enthusiastic call to the First Congregational church of San Francisco. He said he had been unable to find any good reason why he should not accept.

The announcement was made from the pulpit.

He regretfully acknowledged his fears that the great enterprises which he had hoped to lead as pastor of one of the wealthiest churches in America, popularly known as the John D. Rockefeller church, were only "such stuff as dreams are made of."

Notwithstanding the \$10,000 salary offered him when he came here from Pembroke chapel in Liverpool, Eng., four years ago, and the recent increase to \$12,000, or his ties of friendship in the metropolis, he did not see how he could contemplate a permanent ministry here. He chafed under the failure of the church to provide a larger edifice and to undertake larger enterprises.

"So far as we can see today," he said, "there is no future for this church or for my ministry."  
 He gave the Fifth avenue congregation 10 days of grace in which to consider the situation before he should say definitely whether he would accept the call to the Pacific coast.

"Let those who love me, pray for me," he concluded, "that I may make no mistake through erring judgment, and for this church that it may both interpret and accomplish the purposes of Jesus Christ our Lord."

"I owe something to the men and women of England, who loved me and believed in me, who believed in me when to the tens of thousands of the free churchmen of England it looked as though I were deserting them in the hour of need."

"It believed that the best work of my life would be done beneath the American flag and in association with American churches. I could give myself to a great work with deathless passion. But such a work does not seem possible in this church."

To the admonitions that he should have patience for the evolution of the great things, Doctor Aked replied that such an attitude calls for "the highest type of enthusiasm, the enthusiasm which illumines detail and makes drudgery divine."

"Does such a spirit exist in our church?" he asked. "It is for you to say, not for me."

## BIRDMAN BREAKS RECORDS FOR FLIGHTS OVER SEAS

Lieutenant Bague Crosses Mediterranean in Monoplane,  
 Which Is Badly Damaged

**NICE, France, March 5.**—Lieutenant Bague accomplished a sensational and daring feat today by flying over the Mediterranean from Antibes to the little island of Gorgona, off the Italian coast. He covered more than 200 kilometers (124.5 miles), establishing a new record for overseas flight. This he did without the assistance of tugs, torpedo boats or any other craft to guide him or to add to his confidence.

Lieutenant Bague started at 7:30 o'clock this morning in a Bleriot monoplane, with the intention of landing on Corsica, and proceeding thence, by way of Sardinia and Sicily, to Tunis.

Aided by a strong wind, his progress was rapid, and a dispatch was received here that he had arrived at Gorgona.

This island lies between Corsica and Leghorn.

Bague landed there at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, the descent being made with awkwardness and danger on account of the trees and rocks. The monoplane struck heavily and was badly damaged, but Bague was not hurt.

It had been his intention to land at Ajaccio, on the west coast of Corsica, but, losing his way, he shaped his course too far north.

Bague's overseas flight breaks the previous record held by J. A. D. McCurdy, who, January 30 last, flew from Key West to within 10 miles of the Cuban shore, a distance of 91 miles. Glenn Curtiss, last August, made a flight over Lake Erie of 84 miles.

## BEAR'S WINTER NAP UNDER SCHOOL DELAYS THREE Rs

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

**REDDING, March 5.**—A bear has rang the bell, hammered on the floor under the schoolhouse in the Ellis district, eight miles from Millville.

For several days last week low growls agitated the teacher, Miss Mabel Covey, and the children, who finally concluded a wild animal was underneath the house. A dog was sent under, but he came out howling and scampered off home.

The teacher and children then thought they would make noise sufficient to drive the animal out. They

that the dog came aboard the steamer at Portland on the last trip up and was made the ship mascot. He was pampered and petted on the trip down by one of the two men, but which, will never be determined. Before the story was told the lie passed and both were rushing into another clinic when the officers rushed them into separate cells.

After the fight on the dock the dog trotted off in the direction of the Bear, probably to find a new master.

## TWO SAILORS FIGHT HARD FOR LITTLE MONGREL DOG

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

**WASHINGTON, March 5.**—Brigadier General William H. Bixby, chief of engineers; Arthur Murray, chief of coast artillery, and William Crozier, chief of ordnance of the army, have almost completed the plans for the fortification of the Panama canal, for which the sixty-first congress in its closing hours appropriated \$3,000,000. Actual work on the fortifications will be begun on July 1.

