

The San Francisco Call

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Five Days for Refreshments



change of system. The Stockton Independent makes these suggestions:

The businessmen of Stockton are naturally alarmed at the great increase in the assessed valuation placed upon business property by the city assessor. That officer is not primarily responsible for the increase. The estimates for the current year call for \$338,058.40, and he must so assess property that it will raise that amount. If the businessmen would look over the estimates they would not blame Assessor Keyson, but would see where the cause of the increased burden is and where skillful and careful pruning might save the necessity for such great increases in the assessments.

It should be obvious that the present transition period demands a rigid and severe pruning of estimates, not only in Stockton but in all other cities in the state, if we are to escape the creation of awkward deficits to hang for years about the necks of tax payers. Moreover, it will be necessary to amend those city charters that do not fit the requirements of the new plan for the collection of revenue for the state government.

STATE SENATOR GATES of Los Angeles still chews the cud of bitter recollection over his failure to split the state university in two parts, one for the north and the other for the south. He vows to heaven that he will do it yet. "They will not," he says, "be able to prevent us from getting a real university in the course of the next two or three years."

It appears, then, that the original proposition advanced by Gates was insincere—a humbug, a stalking horse. It was pretended then by Gates and the others that the design was merely to finance a technical school at Pasadena, not intended to be a rival to the University of California. Now Gates comes out flat footed for "a real university."

All California should rejoice were it demonstrated that the state could support two "real universities." Up to the present time the tax payers have found it a severe burden to support one real university, and any man who has followed the financial history of the institution knows that it lacks much of completeness, for the simple reason that it is always short of money. It has been a constant struggle to obtain the needed appropriations, and this not because of any niggard spirit in the legislature, but simply because the money was not there.

A lame school is a waste of money. Gates wants to make two of them. His political vision is bounded by his own "deestrick."

PEOPLE in California will be glad to learn that the Gould system of railroads, including the Western Pacific, will not be gobbled by the same interests that now control most of our other means of transportation, and the further assurance is given that the system is in the way to be amply financed by powerful interests quite capable of taking care of its requirements. No doubt the Gould system has been suffered to run down for want of such support and needs rehabilitation, but this is now in the way to be supplied.

The Western Pacific road has become an important factor in the commercial and industrial life of California. The road is new, and as usual in such cases, has experienced some mishaps during the last winter, but these appear to have been overcome, and the line is in the way to do business. It is much needed, and the competition in service that it supplies will greatly promote our industries. Hitherto central California has been practically a one road region, and we were compelled to take what that road was pleased to give us. Its service will be improved by competition. Besides, there is plenty of business for all the roads.

During the Service
Jones—I wonder why they always have an eagle holding up the reading desk?
Smith—Give it up.
Jones—Why don't they do the thing up brown while they're about it and have a screech owl on the pulpit, a red bird on the organ, warbler and humming bird on the choir stalls, a dodo bird on the altar basin and a stork on the baptismal font?—Life.

A Valuable Office Boy
"Out to luncheon—Back in five minutes," read the sign on the door. "Are you sure he'll get back that soon?" asked the anxious caller. "Yes'm," said the wise office boy. "He ain't got the price of a 10 minutes' lunch in his clothes."—Toledo Blade.

Food for Repentance
A well known federal official was strolling down Philadelphia avenue one afternoon when he encountered a very small boy crying bitterly.
"Wha's the matter with that child?" demanded the official, somewhat peremptorily, of the woman who had him in charge. "Is he ill?"
"He ain't exactly ill," responded the unmoved woman, "but between you and me, sir, no stomach ain't goin' to stand nine doughnuts!"—Success Magazine.

Sparring for Time
Stranger (in Pittsburg)—Let me see what's your town chiefly famous for?
Pittsburg Man—Say, my friend, are you collecting material for a magazine article, or do you really want to know?—Chicago Tribune.

Answers to Queries

NATIONAL FLOWER—E. S. Lughoff, Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands. What is the national flower of the United States? Has congress passed a law designating such a flower?
The United States can not be said to have a generally accepted national flower. In 1889 an attempt was made to secure a general expression of opinion in favor of some one flower, and the golden rod, as being indigenous and more widely distributed than in any other country, received the majority of votes, but a national flower is usually recognized only when tradition and legend give it significance, and not because of a popular vote. In 1892 an effort was made to have the pansy declared by congress the national flower, but the bill went to a committee and died there. No law on the subject has been passed.

ESPERANTO—M. N. City. Who originated the language called "Esperanto"? What is its purpose, and to what extent is it used?
It is an artificial language invented by Dr. L. L. Zamenhof of Warsaw, Poland, and its purpose is to serve as an international medium. The first publication in regard to the new language was in 1887. It is mostly of Latin, but to some extent of Anglo-German origin. It is now used by thousands of persons in the civilized world, and is fostered by a large national association.

