

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 Lightning Change Artist Eclipsed



Uncle Walt
The Poet Philosopher

When tireless agents greet me with smiles from ear to ear, and do their best to beat me, just as they did last year, by selling fruit trees fruitless, or cornets that are toothless, or other junk that's bootless, I know that spring is here.



WALT MASON

The Morning Chit-Chat

MY DEAR MISS CAMERON:
I am a reader of this paper and have noticed with interest the different occupations for women you sometimes suggest in your columns.



RUTH CAMERON

It seems as if the people of California had begun none too soon to look after their property. The only question is whether they are not too late to save the valuable water rights that belong to them.

Activity of Water Power Grabbers
Another recent dispatch from Plumas county was this:
QUINCY, March 28.—W. S. Cone of San Francisco has filed on 150,000 inches of water to be diverted from the north fork of the Feather river at a point near Belden bar in Plumas county.

The development of these properties is, of course, a great thing for California, but it is a much greater thing for the interests that have been permitted to seize public property and hold it in perpetuity under color of law and without paying a penny in the way of compensation to the people of the state, who are the real owners thereof.

Berkeley as a Political Laboratory
Wilson's election to be mayor of Berkeley causes no more than a mild thrill of surprise. It is not revolution, but experiment. Berkeley, like Milwaukee, has been converted for the present into a political laboratory, and her neighbor cities will watch with unaffected interest the workings of the process.

In Milwaukee a similar experiment has not been especially successful, nor, on the other hand, has it been attended by disaster. The vague but glittering promises of the socialist program and platform have not been fulfilled, as indeed every sober minded man knew they could not be realized.

Perhaps that condition should not be surprising. The socialists of light and leading are very often amiable idealists who have dwelt all their lives in a land of dreams. When they are confronted by the actual realities of a complicated situation they lose their heads.

THE message of Diaz to congress is demonstration that Mexico has been undergoing a real process of revolution. The message is a plain confession that things are all wrong in the republic and must be changed. It is an admission that the general line of accusation carried in such publications as "Barbarous Mexico" was just.

President Diaz Makes Full Surrender
The message to congress is nothing less. It is on its face a complete surrender. Whether it is meant in all sincerity to be carried out according to promise is another matter.

Answers to Queries
DRY BATTERIES—D. R. K., writing from Wrights, says: "One of the correspondents of the query department wants to know how to recharge a dry battery."

BARON D'ESTOURNELLES, the accomplished Frenchman who is visiting San Francisco, is, one may be permitted to hope, not merely an amiable enthusiast crying "Peace, peace, where there is no peace," but a practical man who speaks of facts that are in the way of accomplishment, albeit he addresses a town-folk who within a month have heard the ring of bridles and the clash of arms as marching men went forth to what might prove to be a war.

Mission of an Apostle of Peace
He will show, by citing the opinions of the greatest thinkers and the greatest historians, that with the exception of the wars of independence, the greater number of even victorious wars have been needless in the past, and will continue to be more and more needless—disastrous for the conqueror as for the conquered.

It will not be denied that there is an appreciable and distinct movement of international opinion in the direction that M. d'Estournelles indicates. The only clouds on the horizon are raised by Germany and Japan. As for Japan, we regard the supposed threat as fanciful, and we have always failed to understand what substantial cause of quarrel England and Germany could find to fight over.

WHEN the mountains of California contributed Congressman Raker as the lonely democrat of the state representation in the national parliament it was hoped that this distinction would bring something more important in the way of recognition than a subordinate membership on an obscure committee.

What Happened to Raker?
It might only be the chairmanship of the committee on the state of the Potomac river, but still it would be something in the way of distinction and it would have been appreciated as a compliment by California as well as by Mr. Raker.

By Proxy
A Source of Uneasiness
The Way He'd Run It
Finky Kerr's brother married a circus rider yesterday—again!—three-ring ceremony. It was thought for awhile that livery stable was burnin' up to-day, but it proved 't be a grocery se-gar.

Answers to Queries

DRY BATTERIES—D. R. K., writing from Wrights, says: "One of the correspondents of the query department wants to know how to recharge a dry battery."

LAND—E. D. B., Vallejo. Where can I obtain information about government land for homesteads in California, Colorado, Oregon and Washington?

BRIDGE—T. C. R., Monterey. Who wrote verses in which are the words: "They're going to build, I feel it, yet, 'A bridge across the Willamette'?"

WOMEN POLICE—Call Reader, City. Is there any place in the United States where there are women policemen?

A DESERTER—Subscriber, Blue Lake. If a soldier deserts from the United States army is he liable to punishment at the expiration of two years, if during that time he has resided in the United States? Must he have resided in one place?

THE MOON—F. E. S., Lapehool, Hawaii. What is the distance of the moon from the earth?

SCHOOL LANDS—O. R., where can I obtain information as to school lands in California? Communicate with the surveyor general, Sacramento.

DAGO—W. E., City. What is the origin of the word "dago"?

ABE MARTIN
George Suff, for many years associated with the Palace hotel, gave a birthday party yesterday on his ranch in Sonoma county.

places. If apprehended within two years and during that period he was without the limits of the United States the statute of limitation does not run as against his foreign absence.

HORN AND CANAL—A. C., City, and J. R., Sacramento. What time and distance will be saved to a steamer from New York to San Francisco by going through the Panama canal instead of around the Horn? Also from Hamburg?

CONSULAR—A. R. G., Vallejo. How are consuls and vice consuls from the United States appointed, and to whom should an application be presented?

THEY are appointed by the United States secretary of state, after a civil service examination. Application for examination must be sent to the office of the official named.

DESERTING CHILDREN—L. V., City. Supposing a man deserts his children, leaving them sick and destitute, and at the end of two years returns, during which time he never contributed to their support, and makes a demand for his children, could he be held liable?

THE MOON—F. E. S., Lapehool, Hawaii. What is the distance of the moon from the earth? The mean distance is 238,850, but its maximum distance may be as much as 252,850 miles, while the nearest it can come to the earth is 224,850 miles.

SCHOOL LANDS—O. R., where can I obtain information as to school lands in California? Communicate with the surveyor general, Sacramento.

DAGO—W. E., City. What is the origin of the word "dago"? This has been traced back a long time to sailors, who, meeting Spanish

PERSONS IN THE NEWS
GEORGE SUFF, for many years associated with the Palace hotel, gave a birthday party yesterday on his ranch in Sonoma county.

WALTER J. BEER, a capitalist of New Jersey, is at the St. Francis with his family. They have been spending the winter in the southern part of the state.