The fortifications will be constructed of concrete, fronted by earth embankments. The armament will be, eight 14 inch rifles, 12 6 inch rifles and 24 12 inch mortars.

The permanent garrison in the canal zone in time of peace will consist of four regiments of infantry, one battalion of field artillery and one squadron of cavalry.

## GREEK'S IRE ROUSED BY CONSUL

Resolutions Adopted at Mass  
 Meeting Denouncing Richard  
 de Fontana

ANGRY MOB MEETS  
 ON STEPS OF CHURCH

Demand Sent to Athens and  
 Washington That Offending  
 Official Be Recalled

GRAVE CHARGES OF  
 FRAUD ARE PREFERRED

A STRUGGLE that is Homeric in the sense that much of it is fought in the field of letters, is at the present time around the head and chair of Richard de Fontana, royal Greek consul at San Francisco. The situation yesterday was this: the opponents of the consul made certain charges against his honesty and official capacity, and at a mass meeting held in Seventh street before the Greek church, resolutions were adopted denouncing Fontana for certain specified acts, and addressed to congressman Julius Kahn with the prayer that he use his influence to have Fontana removed. The same resolutions were also sent to the Grecian legation at Washington, the Greek minister of foreign affairs, Athens, and the prime minister of Greece.

Fontana preferred last evening to treat the charges as ridiculous and would not reply to them. Dr. M. F. Clark, first secretary of the consulate, however, answered them more specifically and produced some documents to disprove the allegation.

Attorney Walter J. Thompson, who has interested himself in the cause of some of the Greeks, denounced Fontana yesterday in an interview, but Clark showed a letter from another attorney, Thomas B. Dozier, in which the consul was highly praised for his work.

The committee having charge of the fight against Fontana consists of El Pohlman, secretary of the Hellenic Reform league, and Antone Caris, J. Xipolias and Thomas Poladis. They were selected at the meeting held on the church steps.

Richard de Fontana, Greek consul on the Pacific coast, is first charged with using his influence against the interests of his 18 deceased countrymen who were drowned in the Pitt river while employed by a certain corporation. He was given power of attorney to act in behalf of the relatives and is charged with having kept a portion of the money for which he settled the cases. The consul returned the money he had withheld when Attorney Walter Thompson threatened his arrest on behalf of the heirs of the deceased.

Fontana loaned his name and indorsement to certain "get rich quick" corporations, according to the second charge made against him. It is alleged he gave a recommendation, with the Grecian seal attached, to a company which was furthering a certain invention. Many of his countrymen were thus induced to purchase stock in this corporation, which was afterward declared bankrupt, it is affirmed.

Owing to the fact that the Greek government will expend considerable money for an exhibit at the 1915 fair the signers of the resolution set forth that they felt it imperative to see that an "honest and efficient" person occupy the office of Greek consul. The last charge is then made that Fontana overcharges for the performance of his official duties.

Congressman Kahn is therefore asked to take the necessary steps for the removal of Fontana and the substitution of another person in his stead.

**Declines to Talk**  
 Consul Fontana refused to discuss the charges, declaring that his accusers were not worthy of serious consideration. Dr. M. F. Clark, first secretary of the Greek consulate, however, spoke for the consulate. He said:

"The scurrilous attack made on his honor Consul Richard de Fontana is absolutely without foundation and is undoubtedly due to the laughable ambition of a certain uneducated, uncouth, boorish cannibal, whose presence in the Greek colony of San Francisco casts odium upon the intelligent members of the community. According to records and receipts Mr. Fontana is out of pocket \$81.29 in the case of the settlement of the affairs of the 18 Greeks drowned in Pitt river, to which the resolutions refer."

"As to the reasons for the settlement of these claims against the Sacramento Valley and Eastern railway, I would refer the public to a letter written by Attorney Thomas B. Dozier, of the firm of Reid & Dozier, attorneys for the corporation, in which Mr. Dozier states that it is only due to the efforts and constant intercession on behalf of the