

The San Francisco Call

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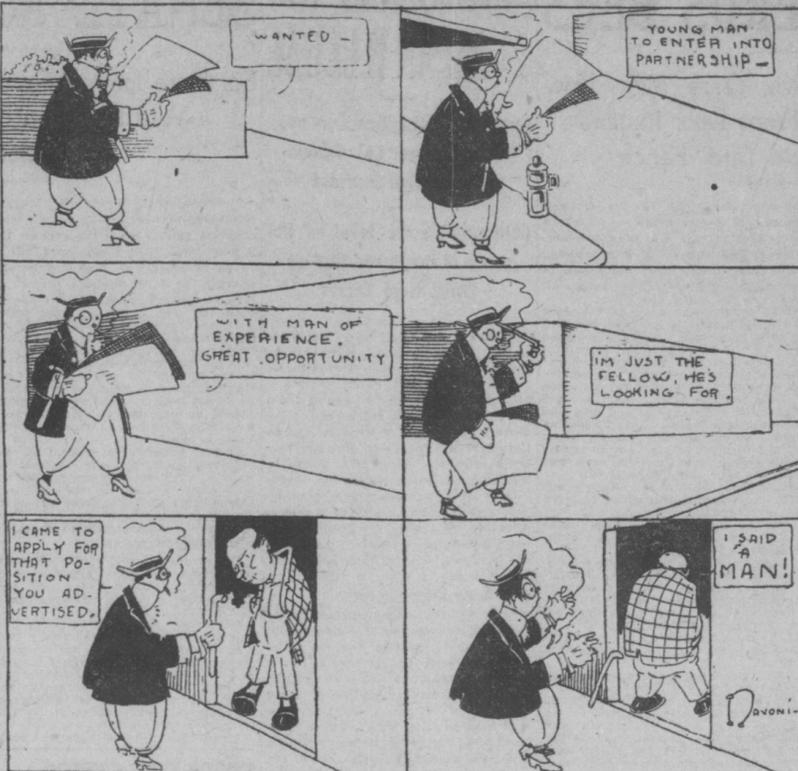
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He Said "A Man"



Uncle Walt THE POET PHILOSOPHER

J. Pluvius turned not the crank that operates his water tank. He watched the baking earth below, and heard the people wail in woe, but not a bit did he relent; he didn't seem to care a cent. Old Vulcan heard the people's wails, where he was making horseshoe nails, and said: "Say, Pluve, turn on the drink; Those folks below are on the blink." But Pluvius replied: "Gee whiz! You'll teach me how to run my biz? I tell you, Vulc, those mortal men must have a lesson now and then. For many years I've sent them rain, and crops have grown on every plain. Prosperity was at their doors, where now the wolf of famine roars. And while I kept their planet wet, there was a carnival of debt. Men blew their substance, wild and free, as though it grew upon a tree. Their stock of luxuries enlarged, they bought fool things and had them charged. Men threw their money at the stars, and traded homes for chug-chug cars, and rioted at every chance, like drunken sailors at a dance. And so I cooked their blamed old earth, to teach them what good fortune's worth. When they have chewed on husks a while they'll learn to save their little pile."



WALT MASON

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The Morning Chit-Chat

A HEART-TO-HEART TALK WITH HIMSELF BY A GRIEVANCE LOVER
(Certain characters seem to need grievances as they do some indispensable article of food in order to maintain the attitude of discontent with which they torture their family and friends.—Dora Melegari in Makers of Joys and Sorrows.)

"I AM very happy this afternoon. I have a grievance. It is a splendid grievance and it is against the whole family. I am deeply hurt. I shall sulk for hours and everybody will come to me and try to placate me. I shall have a beautiful time as soon as the family get home."



RUTH CAMERON

"Yes, they are all away. That is my grievance. I said I might possibly get home today and yet they went off auto riding with the Bemises. Of course I haven't been gone but three days, and of course they don't get auto rides often, but still I think they might have been at home to greet me."

"It just shows how little they care about me. It shows of how little account I am in my own home—doubt if they'd care if I didn't come at all."

