The San Francisco Call

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Dr. Wilson Will Tame the Savage "Beast"

DR. J. STITT WILSON, newly elected mayor of Berkeley, has discovered the public service corporations and undertakes to reduce them to subjection in the college town. The Call wishes him every success, and is free to admit that the other parties have not made a very good job in the way of putting these corporations under discipline.

"Berkeley," says the incoming mayor, "is corporation ridden," and he proceeds to quote certain excessive charges for public service in that municipality. The same things might be said of San Francisco and, we presume, of most other municipalities in America. Doctor Wilson's discovery is neither new nor singular.

This is not said by way of depreciation. All good citizens will unite in support of the program that Doctor Wilson announces, in the hope that a new hand at the bellows will fan the flame of civic spirit and forge a keener and more powerful weapon to subdue the stubborn "beast" and make him know his place.

Doctor Wilson asserts that this disobedient and even rebellious "beast" of his parable has got the relations of master and servant confused, and from being a beast of burden has turned into a beast of prey. One hopes that Doctor Wilson will get his political zoology straightened out and that he will not take as long about it as the Smithsonian institution has used up with Colonel Roosevelt's pet elephant, and the mark of his distinguished consideration for the University of California.

Doctor Wilson postpones the millennium. It is still at the end of the rainbow, awaiting the evolution of the perfect socialist in quantity. In the meantime he will be content to tackle the immediate "beast," which first tramples and then eats us up. "Socialism," he says, "is the balm of the human race's misery," but unfortunately, although there was balm enough to make him mayor, yet there is not enough left to go around and relieve the common misery.

There is a good time coming when, we may be permitted to hope, Doctor Wilson's inspiring metaphors shall be transmuted into profitable facts by some subtle alchemy, giving results more tangible than great expectations. It is Wilson at the bat.

To Settle the Fur Seal Quarrel

A CONFERENCE of diplomatic representatives of the United States, Great Britain, Japan and Russia will be held next month in Washington to settle the future of the fur seal herd in Bering sea. The conference may go further and ratify some sort of international game law to protect in a reasonable way the sea otter and plumage birds and their breeding grounds.

A Washington dispatch thus explains the Russian attitude:

> In accepting the American proposal to hold a seal fishery conference in Washington, the Russian government appears to be animated by a somewhat belated desire to repair the mistake committed at the Bering sea conference in not indorsing the sixty mile limit. The result has been that the seal rookeries in the Commander islands are rapidly becoming exhausted. These fisheries are leased to a Russian company under a contract which expires this year. The substance of the report drawn up by the official sent by the government to report upon the condition of the rookeries is as follows: Whereas formerly 30,000 to 50,000 skins were obtained annually, the present yield does not exceed 4,000. Even this number is attained only by the slaughter of a fair proportion of young females. This procedure is necessary, since the killing off of the males is already leading to a decline in the number of brood seals. The conclusion arrived at is that unless some measures are taken to put a stop to pelagic sealing, it would be best to kill off the whole herd.

The status of the American herd, with rookeries on the Pribilof islands, is somewhat better, because the partial enforcement of the sixty mile limit has stopped much of the destructive pelagic sealing. But the Japanese poachers constantly make raids on the herds, and their government does not recognize the sixty mile limit.

It has been a long standing reproach on American diplomacy that this question was not settled long ago. It has been a cause of quarrel ever since Blaine was secretary of state, and in consequence of this neglect or failure a once valuable industry has been suffered to run down almost to nothing. What is really wanted now is an absolutely closed season extended over a term of years with prohibition of any killing either on land or sea.

Why the Insurrectos Distrust Diaz

AMONG the insurrectos in Mexico there is a disposition to be highly suspicious about the fair promises that Diaz makes, and in truth they should not be blamed for doubting. Further, they regard Limantour as an old fox, not to be trusted any farther than they can see him.