LOCOMOTIVE—C. H. M. Vallejo. Which is the largest locomotive in the Southern Pacific or the Santa Fe?
The Santa Fe has just completed the largest locomotive in the world. It is 121 feet long, weighs 750,000 pounds and rests on 10 pairs of driving wheels, two leaders under the pilot and two trailers under the cab. It is an oil burner and will be operated tender foremost. It will be used to haul freight over the Arizona grades.

INSURRECTION—H. R. P. City. I notice that some of the city papers use the word "insurrectos," while in the March number of the Review of Reviews it is printed "insurrection." Which is correct?
In the Spanish language nouns ending in a short or unaccented vowel form the plural by adding "s" to the singular.

WIFE'S DEBTS—Subscriber, City. Is the separate property of a husband in California liable for the debts of the wife before he is married?
The code says: "The separate property of the husband is not liable for the debts of the wife contracted before marriage."

COUNTY OFFICE—Subscriber, Mt. Eden. How long must a man have been a resident of the state before he can run for a county office?
The code says: "No person is eligible to a county, district or township office who, at the time of his election, is not of the age of 21, a citizen of the state and an elector of the county, district or township in which the duties are to be performed."

Abe Martin



Even things that are comparatively cheap or high. It's all a pleasure to read averse criticism of a play you didn't feel able to see.

The Poet Philosopher

I met the man who owns the mill, joy riding with a coachful, and stopped his motor on the hill, and said to him, reproachful: "A hundred damsels weave and spin, for you, for paltry wages; and will they all be fastened in when fire around them rages?" "I guess," he said, in accents hurt, "I guess they will be, sonny; for human lives are cheap as dirt, but fire escapes cost money. The people do not realize the burden rich men carry; the way my hard earned money flies would paralyze Old Harry. My auto always needs repairs, my yacht is always yawning for coats of paint or easy chairs or miles of silken awning. To talk of fire escapes for mills is really rather funny, for human lives are cheap as pills, but fire escapes cost money. My bill for wines alone, my friend, would scare you into trances, and there are suppers without end, and forty kinds of dances. A trip to Europe every year requires a lot of boodle, and gems I bring to loved ones here all cost like Yankee Doodle. I can not throw my seals away on mill equipment, sonny; for human lives are cheap as hay, but fire escapes cost money."



WALT MASON

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The Morning Chit-Chat

I WANT to tell you of a New Year's, or rather day after Christmas resolution which I made and am actually finding great pleasure in keeping.
Inspired by the day after Christmas fatigue, and the many days after Christmas financial sufferings, I made this resolution—that every month of the year 1911 I would buy or make one Christmas gift.

That means that next Christmas is to find me with 11 of my minor gifts bought and stowed away.
The advantages of this scheme I am already finding are manifold.
For one thing, it gives me an opportunity to take advantage of sales and reasonable prices in general. My January and February purchases were two beautiful pairs of silk stockings which I bought for just half what I should have to pay for them next fall.

My March purchase was some lovely handkerchiefs which I bought at a handkerchief sale very reasonably. All through the year there are sales of one kind and another of which I mean to take advantage.
Again, I do not find an occasional bit of embroidery any tax, whereas the Christmas rush of work makes me fairly hate the sight of a needle. For the April gift I am embroidering a little jacket.

Then again, of course, having the financial strain diffused in this way ought to be a great advantage. My only fear is that in the affluence of the thought of those 11 gifts safely packed away, I shall feel that I can spend a bit more than my wont upon my other gifts and thus end in the same dire straits of poverty as usual. I sadly remember one Christmas season, what a week before Christmas I lost a purse containing \$14 just as I was about to make two or three final purchases. The purse fell into the hands of a marvelously honest person—think of it, only a week before Christmas—who sought me out and returned it to me with the dire result that in the exuberance of the spirit and sense of wealth produced by this release from abject poverty, I spent not only the \$14, but the major part of \$10 more which was to have tided me over to payday. I have fears of a similar catastrophe, but I am hoping to avoid it by stern reminders to myself of my own bad example.

Not only am I preparing the gifts, but I am even wrapping them up in the customary white swathings and red ribbon. They might look a bit odd, even ertie, to anyone who did not understand, but as for me, I'm sure my bride to be gets any more delight in peeping into her chest than I do into the shirt waist box where these Christmas, 1911, gifts are bestowed.
Forgive me for talking so much about myself. You see, I am having so much fun out of the idea that I simply have to pass it along.