"There, I've worked myself up splendidly and here they come. I'll have to open the front door, but I won't say a word until they speak to me."

"Well, I think I did that pretty well. I didn't say a word of reproach, but, by the way, I asked them how they enjoyed themselves, and the short way I answered them when they asked me what kind of a time I'd had, showed them how I felt."

"They all know I'm hurt and they're trying to be as nice as pie to me. They just wanted to know what I'd like best for supper and I said it didn't make any difference. In a tone that showed I felt how unimportant I was."

"I don't know whether I can show my displeasure best by going up in my room and shutting the door or by staying here and just answering in monosyllables. Think on the whole I'll get the most out of it if I stay here."

"What an absurd idea. Someone tried to make me believe that I didn't say I'd get home before tomorrow. Do they think I'll give up my grievance that easily? I guess not."

"Won't I come in the library and sing with them? No, of course I won't. I couldn't do more than that if I were feeling real pleasant."

"Mrs. Bemis has asked them to go autoing next Sunday and they think it would be fun if I took some one's place. I love autoing, but I told them I wouldn't think of that. I'll go, all right, but I'll keep them begging me before I say yes."

"Oh, thunder, here's some company coming in the front gate. That means I'll have to be decent. You can't parade grievances in front of company, you know. They don't understand. They simply think you are disagreeable. I guess I'll carry out my other plan and go up in my room and close the door."

"Well, now, I call that a good parting shot. They called to me not to go upstairs, the Randalls were coming, and I said very coldly, 'I don't seem to be included in the invitations that are extended to this family. I don't imagine their guests will miss me very much.'"

"Mother looked as if she was going to cry. 'I think I got its full value out of that grievance, all right. I don't know when I've had so good a one.'"

Ruth Cameron

Answers to Queries

FLAG OF OUR UNION—A. W. R., City. Give a short sketch of Morris, the author of the song "The Flag of Our Union." His name was George P. Morris. He was born in Pennsylvania, 1802. He followed journalism from early manhood and was the originator of two papers, the Mirror and the National Press. He became associated with N. P. Willis in the publication of the Mirror. In 1853 he and Willis edited "Prose and Poetry of Europe and America." In addition to the song named another production which made him famous was the poem, "Woodman, Spare that Tree." He died October 10, 1884.

ALASKA GOVERNOR—W. R. M., Oakland. Was any governor of the district of Alaska ever sent to the penitentiary? No.

TWINS—A. S. G., Oakland. Has the United States or any other country offered a reward to the mother giving birth to twins three times in succession? No.

PROBLEMS—A. S. G., Tiburon; J. W., San Jose, and Subscriber, City. This department will not answer questions in arithmetic, nor will it solve problems.

LAW ON MORTGAGE—E. H., Pine Flat. Where can I find the laws of California on mortgages? In the codes of the state.

WAGES—C. J. R., Oakland. Did the last legislature of this state pass a law regulating the payment of employees? What is the law? Yes. The law, which became effective May 1, 1911, is as follows:

Section 1. Whenever an employer discharges an employee, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of such discharge shall become due and payable immediately. When any such employee has a contract for a definite period, or resigns his employment, the wages earned and unpaid at the time of such quitting or resignation shall become due and payable five days thereafter.

Sec. 2. All wages other than those mentioned in section 1 (not set earned by any person during any one month shall become due and payable at least once in each month and no person, firm or corporation for whom such labor has been performed shall withhold from any such employee any wages so earned or unpaid for a longer period than 15 days after such wages become due and payable; provided, however, that nothing herein shall in any way limit or interfere with the right of any such employee to accept from any such person, firm or corporation wages earned and unpaid for a shorter period than one month.

Sec. 3. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500.

Sec. 4. None of the provisions of this act shall apply to any county, city and town, incorporated city or town, or other municipal corporation.

THE FATAL RING—Interested, City. What is the story of the fatal ring that hangs on the neck of a statue in the city of Madrid? Have been told that it is fatal to the one who wears it.