While Diaz apparently surrenders everything by his message to congress and promises to retire from power, it is not announced that the extensive collection of political prisoners held in durance by the president have been released, and the Maderists may be forgiven for suspecting that once in the power of the government they might share the same or incur a worse fate.

These suspicions are justified by the fact that Diaz is a notorious promise breaker. He has volunteered to retire from power half a dozen times and as often has set to work to compel by force his re-election. Three years ago he caused to be published an authorized interview with himself, in which he said:

> I have waited patiently for the day when the people of the Mexican republic would be prepared to choose and change their government at every election without danger of armed revolutions and without injury to the national credit or interference with national progress. I believe that day has come.

People who took these fine words on trust immediately started a movement to elect General Bernardo Reyes president of the republic. As soon as the Reyes boom began to look important Diaz, as commander in chief of the army, ordered Reyes to decline the nomination and then sent him on a military mission to Europe, where he is still in virtual exile.

Then Madero took up the campaign for president. Diaz put him in jail and did the same thing with his most important supporters. After the election Madero was let out on bail and he at once fled to the United States, where he laid his plans for starting the insurrection in Mexico. With this record in view it is not surprising that the insurrectos distrust the promises so lavishly made by Diaz. Some guarantee more substantial than fine words will be demanded. It may easily be that Diaz is tired of his job, but he is surrounded by a gang of grafters known as the "cientificos," and it will be no easy matter to make these gray wolves of Mexico let go their grip.

Meaning of the Rothschilds Oil Deal

THE purchase by the Rothschilds of the Associated oil company and its immense properties in California means a great deal for the petroleum market on this coast. The purchase is recognition from an independent and responsible source of the magnitude and permanence of the oil industry in California.

The great financial house which is making this deal never acts until after the most careful examination by a staff of experts acting independently each of the others. When these experts concur in their opinions it amounts to commercial and industrial certainty. It is an unimpeachable certificate that the values are there.

The Rothschilds own other great properties on this continent, and their consistent policy has been to develop them industrially and commercially. This, no doubt, will be the course to be followed in relation to the Associated properties. The ultimate purpose that lies behind this purchase is as yet matter of speculation, but it is reasonable surmise, based on the facts of the situation, that this great supply of petroleum is intended for use as a competitive factor in the Asiatic field, where hitherto the Standard has held and controlled the market. The location of the Associated properties in close touch with the seaboard makes their product conveniently available for commercial purposes in Asia.

Whatever the purpose lying behind the deal, it means a greater stability for oil prices in the California field. It must help to bring conditions down to a steady business basis.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

TETRAZZINI—I. V., Los Angeles. Did Luisa Tetrazzini ever sing in the Tivoli in Eddy street, San Francisco?

Yes.

* * *

AN APRIL DATE—Flossie, Pleasanton. On what day of the week did April 2, 1881, fall?

Saturday.

* * *

ALBUMS—Flossie, Pleasanton. Are autograph albums out of date?

They are still used by many persons.

* * *

WOUNDED KNEE—Subscriber, Antioch. When, where, and by what tribe of Indians was the battle of Wounded Knee fought? What was the result?

This was part of the religious craze which made its appearance among the Indians of Dakota in the summer of 1900. There was fear that the Indians would become hostile and United States troops under General Miles were sent to the Bad Lands, where the Sioux Indians under the leadership of Sitting Bull became demonstrative, and on December 15 of that year a company of soldiers surrounded the camp of Sitting Bull, near Standing Rock. The Indians resented this intrusion and a battle followed, in which a number of the red men were made prisoners. They escaped and were followed to Wounded Knee, where they were told to surrender, but instead of so doing fired on the soldiers. The result of the outbreak was the death of about 200 Indians, 40 soldiers, two officers and one civilian and the destruction of property on and off the reservation estimated at $205,000.

* * *

DIVING—H. G. M., City. How long can a diver remain under water? What constitutes a day's work for a diver? What is the greatest depth at which a diver can work? What is the pay?

In a diving dress some have remained under the water several hours. The time that a man works under water is regulated by conditions. The greatest depth reached by a diver is 204 feet. The pay is a matter of agreement between diver and employer.

