

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL
"AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER—THE PAPER OF AUTHORITY"
FOUNDED DECEMBER 1, 1848
W. W. CHAPIN, Publisher

The Unmerging of Caesar

The qualified order of the police commission revoking the license of Caesar's grill, a bunco men's hangout, is as difficult to understand as the Union Pacific unmerging order signed by the federal district court.

By unanimous vote the commission revoked the license under which the notorious resort has been conducted. Then a majority adopted a formal resolution advising one of the partners in the concern that he might apply for a license to continue the business.

Commissioner Max Kuhl, who was principally responsible for making Caesar Ronchi confess that he had been a go between for the bunco men and the police, voted alone against the resolution inviting Ronchi's partner to continue the business.

The public will find it easier to understand the attitude of Commissioner Kuhl than the acts of his associates.

The convicted bunco men told the police commission, the district attorney and the trial jury in the superior court that Caesar's grill was one of their principal headquarters.

They told the court and the investigators that Caesar Ronchi passed bribe money from them to the policemen now under sentence for conspiracy and grand larceny.

Ronchi, given the third degree by Commissioner Kuhl, broke down before the police commission and admitted that the bunco men had told the truth.

Because of these admissions the police commission voted unanimously to revoke the grill license and to compel one of Ronchi's partners to close out his interest in several other unsavory resorts. But at this same sitting a majority of the commission invited another partner in the business to continue it.

The reason for the qualifying resolution has not been given to the public. It was sufficient to determine the action of a majority of the commission. It was neither sufficient nor good enough to secure the co-operation of Commissioner Kuhl.

Seemingly the commission has decided that two partners in a bad business are unfit, but that the third participant in its profits may be trusted to carry it on without harm to the community—that the public will be content with the disassociation of two of its proprietors from open and active participation in the management of a thieves' nest.

That sort of reasoning is a bit too deep for the common, garden variety citizen, untrained in the art of making fine distinctions between the "stall" and the "tool," who, working together, pick his pocket.

The public is entitled to, and expects, an explanation.

The College Camp

If the program of instruction at the war department's experimental camp for college students had been made public some weeks ago instead of now, there seems little doubt but that it would have attracted more boys than the 200 for whom provision has been made.

The program as printed should be enough to make the average American high school or young college boy's mouth water with anticipation of its pleasure.

The school of cavalry, with troop drill, horse training and students' riding; practice marches with individual cooking of supper and breakfast; drill in making knots and lashes with bayonet exercise and combat; location and construction of trenches; the war game; talks on the military policy of the United States; pack transportation with the loading and unloading of troop animals and baggage; the use of signals, patrols and messages; target and gallery practice, are a few of the subjects which will occupy the boys' attention between now and August 8.

Some twenty army officers, under the supervision of Colonel Noble, will act as instructors in this first experimental camp. So the boys will not lack for opportunity for securing first hand information of most interesting and valuable kind.

Prediction is usually folly, but if the boys who take part in this experiment do not declare it a success as far as they are concerned, then either a mistake has been made in the selection of the boys, or they are no longer animated by the spirit of Bunker Hill and Gettysburg.

Stay the Hangman's Hand

May success attend the efforts of the Anti Capital Punishment league to secure the reprieve of the 11 condemned men at San Quentin and Folsom prisons pending the popular vote on the initiative measure for the abolition of capital punishment.

The question of abolishing capital punishment will be voted on by the people of California at the next general election. It would have been voted on at the last general election had it not been for a technicality, which prevented the completion of the initiative petition in time to secure a place on the ballot.

An adequate petition will be completed in ample time this year. On that score the men and women in charge of the movement have not the slightest doubt.

They are confident that the people of California will vote to put this state on the progressive plane occupied by Michigan, Maine and Wisconsin,

Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and most of the cantons of Switzerland.

Their faith is justified by the progressive accomplishments of a half dozen years, which have made California the acknowledged leader in all social reforms except those relating to the treatment of crime and criminals.

Society can suffer no injury from the relieving of the men now under sentence of death, pending the popular verdict for or against capital punishment.

Society has long since forgotten all but one or two of the miserable creatures awaiting the hangman's noose. Not one in 10,000 of the men and women of California, not associated with the prisons, knows the names of the condemned men, whence they came, or who were their victims.

Last year Governor Johnson consented to reprieve the men under sentence of death pending the popular vote. After the failure to get the initiative question on the ballot, he naturally enough, permitted the law to take its course.

Every man and woman who is opposed to capital punishment should promptly co-operate with the league to enable it to make a showing that will induce the governor to reprieve the 11 men now awaiting execution, until after the initiative election.

The Test of a Popular Victory

The federal court's approval of a plan for the unmerging of the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific railroads is said to represent a great victory for the people.

That it does represent a decided legal-political victory for the department of justice seems beyond question. The test of a people's victory lies not in its announcement, but in the measure of popular advantage accruing from it.

On behalf of the government, it is promised that the people will benefit tremendously from the unscrambling order. Hope for realization of that promise must be founded in the fact that the terms of this order differ somewhat from the terms of other combine dissolution orders, which have not resulted in realization of the rosy promises which accompanied them.

The California public will have a larger opportunity to study and appreciate the value of the unmerging scheme when it shall be made to apply to the Southern Pacific and Central Pacific.

If that unmerging shall result in open terminal facilities and something approximating competition for the business of this state, the people of California will be as enthusiastic as the department of justice officials now appear to be.

The terms of the unmerging order tend inevitably to the bewilderment of the layman, unversed in the science of higher finance as related to railroad combinations.

The Union Pacific is to exchange \$38,000,000 of its \$126,000,000 interest in the Southern Pacific for the Pennsylvania's holdings in the Baltimore and Ohio road. The remainder of the Southern Pacific stock owned by the Union Pacific is to be sold in the market, from which present owners of Union Pacific stock are to be excluded.