The story is that this ring, which is of diamonds and pearls, was presented by Alfonso XII to his consort, Queen Mercedes, who died within a month after placing it on her finger. Before the funeral had taken place the king gave the ring to his sister Maria, who died a few days after she received it. The king, regaining possession of it, presented it to his late queen's grand-daughter, Rona Christina, and she died three months thereafter. The king then placed it in his casket of precious relics, and within a year he died. It then came into the possession of the queen regent, who refused to wear the "fatal ring," but had it placed on a golden chain and hung around the neck of the statue of the Virgin of Almudena.

MORGAN—Subscriber, City. When and where was John Pierpont Morgan born, and where were his parents born? He was born in Hartford, Conn., April 17, 1837. He is the son of Julius Spencer Morgan, who was born in West Springfield (now Holyoke), Mass., in 1812. His mother was Juliet, daughter of John Pierpont, who was born in

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THE CALL wishes that San Francisco had some homemade judges like Cole of Imperial, who released a breeze of common sense last week to temper the moral climate of the arid waste of law in which indifferent justice is supposed to be dispensed as between man and man.

A Wise Judge From Imperial County
It has been the practice of this indifferent justice in the past history of this city that judges of the superior court should issue on demand and as a matter of course injunctions restraining the police from entering or interfering with Chinese gambling houses. Of course, as long as such injunctions were obtainable on demand, it was impossible to stop gambling.

Judge Cole sees things in a different light. The fact being established that the gambling den was protected by locked and barred doors and guarded by a lookout, this was by itself prima facie evidence that illegal practices were carried on within. The pretense that no gambling was actually in progress was at once reduced to absurdity by Judge Cole, who inquired why, if nothing unlawful was going on, there should be any objection to a visit by the police.

This is the common sense of the situation, which could never have arisen but for the vicious practice of courts in granting temporary injunctions on an ex parte petition and without any inquiry into the merits of the case.

IN the course of the discussions incidental to the National Education association convention last week much was said about the cost of armed peace, which Doctor Jordan, for example, declared was bankrupting the nations. Some official figures on this subject, compiled for a French tax payers' handbook by G. de Contenson and Jules Roche, should be instructive. They show that in nine years from 1901 to 1909, inclusive, the annual expenditures of the eight principal powers had increased by \$405,000,000 to a total of \$1,676,800,000. These figures relate only to a peace basis and omit the additional expenditures due to the Boer war and the conflict between Russia and Japan. The following table gives the massed amounts for army and navy purposes spent by each of the powers for three sample years, expressed in millions of francs:

Table with 3 columns: Year (1901, 1905, 1909) and Country (England, France, United States, Russia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Austria). Shows increasing military expenditures over time.

The authors point out that the anomalous item is the expenditure of the United States, especially in the army figure, given as \$11,000,000 francs in 1901, as 608,000,000 in 1905 and 611,000,000 in 1909. These amounts in no way represent the relative efficiency of the force the pay and maintenance of the officers and men being on an incomparably higher scale than in any other country in the world.

The remarkable thing about these budgets appears to be the virtually universal tendency to increase the expenditures for keeping the peace by force of arms.

THE conquest of the tropics by American sanitation is not the least remarkable accomplishment that has attended the construction of the Panama canal. When the Panama railway was built across the isthmus it was common repute that a life was lost for every tie that was laid for the roadbed. It was an unnecessary waste of human life, because the much dreaded Chagres fever has now been virtually eliminated by American science in the canal zone. A plague spot of former years has been converted into a health resort.

All this was predicted by Colonel Gorgas long ago as the result of the sanitary measures that he has put in force during his administration of the health department on the canal. Writing during the early stages of construction, Colonel Gorgas made this prediction: Localities in the tropics will become the centers of as powerful and as cultured white civilization as any that will then exist in temperate zones. I, therefore, expect in the course of years to see a very large and wealthy population grow up at the isthmus in the neighborhood of the canal. In other words, I expect to see this Panama canal become one of the greatest commercial successes that man has ever brought about.