* * *

NOT EXEMPT—Subscriber, Stockton. Is a man who served in the United States army during the Spanish-American war and now resides in this state exempt from the payment of the $2 poll tax?

No.

* * *

RURAL DELIVERY—C. D., City. Give me information about rural free mail delivery in California.

You are referred to the postal authorities in the postoffice building, Mission and Seventh streets.

* * *

FRANCHISE—C. D., City. What were the terms under which the United Railroads received its franchise?

The company acquired by purchase the franchises that were granted to the Market street system and the Sutter street line. The conditions of these are set forth in a volume of the municipal reports on street railroad franchises. We have not the space to print the conditions of the many franchises granted.

* * *

MIDWINTER FAIR—R. T. C., City. In what year was the midwinter fair held in San Francisco?

In 1894.

* * *

POTATO—Subscriber, Black Diamond. Where was the potato commonly known as the "Irish potato" first discovered, and by whom?

The potato is a native of the Andes in South America. It was cultivated by the aborigines long before this continent was discovered by Columbus. It was first brought to Europe from America by Sir John Hawkins in 1565, then by Sir Francis Drake in 1585, and then by Sir Walter Raleigh about 1592, when the tuber first attracted popular attention.

Three of a Kind Will Make It

FIRST DEAL OF E. H. HARRIMAN

It Was Not Even a Good Streak of Rust, but It Sold for $200,000

IT was in the early eighties that Harriman purchased his first railroad and when he announced it he caused some surprise in his office.

"Where'd you get the money for it?" asked one of his partners.

"Never mind, I got it," said Harriman.

The road was the Sodus Bay and Southern, running from Lake Ontario to Stanley, N. Y. It was 34 miles long and owned two crippled locomotives, two passenger cars and seven freight cars.

"It is isn't even a good streak of rust," said a man who looked over the property for him.

Harriman pulled out his map—he was studying railroad maps even then.

"It's got the best harbor on the lake and the Pennsylvania has got to buy it," he said.

He started to build a big grain elevator and to improve the track. A few months later he disappeared from his office for several days, and returned with a check for $200,000. He had sold his road to the Pennsylvania.

"They had to have it," he said. "They saw it as soon as I showed it to them."

* * *

The Santa Fe has established a through service, freight and passenger, to Waco, Tex., reaching that city via the Cotton Belt. The Santa Fe has its own terminals in Waco, however.

* * *

H. C. Piculeil, Pacific coast agent for the Baltimore and Ohio, with office in this city, left Saturday for Pittsburg, where he will attend a conference of the traffic representatives of the company, scheduled for April 5, 6 and 7.

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A large number of local railroad officials and representatives of eastern lines left this city for Fresno yesterday morning to attend a meeting last night of the publicity and campaign committee for the annual California raisin day.

* * *

Harold J. Boyd, for the last five years a clerk in the local messenger offices of the Pennsylvania, was yesterday appointed traveling passenger agent for the company, with offices here. His territory will include all of California as far south as San Luis Obispo and Bakersfield, east to, but not including, Ogden and north to the Oregon state line. The position was specially created since the visit last fall here of Colonel Samuel Moody, passenger traffic manager at Pittsburg, and C. L. Kimball, assistant general passenger agent at Chicago.

Boyd is now the youngest traveling representative on this coast and probably in the country. He began with the Pennsylvania when only 16 years of age, and the local officials look upon him as a coming railroad representative.

* * *

The local office of the Canadian Pacific is distributing a handsome folder depicting the coming coronation of King George.

* * *

W. J. Black, passenger traffic manager of the Santa Fe, with office at Chicago, is expected to arrive in this city today from Santa Barbara. Black came west with Colonel Theodore Roosevelt two weeks ago and has been visiting with E. P. Ripley, president of the road, for the last week.

* * *

H. A. Jones, freight traffic manager of the Southern Pacific, returned yesterday morning from a business trip to Houston.