Ruth Cameron

be exercised." The law declares a citizen to be one who has been a resident of the state one year, and of the county in which he claims his vote 90 days, and of the election precinct 30 days."
EXECUTIVE—Subscriber, Sausalito. Which of the presidents of the United States declared that the office of president is essentially executive, and what was his exact language?
Grover Cleveland. In his letter of acceptance, August 18, 1884, he wrote: "The office of president is essentially executive in its nature."
CHINATOWN—A. S. City. What is the population of Chinatown in San Francisco? How many blocks are there in Chinatown?
Chinatown covers 12 blocks. The number of Chinese living in that quarter has not yet been announced by the census bureau.
SUFFRAGE—A. B. Berkeley. Where can I find books on the form of suffrage movement in New Zealand, Colorado and other states?
You will find such information in periodical literature in the public library, Oakland.
DISTANCES—A. V. T. B. City. What is the distance from Point Lobos to the Point Reyes Lighthouse and from Point Lobos to the southeast Farallon?
To the lighthouse 32 miles, and to the Farallon 27.4 miles.
SCHOOLS—A Reader, Salinas. Where can I obtain information as to horticultural and viticultural schools in California?
Write to the experimental station, University of California, Berkeley.
LANDS—Country Subscriber, Bendia. To whom shall I write for information about United States lands open for occupancy in this section?
To the United States land office, Oakland, Cal.
SHEPHERD'S JOURNAL—E. A. P. Cordelia. Where is Shepherd's Journal published? How often is it issued?
It is a monthly, published in Chicago, Ill.
WINTERS—B. F. P. Newman. What was the sentence passed on John Winters, who stole the bellows from the Selby smelting works?
Fifteen years.
TAHITI—Subscriber, City. How is Tahiti pronounced?
Ta-he-te with "a" as in far and the "e" long in both syllables.
CORRELLI—M. V. B. City. Of what place is Marie Correlli a native?
London, England.
BREWERY—A. B. D. When, where and by whom was the first brewery established in California?
In San Francisco, in 1850, by W. Bull.
FREMONT—R. D. R. City. What is the value of an autograph of General John C. Fremont, by Mrs. Buchanan Reid, in 1856?
Show it to those in charge of the Hopkins institute of art.
CARRIE NATION—O. W. P. City. When did Carrie Nation commence her crusade in Kansas?
February 4, 1901.
LONGEST DAY—F. H. City. Which is the longest and the shortest day in the year?
Longest, June 22; shortest, December 22.
SPANISH FOR OAK—C. Mc. Larkspur. What is the Spanish word for "oak"?
Roble.
LAUNDRIES—C. H. City. How many Japanese laundries are there in San Francisco?
Sixteen.

A Misapprehension

"Say, why didn't you stop that thief?" panted a fat policeman, as he came up to a man who was calmly viewing the race from a doorill.
"Great Scott!" exclaimed the spectator, "was that a real thief? I thought you and he were employed by a moving picture company."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Some Women Understand

It was a woman watching the Albany capitol fire who observed: "What a pity! The democrats are burning up everything that the republicans didn't take." There are certainly some women who understand politics.—Louisville Courier Journal.

Seemed Impossible

Usher—Ladies, the audience wishes you to keep still during this performance.
Ladies—Heavens! It is possible that the audience hasn't heard this old opera before?—Toledo Blade.

A Serious Case

"Could you give me a raise, sir? You know I am married." "But I gave you a raise so that you could be married." "Yes, I know; but I find I need a raise more now than I did then."—Buffalo Express.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

GEORGE E. DUDLEY, a capitalist of Youngstown, O., heads a party staying at the Palace. They have been spending the winter in southern California and stayed at Del Monte for a few days on their way north. The party includes Mrs. George E. Dudley, George E. Dudley Jr., Mrs. D. C. Barton of Winsted, Conn., and Mrs. J. B. Brush of New Bedford, Mass.
R. H. DEWITT, chairman of the democratic central committee, is at the Argonaut with Mrs. Dewitt, registered from Treka.
CHARLES M. NELSON, a merchant of New York, is at the Fairmont with Mrs. Nelson.
WILLIAM G. LEE, a merchant of Auburn, is among the recent arrivals at the Stewart.
T. R. OWEN, a businessman of Chicago, is registered at the Fairmont with Mrs. Owen.
M. MENASSES, a merchant of Stockton, is at the St. Francis with Mrs. Menasses.
H. W. OLMSTED, a merchant of Los Angeles, is at the Turpin with Mrs. Olmsted.
A. D. OLNEY, a merchant of Fresno, is among the recent arrivals at the Marx.
L. A. MORRISON, a businessman of Portland, is staying at the Marx.
W. H. WELSH of Vancouver, B. C., who has large land holdings in southern California, is registered at the Palace.
HOWARD C. PLUMMER and Mr. and Mrs. George M. Clark of Placerville are at the Union Square.
FRANK F. FEE, a dealer in hardwood lumber, is at the Stewart, registered from Little Rock, Ark.
MAX MEYBERG, a croaking dealer of Los Angeles, is a guest at the Palace.
IRA FLOCKER, a banker of Washington, D. C., is registered at the Turpin.
SENATOR C. F. CUTTEN of Eureka is at the Stewart with Mrs. Cutten.
JOB HARRIMAN, an attorney of Los Angeles, is a guest at the Argonaut.
DR. H. P. PALMER, a physician of Vacaville, is staying at the Argonaut.
DR. R. M. POWERS of San Diego is at the St. Francis with his family.
B. P. LANE, a real estate operator of Stockton, is at the Union Square.