These expectations are in the way of being fulfilled. There is no reason to the contrary on the score of health conditions, as we may learn from the testimony of Charles Francis Adams, given in a paper read before the Massachusetts historical society, relating the experiences of a recent visit to the canal. To quote:

From the moment I reached the isthmus till the day I left it what most impressed me was not the magnitude of the undertaking, the engineering and material difficulties encountered in carrying it to a successful issue, nor yet the administrative ability displayed in overcoming these difficulties, but the morale apparent in those I encountered, the high standard of their physical condition and the energy, alertness and zeal with which amid tropical surroundings all from highest to lowest went at their work.

But when it comes to the sanitation which made all that is now going on at Panama humanly and humanly possible—vanquishing pestilence and, while harnessing the Chagres, also making it innocuous to those both working and dwelling on its banks—this is new; and the like of it the world had not before seen.

A more healthy, well to do and companionable group of children could not under similar conditions have been met at any station within 20 miles of Boston. Perfectly at home, and at ease, sitting and standing without a thought of malaria or any other danger, they were chatting and laughing under the glare of the station lights, about which not an insect

was fitting, while the hum of the mosquito was noticeable from its absence. And this on the slope of the death dealing Chagres!

The American army medical corps did the same kind of work in Cuba and succeeded in practically eliminating yellow fever while in control. In the Philippines equally good results are being accomplished under American sanitary regulation.

THE visit of some seven hundred members of the National Education association to Luther Burbank at the close of the convention directs attention to a unique personality, which may be said to present the single figure of really national importance in California. Luther Burbank is as well known and as highly regarded in the east as he is at home. It is fully recognized that his researches and experimental processes have added enormously to the productiveness of national industry and the beneficial economy of agricultural effort.

It is quite natural, although not altogether creditable to human nature, that the moment a man has achieved a national fame some envious people should be found to belittle his accomplishments, and we still remember with some amusement the endeavors of certain truck farmers and seedsmen of Pasadena in this relation. In reply to such critics of Burbank a recent article in the New York Evening Post makes this review of results:

His bulletins call attention to some of the results of his methods as compared with those of other plant breeders. Here, for instance, is a fact for his detractors: "Nearly 95 per cent of the new plums introduced since 1890, now catalogued as standards, originated on my own farms, although nearly four times as many new varieties have been introduced by other dealers. Most of the introductions of others are not now generally even listed." The Burbank plum, which was introduced less than 20 years ago, is now perhaps more widely known than any other plum, the world over; but, he says, "hundreds of better plums have since been produced on my experiment farms." The Burbank potato is now the universal standard in the Pacific coast states, and is gradually taking the lead in the middle west. The new Burbank cherry is sold at high prices in eastern markets. Altogether, there are already over 100 valuable new plants, fruits and flowers "every one of which has proved better than those known before in some new quality, in some soils and climates. All do not thrive everywhere. Please name one good fruit or nut that does."

The last two sentences are directed at those of Burbank's critics who triumphantly point to cases of failure of his new products in this or that locality.

Burbank is content with the modest competence he can earn by his unassisted work. For a time he was paid an annual subvention by the Carnegie institute, but this did not long continue, and Mr. Burbank now writes that "after having been under 'capture' for five years by the Carnegie institution of Washington, five years of care, leanness and hampering restrictions and under unprofitable conditions and having dictated to and corrected for their botanists several thousand pages, it is a most gracious relief to return to a life free from the red tape of institutional restrictions, to a life of absolute freedom."

This appears to be a severe indictment of the methods employed by the institute and presents a rather unexpected commentary on the usefulness of that agency. Mr. Burbank in the meantime has reorganized his business and promises the world further important discoveries.

ONE of the Guggenheim brothers complains bitterly of the delay about opening the Alaska coal measures for exploitation and calls it an instance of supreme folly. It need not be denied that the delay is unfortunate, but neither the United States government nor the conservation movement is to blame. The delay is wholly due to the frauds of land grabbers, who hoped to secure at a nominal price enormously valuable deposits, which they wanted, not for purposes of development, but as a speculation and in the expectation that they could sell the property at a great advance to people like the Guggenheims. The delay in opening the lands for sale is due simply to a desire to stop the robbery of the public domain.

