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THE CALL



An Independent Newspaper

WEATHER FORECAST: Cloudy and unsettled; moderate east wind, changing to south.

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FOR CONTINUATION OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT SEE CLASSIFIED PAGES.

VOLUME CXIII.—NO. 24.

SAN FRANCISCO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1912.—PAGES 1 TO 12

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SEARLES LAKE EXPEDITION BREAKS DOWN

All Is in Readiness for The Call's Hammer Burning Tonight

RAILWAY MEN ARE INDICTED FOR UNLAWFUL TRAFFIC PACT

Charles S. Mellen, Head of New Haven System; President Edson J. Chamberlin and Alfred W. Smithers (British Subject) of Grand Trunk of Canada Run Afoul of Federal Grand Jury for Alleged Conspiracy to Restrain Trade

TRUE BILL CHARGES SEVEN OVERT ACTS

Offense Consists of Purported Illegal Secret Agreement Whereby, for Reciprocal Privileges, Dominion Interests Abandoned Extension of Their Road to Providence, Together With Projected Steamship Line to the Port of New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Charles S. Mellen, president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad; Edson J. Chamberlin, president of the Grand Trunk railway of Canada, and Alfred W. Smithers, chairman of the board of directors of the Grand Trunk, were indicted jointly by the federal grand jury here today under the Sherman anti-trust law.

They are charged with conspiring to restrain trade in connection with a "memorandum of agreement" between the two roads under which it is alleged the Grand Trunk proposed to abandon the extension of its railroads to Providence, R. I., together with a projected steamship line between Providence and New York.

The penalty for the crime charged is one year in jail or a fine of \$5,000 or both.

PLEAS WILL BE ENTERED

Mellen and Chamberlin, upon being notified of their indictment, promised the federal authorities, through their counsel, that they would appear at 1 o'clock tomorrow to enter pleas.

Chamberlin, whose home is in Montreal, is in New York, and Mellen will come from New Haven. Smithers is a British subject and is said to be in London. Unless he voluntarily surrenders, extradition proceedings will be necessary to bring him within the jurisdiction of the court. It is believed by the federal authorities, however, that he will sail for this country as soon as he hears of the indictment.

"But for the commission of the crime set forth," the Grand Trunk system, the indictment charges, would have actively competed with the New Haven system for interstate and foreign traffic between southern New England cities and the west. Through their connections, it is recited, both systems reach the same cities in the west, both in the United States and Canada.

ILLEGAL COMBINATION ALLEGED

At a "quiet meeting" between Mellen, Chamberlin and Smithers in New York, August 5, 1912, the indictment charges, the defendants "engaged in an unlawful combination and conspiracy to prevent the construction and completion of the proposed extension of the Grand Trunk railway system in New England and the operation of the Grand Trunk steamships between Providence and New York."

Two other meetings, it is alleged, were held in New York September 20 and October 1, 1912, for the purpose of completing the alleged conspiracy.

Seven overt acts are set forth in the indictment. They include the meetings in New York and the exchange of two memoranda between Mellen and Chamberlin, the first of which provided the "Grand Trunk shall sell to the New Haven system all its interest in the Central Vermont and its subsidiaries, which will include all of the proposed extensions in New England."

GRAND TRUNK RETAINS Foothold

The second and final memorandum which "the defendant Mellen initiated," provided, however, that the Grand Trunk was to "retain the Central Vermont and existing controlled lines and continue its existing business as at present."

This memorandum, arranged for interchange of traffic at certain points, joint use of certain lines and set forth that the New Haven should "protect

CRUTCH COWS IN BLACK MARIA

One Legged Beggar Halts Patrol Wagon Escape and Wins Own Freedom

One legged John Collins has won a substantial favor with the police. Collins was arrested for begging on the streets. He was put in the patrol wagon with four other offenders and started for the central station, in charge of Patrolman Welch. Coming up Market street the other prisoners tried to escape and attacked Welch. Collins came to the rescue, and lay to with such vigor with his crutch that he soon had the rebellious quartet completely cowed. As a reward he was dismissed yesterday morning without a fine.

ARMLESS MAN'S FORTUNE

Freak Telegraph Operator Inherits \$25,000 From Uncle's Estate

OROVILLE, Dec. 23.—Fortune has smiled upon the only armless telegraph and telephone operator in the world. W. D. Walsh, for a number of years train dispatcher for the Northern Electric railway at Tres Vias, yesterday received word that an uncle had died in New Orleans, making him sole legatee of an estate valued at \$25,000. He has been handicapped by a total lack of arms since infancy. He has hands the size of a baby's that hang to his shoulders.