Organized Labor and The Dynamite Suspects

IF the men arrested under charge of complicity in the Los Angeles dynamite outrages are, in fact, prominent unionists and if they are guilty of the crimes laid at their door, then they have done the cause of organized labor in America the most grievous injury in its history. That cause is just, if justly followed. If it comes to be identified with violence and outlawry it is doomed.

It goes without saying that union labor, as a whole or in any considerable part, does not and will not countenance these savage and abominable methods of the dynamiter. This fact should be obvious, for the reason, if there were no other, that the adoption of such a policy of violence would be suicidal for any cause in whose aid it might be invoked. No human institution is strong enough to set itself up as an enemy of society.

The general public will, no doubt, acquit organized labor as a body of approval of these crimes and will await the trial of the suspects in the orderly process of the courts without prejudice, suspending judgment until the evidence is produced and tested. On a casual glance at the circumstances as they have been presented for public inspection by the detectives, things looked bad for the men under arrest. They are said to have been found in possession of high explosives and the requisite apparatus for setting off infernal machines by clockwork. With these articles were other deadly weapons, which innocent men do not need in their business.

Such appears to be the general tenor of the case presented by the detectives and the police, but the orderly inquiry under rules of law and without prejudice must be awaited before judgment can be pronounced upon the matter.

In the meantime it behooves organized labor as a whole to enter anew the most distinct repudiation of violent or criminal methods and to make it clear that such practices will be sternly disapproved by all men who have the interests of the cause at heart. If the suspects are guilty, the labor leaders should be the first to demand their punishment and thereby demonstrate that there is neither sympathy nor approval for such methods among the labor unions.

The organization of labor has accomplished the greatest good for humanity by improving the conditions of labor and of living for all people who toil. Now, if the leaders and the rank and file do not in the most positive way discountenance violence and separate themselves from outlawry, their cause, which, justly followed, is the cause of humanity, will have been given a grievous and damaging setback. It is probable as well as desirable that this course will be followed. As the matter is understood here the typographical union has offered a large reward for the arrest and conviction of the dynamiters, and this offer is apparently representative of the best sense of organized labor.

THE ratification of the reciprocity agreement with Canada by the house of representatives is a gratifying fact. The opposition of the small band of belated standpatters does not count.

They are out of touch with the sentiment of the country, and they no longer represent the republican party.

Mr. Taft is the leader of the party, and he fully represents its best and most enlightened sentiment; besides that, he carries on worthily the traditions handed down by Blaine and McKinley. Uncle Joe Cannon and John Dalzell may rage, but the results of the last general election show that standpatism is a discredited cult.

The opposition worked heaven and earth to persuade the farmers that reciprocity would hurt them. It is the old game of humbug that has been played off for 30 years on the farmer. The plan was to include in the tariff duties on agricultural products that looked fine in print, but were of no possible benefit to the farmer, the price of whose wheat and wool and cotton was fixed by a foreign market under free competition and without any sort of protection. On the other hand, the farmer paid excessive duties on every manufactured article that he bought. It was a one-sided bargain, in which the farmer paid for all.

NOT only in San Francisco but in other parts of the state the new revenue system is causing a great deal of confusion and doubt. In Los Angeles and other cities that put charter limits on municipal taxation they are confronted with a diminished assessment roll, due to the elimination of the property owned by corporations, and the only alternative seems to be an arbitrary horizontal increase of the assessment scale of values. This should make no very material difference in the sum of taxes to be raised, because the state tax levy, which has averaged from 35 to 50 cents on every \$100 of property, will be lifted from the back of the general tax payer, but the thing causes a condition of uncertainty and confusion that requires a lot of explaining.

In Stockton, for instance, the situation is complicated by increased municipal demands for expenditures, which, if allowed, would add greatly to the difficulties of the situation created by the

The Game of Humbugging the Farmer

Confusion Due to the New Tax System