* * *

Joseph H. Young, formerly general superintendent of the northern district of the Southern Pacific, who resigned to become president of the Guggenheim traffic interests in Seattle, recently named one of the company's new ferry steamers W. H. Bancroft in honor of the vice president and general manager of the Oregon Short Line, for whom Young formerly worked.

* * *

L. M. Allen, passenger traffic manager of the Rock Island lines, with office at Chicago, is in the city on one of his annual inspection trips.

* * *

The Bakersfield Californian of Saturday, April 1, devotes almost an entire column to the hauling of 131 empty refrigerator cars and a water car with one engine on March 31. The long train was hauled from Fresno to Bakersfield, 103 miles, in 6 hours and 30 minutes, with but one stop. That is, without question, the longest train that has ever been hauled more than 100 miles, the train measuring 360 feet longer than a mile from engine to caboose.

There is a slight upgrade between Bakersfield and Fresno, and on account of this the feat performed by this engine, one of the consolidation type, is remarkable.

Abe Martin

Miss Fawn Lippincut is gradually gittin' over th' quinzy, but she's still as pale as a carriage painter's arm. Th' greatest o' all th' trunk mysteries is how a woman puts so much in 'em.

Uncle Walt

The Poet Philosopher

WALT MASON

ADVICE ON GOING

Go west, young man, as Greeley said, and carve out wealth and fame; if you're equipped with heart and head, you'll surely win the game. If you are brave and staunch and true, ambition in your breast, all things will surely come to you; so, then, young man, go west. Go east, young man, and win renown, the field's beyond compare; the toiler in the field or town may gain his laurels there. The youth who'd take a higher way than that of clod or beast will rise to noble heights some day; so, then, young man, go east. Go south, young man, to virgin field, and build yourself a home, returning only on your shield, as did the youth of Rome. Go to your work with willing hands and calm and restful mouth, and fortune waits for your commands; go south, good youth, go south! Go north—what boots it where you wend? All regions are the same; the earnest, honest soul, my friend, will win an honored name. Each country has its rich reward and gladly brings it forth for him who labors well and hard—go east, or west, or north!

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Walt Mason

The Morning Chit-Chat

RUTH CAMERON

CHRIST the Lord is risen, and therefore I must get me a new hat and gown with which to celebrate this great anniversary."

Sounds terrible, doesn't it?

Makes you positively shudder at its bald irreverence.

And yet that is substantially what thousands of American women are saying by their manner of celebrating Easter day.

"What are you going to have new for Easter?" Nearly everywhere in the last few weeks of Lent you hear that question.

And in the dressmaker's little back room, at the tailor's shop, in the sweat shops and in the millinery work rooms, overwrought nerves, tired fingers, and throbbing eyes are kept at their tasks twelve and fifteen hours a day to answer that question.

Truly we are doing almost as well with Easter as we have with Christmas.

I know a girl who stayed home from church last Easter because "I didn't have a single new thing to wear and I felt too shabby."

I know two other girls who went to church on Easter for the first time in two or three months to wear their Easter suits and hats.

Just think for a moment of what Easter means.

Easter is the day above all Christian holy days—even above Christmas, it seems to me—which should hold the fullest significance for Christians.

It celebrates the greatest belief of mankind, the belief in immortality.

Easter is the day which gives its meaning and its right to be to that magnificent chant of St. Paul's which sums up the greatest outcome of the Greatest Man's life—

"O, grave, where is thy victory?
O, death, where is thy sting?"

And we are making this wonderful of wonderful days, a day dedicated to clothes, a day when we stay at home from worship because we are shabby, or go because we have new garments to show off, a day to prepare for which we let our less fortunate sisters suffer the agonies of overwork.

No, there is nothing wrong in liking beautiful things. There is nothing unseemly in discarding one's dark winter garments and trying to make oneself more in harmony with the beautiful spring things about one.

But it seems to me there is great harm in allowing the clothes interest to obscure the meaning of Easter as much as we American women are in danger of doing.