GIANT GUSHER IN TUNNEL

Swiss Workmen Nearly Drown When Pick Opens Underground Stream

BERNE, Switzerland, Dec. 23.—Hundreds of workmen engaged in constructing the Montgor tunnel through the Jura mountains between Italy and France had a narrow escape from death today when the pickax of one of the workmen opened a powerful subterranean stream. The laborers fled before the great mass of water which gushed into the tunnel at the rate of 150 cubic feet a second.

RUSSIANS ARE IN TUMULT

Rumor of Revolutionary Plot Leads to Arrest of Hundreds of Students

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—Searched by the police throughout various colleges, but notably the twelfth gymnasium, which communicates with the apartment of the minister of instruction, have revealed, it is said, nightly revolutionary meetings of students. There are rumors of the discovery of a plot. Hundreds of arrests have been made.

PRINCESS TO BE YANKEE

Descendant of Napoleon Asks Naturalization Papers in Seattle

SEATTLE, Dec. 23.—Princess Estelle Gabrielle Bonaparte, Baroness de Moine de Leon, granddaughter of Prince Joseph Alexander Bonaparte, blood relation of Emperor Napoleon and daughter of the Count de Moine de Leon, today applied to the federal court for naturalization papers to become a citizen of the United States.

GIRLS IN TREASURE HUNT

Women Head Party to Explore "Traditional Island Off Panama

PANAMA, Dec. 23.—A party of treasure hunters, headed by Miss Barry Till and Miss Genevieve Davis, left here today for Cocos Island. The island lies in the Pacific about 550 miles southwest of Panama and for years has been the lure of treasure seekers. According to tradition, millions of dollars in treasure are buried there.

CZAR'S LID ON WAR NEWS

Imperial Decree, Muffling Army and Navy Moves, Lasts Year

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—An imperial decree issued today forbids the circulation of military or naval news of any kind. The decree remains in force for a year. Matters, including the filling of factory orders for the army or navy and relating to furloughs or calls to the colors, must not be touched upon.

BUYS HOTEL WITH TIPS

Hat Rack Attendant in St. Louis Hastily Amasses Fortune in Gratuities

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 23.—Manly M. Rice, hat rack attendant at the Hotel Jefferson, in the eight years that he has been a familiar figure at the doorway of the main dining room has amassed a fortune and today bought an exclusive hotel in the west end. His fortune has come entirely from tips.

BANKER'S CAR KILLS MAN

George Munroe's Family Said to Have Been in Paris Accident

PARIS, Dec. 23.—An automobile said to be owned by an American banker, George Munroe, and to have been occupied by Mrs. Munroe and her daughter today knocked down and killed an aged French workman while he was crossing the avenue Champs Elysees.

BANDITS HOLD UP SWIFT TRAIN ON ALTON ROAD

Money and Jewels of Great Value Taken; Robbers Detach Engine and Express Car

FOUR CHARGES OF DYNAMITE EXPLODED

Special Agents and Detectives in Pursuit; Many Shots Exchanged

BULLETIN

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Dec. 24.—Reports received at 2:15 a. m. are that the bandits are surrounded near the Wabash tracks close to the scene of the holdup. Bloodhounds and more men have been rushed to the scene and officials believe their capture is assured.

BULLETIN

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 24.—Four masked bandits shortly before midnight held up the Chicago and Alton westbound passenger train No. 9, known as "The Hummer," five miles southwest of here.

After having the engine and express cars uncoupled from the rest of the train, the bandits forced the engineer to drive several miles down the tracks, where the robbers exploded four charges of dynamite in unsuccessful attempts to open the express car safes.

Closely pursued by a posse of 15 deputy sheriffs and railroad detectives from Springfield aboard a switch engine, the robbers left the badly damaged safe and escaped into thick woods along the right of way.

The train was one of the heaviest that left Chicago for the west last night.

In addition to the smoking car, day coach, chair car, parlor car, diner, and buffet-library car, the train carried a number of sleeping cars, 511 of which were filled.

The porter also ran back and, with the flagman, notified the officials from the first telegraph station at Iles.

The robbers exploded four charges of dynamite in efforts to open the express safes, but failed in the attempt. They left carrying a few packages which were later found in a field near by. Special agents and detectives pursued the train robbers, exchanging volleys of shots with them. No one was injured so far as is known. Safes were badly damaged, but no loss is believed to have occurred.

PASSENGERS UNMOLESTED

At 1 o'clock this morning the railroad men employed by the Alton recovered the engine and express car, brought them back to the scene of the holdup and the train was able to proceed on its way.

The bandits, who held the train up in a thick woods just south of Iles, did not attempt to molest any of the passengers.

With determination they turned their guns upon the crew of the engine, took possession and ran the engine to a safe distance and rifled the National express car of all the contents.