We find a suggestive echo of the note struck by Mr. Guggenheim in a recent utterance by H. H. Schwartz, who, it may be remembered, was one of Secretary Ballinger's most active and resourceful lieutenants. Schwartz was the man who wanted to stuff the Associated Press with matter concerning the Cunningham claims, as was developed in the inquiry into Ballinger's administration. Schwartz is quoted:

In a single year the United States government paid almost \$1,000,000 in freight alone for battleship coal hauled from the Poochontas fields to the Pacific coast. It is still paying freight on eastern coal, although there is better battleship coal in the Cunningham group of claims. Also, the wages are being paid in West Virginia, and not in Alaska.

We are not concerned to dispute the truth of these assertions, either by Schwartz or by Guggenheim, but it is pertinent to point out that the delay is due to the Cunningham land frauds and the scandals that brought about the investigation of a secretary of the interior.

The same spirit that actuates Schwartz and Guggenheim serves as inspiration for reactionary organs like the Los Angeles Times, which says:

And how has this government treated these dauntless pioneers? It has denied them justice. It has dealt with them in a manner that would have been cruel and wicked if applied to thieves and outlaws. It has turned a deaf ear to their every request and listened with an attent ear to the blatherings and egotistical mouthings of Pinchot, whose microscopical soul may the devil receive for the knave he is.

This is amusing in its crude way, but it is all in line with the melancholy of Mr. Guggenheim and the half truths of Schwartz.

Abe Martin



You kin allus tell a novel readin' mother by 'er' names o' 'er children. Any woman looks good in 'er' o'le fashioned sunbonnet—side view.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

- A. L. MOHLER, vice president and general manager of the Union Pacific, heads a party which arrived yesterday from Omaha, and took apartments at the Palace. In the group are C. E. Fuller, assistant manager of the Union Pacific; N. B. Urdyke, an elevatorman, with large grain interests in Nebraska; F. B. Johnson, the proprietor of a large printing establishment; L. Drake, president of the Mechanical national bank, and T. D. Kyle, secretary to Mohler.
JOHN W. CONSIDINE, a theatrical man of Seattle, head of the Sullivan & Conside vaudeville circuit, is staying at the St. Francis.
GENERAL E. A. FORBES, adjutant general of the national guard of California, is making the St. Francis his headquarters.
MAJOR C. S. HILL of the United States ship California is among the recent arrivals at the St. Francis.
G. M. CRUICKSHANK, a vineyardist of Livermore, is among the recent arrivals at the Argonaut.
N. H. SATCHEL, an oil operator of Coalinga, is staying at the Argonaut.
MART ROUKE, a rancher of Marysville, is at the Argonaut.
DR. K. F. HOOKER of Danville, Ill., is staying at the Stewarts.
E. L. LOMAX, passenger traffic manager of the Western Pacific, returned from the east yesterday. He went to New York to meet his family who returned from Europe. Miss M. B. Lomax has been studying music in Berlin, and E. J. Lomax Jr., has been attending the Columbia school of mines. They have apartments at the Fairmont.
W. L. PARK, the president and general manager of the Illinois Central, with offices at Chicago, will arrive this morning, and has reserved apartments at the Palace.
F. W. HEINTZELMAN, in charge of the railroad shops of the Southern Pacific at Sacramento, is at the Palace with Mrs. Heintzelman.
DENNING RIDEOUT, a banker of Marysville, is among the recent arrivals at the Palace.
MR. AND MRS. FRANK SWENEY of Sacramento have apartments at the Turpin.
E. A. CORVALLIS, a businessman of Corvallis, Ore., is registered at the Marx.
DR. F. W. SHAW of Kansas City is at the Stewart with Mrs. Shaw.
MR. AND MRS. H. HUNTER of New York are guests at the Turpin.
F. W. THOMPSON of Los Angeles is staying at the St.