Don't you agree with me?

Ruth Cameron

The Test of Social Standing

Old Porkenlarrd.—Sh! My wife has a pearl necklace concealed in her bonnet!

Customs' Inspector.— Huh?

Old Porkenlarrd.—Don't overlook it, that's all! She wants to get her name in the papers as a society leader! —Puck.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

C. LACY GOODRICH, who has been traveling through the east for the Western Pacific, preparatory to taking a position of general agent in the orient, is staying at the St. Francis.

* * *

CYRUS F. CLAPP, former state senator of Washington, is at the Palace with his family. They are en route home after spending the winter in southern California.

* * *

J. O. PARKER, a furniture dealer and showcase manufacturer of Los Angeles, is a guest at the Argonaut.

* * *

J. H. SHIVELY, state insurance commissioner of Washington, is at the Palace, registered from Olympia.

* * *

S. F. B. MORSE, a mining man of Merced, is among the recent arrivals at the St. Francis.

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A. C. BURTON, a well known mining man of Fallon, Nev., is registered at the Argonaut.

* * *

J. C. SAFFORD, a furniture and carpet dealer of Livermore, is stopping at the Argonaut.

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DR. S. S. PORTER of Marietta, O., is among the recent arrivals at the Stewart.

* * *

MRS. STANFORD, Miss Stanford and Miss Powers are guests at the Arlington.

* * *

J. D. HOLMES, a banker of Los Angeles, is a recent arrival at the Argonaut.

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C. B. YOUNGER, an attorney of Santa Cruz, is registered at the St. Francis.

* * *

C. C. JONES, a real estate operator of Suisun, is staying at the Von Dorn.

* * *

T. C. CRAWFORD, a mining man of London, is staying at the Fairmont.

* * *

T. F. RYAN, a fruit importer of Seattle, is staying at the St. Francis.

* * *

GLENN H. CURTISS, the aviator, is at the St. Francis with Mrs. Curtiss.

* * *

FRANK T. HUNTER, a banker of Seattle, is registered at the Palace.

* * *

J. L. BUTLER of Sonapoli is staying at the Stanford.

* * *

DR. J. T. MURRAY of Butte is staying at the Palace.

WILLIAM J. O'CONNOR, a banker and broker of this city, left yesterday on a business trip to the east and Europe. He expects to be away several months.

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MR. AND MRS. E. S. HAMILTON of Massachusetts and Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Sampson of Ohio make up a group of recent arrivals at the Bellevue.

* * *

H. G. McGLASHAN of the United States geographical survey, is a recent arrival at the Argonaut, accompanied by Mrs. McGlashan.

* * *

MR. AND MRS. J. M. STEERS of Chicago and Mrs. W. W. Derby of Boston make up a group of recent arrivals at the Colonial.

* * *

D. M. DRUMHELLER, vice president of the Traders national bank of Spokane, is among the recent arrivals at the Palace.

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M. TALBOT, president of the Alaska Pacific steamship company, is at the St. Francis, registered from Seattle.

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A. D. CARLTON, general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific at Portland, is staying at the St. Francis.

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S. E. PREWITT, a businessman of Salt Lake, is a guest at the Cadillac.

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A. H. BRIGGS, a merchant of Los Gatos, is staying at the Stewart.

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A. E. NUIMMUM, a mining man of Nevada, is staying at the Cadillac.

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J. O. HICKMAN, a banker of Hanford, is a guest at the Stewart.

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MR. AND MRS. E. E. CASE of Raymond are guests at the Manx.

* * *

S. L. MACK, a banker of Bakersfield, is a guest at the St. Francis.

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R. D. MERRILL of Seattle is at the Fairmont with Mrs. Merrill.

* * *

C. E. GREGORY of Winters is registered at the Stanford.

* * *

DR. H. L. Pace of Tulare, is registered at the Manx.

* * *

ROBERT GILL of Ottawa is staying at the Fairmont.