It is reported at this hour that the robbers obtained valuables worth about \$20,000.

"Heavy Money" Train

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Officials of the American Express company here tonight professed not to have heard of the holdup. They said the express car was heavily loaded with Christmas valuables. The train is known as the "Heavy Money" run, according to the express officials and large sums usually are carried in the safes.

HUNTER HIS OWN VICTIM

Napa Man Killed by Accidental Discharge of His Shotgun

NAPA, Dec. 23.—Thomas McDermott, bookkeeper for the Napa Lumber company, was accidentally killed this afternoon while hunting. As he was getting into his car, his shotgun was discharged. The charge passing through his heart.

PRIEST JAILED AS THIEF

French Parish Head Held for Stealing \$2,900 From Woman

DIJON, France, Dec. 23.—Francis Montel, a parish priest in Ojours, was arrested today on a charge of stealing government bank stocks worth \$2,900 from a woman parishioner. It is said the priest admitted his guilt.

BRAZIL POLICE MUTINY

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 23.—Serious news has been received here from Manaus, capital of the state of Amazonas. The entire police force there has mutinied, the governor of the state has fled and the vice governor has assumed the post of executive.



Rolph Names Successor Judge Boost Appointed

Buncombe K. Hammer dies tonight at 6:45 o'clock at Lotta's fountain. His long and infamous career will end when Miss Mae Josephine Bennett, adjudged the most beautiful girl wage earner in San Francisco in The Call's beauty contest, applies a torch to his funeral pyre. Mayor Rolph has appointed old Judge Boost to succeed the tyrant.

Everything is in readiness for The Call's big outdoor Christmas eve festival, "the burning of the Hammer of Knockery." The pounding of hammers in the hands of carpenters erecting the big platform at Lotta's fountain yesterday had a grim significance for the victim of tonight's festivities.

The finishing touches to the big platform and the sounding board which The Call building will be applied early today. Rehearsals of all the principals in tonight's program were held yesterday.

At the St. Francis hotel Mme. Bernice de Pasquall rehearsed the chansonette "Thou Charming Bird" with Paul Steindorff, who will play the piano accompaniment, and with Walter Oesterreicher, who will play the flute obligato. Incidentally, Louis Newbauer, another flutist of note, will play a part of the obligato from an office building window within hearing of the crowd massed about the platform.

ALLIES DEMAND THAT TURKS CEDE VAST TERRITORY

Territorial Conditions Are Made Known After Several Days of Preliminary Skirmishing

LONDON, Dec. 23.—After several days of preliminary skirmishing in accordance with the cherished traditions of oriental diplomacy, the Turkish delegates today faced the real attack of the allies at the fifth meeting of the peace conference.

The victorious allies laid their most important cards on the table. These were in the form of territorial conditions which they had agreed to impose on the Ottoman empire. The demands as set forth were:

First—The cession by Turkey of all the territory west of a line starting from a point east of Rodosto, on the sea of Marmora, to a point in the bay of Malatras, on the Black sea, and excluding the peninsula of Gallipoli, Albania's status to be decided by the powers.

Second—The cession of the Aegean islands occupied by the Greek forces in the present war and by the Italians in the recent war.

Third—The cession to Greece of all Turkish rights in the island of Crete. FINANCIAL FEATURES WITHHELD

The allies did not reveal today the financial proposals which they will make to Turkey, reserving them for a future meeting.

Before the allies presented their specifications today, the Turks announced that their government was prepared to proceed with the negotiations, leaving the question of revictualing Adrianople for discussion between Turkey and Bulgaria. They abandoned their previous request to provision Soutari and Janina.

The formal conference lasted only a quarter of an hour. The Turks listened to the proclamation of the fate of their European empire without formal comment and asked for an adjournment until Saturday to consider the demands

BE THERE!

3RD & MARKET TO-NIGHT!

MEXICAN REBELS DEFEAT FEDERALS AND TAKE TOWN

Casas Grandes Falls Into Hands of Force Personally Commanded by Pascual Orozco Jr.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 23.—Casas Grandes, the most important town in the ranching and lumbering district south-west of Juarez, has been taken by rebels personally commanded by General Pascual Orozco Jr., it was reported today from rebel official sources. Also it was said that the federal column of 800 men marching against the rebels at Ascension was defeated, with its commander, General Jose Blanco, among the prisoners taken.

Confirming this report, S. D. Ambrose, an American hotelman of Columbus, N. M., arrived here today. He was in Ascension at the time of its capture last Wednesday and talked with General Salazar, whose forces took the town. While there a messenger arrived directly from General Orozco with a letter from the rebel leader saying that he had taken Casas Grandes and defeated Blanco. Blanco's force was entrapped, the official rebel report says, in a canyon north of Casas Grandes. Aside from capturing many rifles and much ammunition, the rebels obtained two cannon. Details of the battles are lacking, but Casas Grandes was taken easily, Orozco wrote, as the federalists left only 200 men to protect the town.

GAIN CONTROL OF RAILROAD

By taking Casas Grandes, the scene of a hard struggle in the Madero revolution, in which the rebels were repulsed, the Orozco revolutionists controlled the Mexico Northwestern railway, which runs between Juarez on the border and Chihuahua City, the state capital, and territory covered by the American railway, which includes the Pearson syndicate's lumbering towns of Pearson and Madera, and the San Pedro mining district.

The railway wires are not operating west from Chihuahua City or below Juarez, and no railway confirmation of the town's fall could be obtained. The attack was made on old Casas Grandes, the largest town in the district. The railway offices and American homes are at the new town some miles away, and it is believed that no foreigners were injured in the attack.

FEDERALS EXECUTED

After taking Ascension last week, 14 federal prisoners, including a captain, were executed in the public plaza, refugees report today. Major L. C. Quinteros, the Ascension federal commander, who escaped, has arrived at the New Mexico border with one soldier as companion. He is held by United States troops below Hachita.

Six hundred federal regular cavalry late today departed from Juarez by train to proceed over the Northwestern railway, which is being repaired, to Guzman and thence overland to Ascension. A battalion of infantry also has orders to march into the Casas Grandes district from the Central railway. This comprises all the mobile federal forces operating north of the state capital.

RECORD FIND OF SWEETS

Bee Tree Near McCloud Yields 250 Pounds of Wild Honey.

(Special Dispatch to The Call) McCLOUD, Dec. 23.—James Tuter of Esperanza cut a pine tree recently which contained 250 pounds of honey. The bees had selected a dead yellow pine tree three and a quarter feet in diameter with a hollow 20 feet long. Tuter believes his find is the record.

AUTO TRUCKS LOADED WITH RIFLES MAKE LOSING RACE

Huge Machines Carrying Vanguard of Claimants to Alkaline Deposits in Mojave Desert, With Supplies, Arms and Ammunition for Fierce Battle for Possession, Lie in Bakersfield Garage With Engines Wrecked and Tires Ripped

ARSENAL CAREFULLY HIDDEN FROM VIEW

Accident Seems to Make It Impossible for "Original Locators" to Reach Potash Beds in Time to Satisfy Law With Assessment Work; Mishap Creates Flurry in San Francisco and Los Angeles, Where "Reserves" Are Mustered

Two automobile trucks carrying five men, supplies, rifles and ammunition, lie wrecked today in a garage in Bakersfield, the destroyed engines and ripped tires of the huge machines being mute evidence of the first victory for the California Trona company and its English backers, the Foreign Mines Development company, in their efforts to prevent intrusion of illegal claims upon the surface of the American dead sea.

Vainly the men in charge of the vanguard of the Los Angeles expedition worked yesterday over the wrecked engines, hoping to put them in shape for the desert run before the arrival of December 31, the day on which all title to the claims must lapse unless assessment work shall be started by the claimants.

ARSENAL CAREFULLY SECRETED

The trucks left Los Angeles last Friday night under cover of the darkness, their armed occupants hoping to elude the men of the Burns detective agency, acting as operatives for the Trona company. Both machines were filled with supplies sufficient to last a small army for several days. The trucks also carried a box of repeating rifles, several revolvers and many rounds of ammunition. Over the potent cargo were thrown canvas tarpaulins. On these coverings lay a thin layer of oranges to give the impression to curious eyes that two loads of the yellow fruit were being sent to the desert. ENGINES ARE WRECKED

The run to Bakersfield was made without incident. When Saturday night fell and the party again prepared to take advantage of friendly darkness trouble developed with the engines. Bits of iron had been placed in the engines, parts had been removed and when the trucks started the machinery became scrap iron.

One of the machines was numbered "85,103, Cal." and the motor license list shows that the number was issued to Shipley Brothers, Round Valley, Inyo county. Both machines are at the M. & F. garage, and reports made to the Burns agency here indicate that neither will be able to leave before the end of the year.

FOREIGNERS ARE ACTIVE

While the band of workers and armed men that must start from Los Angeles before the end of the year or lose the fabulous prize is still awaiting the

CHRISTMAS GIFTS Out of the Ordinary

Which Are Sure to Please at Reasonable Prices

- Opera Glasses, Field Glasses, Lognettes, Lognette Chains, Silver Eye Glass Cases, Binoculars (Prism Glasses), Opera Glass Bags, Clinical Thermometer Cases, California Optical Co., 181 Post St., San Francisco, 1221 Broadway, Oakland.

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