Persons now holding Union Pacific stock may qualify for the purchase of Southern Pacific stock by disposing of their Union Pacific holdings.

The Baltimore and Ohio feature of the program suggests to the layman nothing more salutary than taking money out of one pocket and putting it in another.

For practical business purposes the Pennsylvania's \$38,000,000 worth of Baltimore and Ohio stock has represented control of the weaker road.

What it has represented to the Pennsylvania it may be expected to represent to the Union Pacific. If that be true the Union Pacific may be said to have traded stock control of an outlet to the Pacific coast for stock control of an outlet to the Atlantic.

That the order in any way effects a long established community of interest does not appear from such examination as the layman is competent to make.

The stock market will be affected, and probably affected in a big way. Perhaps the pocketbooks of the American shippers and legitimate investors will be fattened—perhaps.

Only four passengers were killed on the Pennsylvania railroad last year out of more than 101,000,000 carried, and only 16 have been killed out of more than 481,000,000 carried in five years. Only 17 men out of 61,443 employed in train service were killed last year. This is a wonderful record. What Pennsy can do any road can do, and not blame accidents on employes.

The Boston Transcript says that "in his new role of drummer for Panama exposition trade Secretary Bryan is making much more of a hit in Frisco (which means San Francisco in the language of fair Harvard) than he did in his familiar old part of peacemaker." Secretary Bryan is always welcome here, and was never more so than on his last visit to San Francisco.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has discovered that one in seven of the dish washers in this city is a college graduate. That story used to read that they were all street-car motormen. They are all good.

President Wilson is said to do much of his work in his shirt sleeves these hot days in Washington. Judging by the activity of some of his work, he has hard work to keep his shirt on.

Fourth of July at Gettysburg this year will be the greatest in that village for half a century, but it can't be as noisy or as deadly, happily.

Vice President Marshall is not saying much these days. Is he getting ready for an explosion on the fourth?

Don't forget that it is the correct thing to spend "a safe and sane fourth," even in the insane asylums.

The Glass bill is not likely to be easily broken, with the president watching how it is handled.

McReynolds may have shed no tears, but his ears have burned, if they are not too furry.

FERRY TALES

By LINDSAY CAMPBELL

THE latest recruit to the army of automobile owners in the commuter brigade is Captain J. G. Eschen. He bought a car the other day, and he bought it very much as you and I buy a hat—when we have the price and know exactly what we want. Incidentally, in his method of making the purchase Captain Eschen paid a compliment to the high standard of American manufacturing efficiency that was not the less sincere because it was an involuntary tribute.

Captain Eschen is a man of few words and direct action. Also he has the price. He made up his mind the other day that he would buy an automobile. He bought one.

Did he announce his intention to all his friends and ask their advice as to what kind of car he should buy? He neither did this nor did he send for a list of catalogues and take imaginary joy rides through their attractive pages.

He simply walked along the street until he came to a place where automobiles were for sale. He walked in, glanced down a row of machines and pointed to one in the middle of the row. "Will this hold five people?" he asked the salesman, who had sauntered up to him when he saw him looking at the cars.

"Yes, sir," replied the salesman. "How much is it?" The salesman told him. "All right," said the captain, unlimbering his fountain pen and producing a checkbook from his hip pocket. "I'll take it."

It is a fine car and meets with the approval even of his friends, but the captain owned it for three days before he had the curiosity to inquire what make it was.

The moral of which seems to be that it is safe to buy a pig in a poke, provided the pig happens to be an American made automobile.

Motorman Hunter of the municipal streetcar service's going to be snatched away from his controller one of these days by somebody in search of a good salesman. Attention has been called in this column to his habit of drumming up business for the last car. I saw him in action the other day at the ferry depot. His car was standing in the ferry loop. On the sidewalk near by stood a group of young men. They had just landed from an Oakland ferry boat.

"Let's wait for the Sutter street car; it goes right by the rink," one of the Oaklanders said. Hunter overheard him. Throwing open the gate of the municipal car, he said:

"If you gentlemen are going to the rink you'd better step aboard. Step lively. We start right away and go direct to the rink. All aboard!"

"This car doesn't go near the rink," protested one of the men. "Passes within a few feet of it," replied Hunter. "Step aboard."

They stepped. There were 20 of them and the city collected \$1 in nickels from them.

"You'll find the rink down there," said Hunter, when he stopped the car a little later.

"Why, that's two blocks away," one of the victims declared. "Is that what you call a few feet?"

"I may have exaggerated a bit," admitted the motorman, "but don't worry. This is the municipal line. Every cent you pay here stays in the city. What you pay the other lines goes east."

"Come on, fellows," said the Oaklander in charge. "Come on or he'll sell us some bonds."

LITTLE MOVIES

Benighted

On a certain southern golf course the sand pits are famous for their difficulty. A New York man played into one of the pits, and then cursed, none the less malevolently, if silently, while he took six ineffectual strokes, raising only clouds of sand and fairly burying the ball. Presently he was aware of an interested and incredulous darky watching him.

"What you see dat snake you's tryin' to kill, man?" he demanded.—New York Post.

Ware Prexy

Charles M. Lewis of Kentucky went into the room of Representative Oscar W. Underwood the other day and found him lighting a cigarette. Lewis tiptoed back and shut the door.

"Je Prexy Wilson sees you, Oscar," he whispered, "he will keep you after school."—New York Post.

Flattering

"The doctor says, my dear, that you must go to the country for a while and do just nothing at all. In your nervous state there's nothing so wholesome as a period of absolute boredom."

"In that case you must come too, Edgar, dear."—Flegende-Blatter.

Well, Tailors Must Live

Mrs. Miller was calling on Mrs. Ellis one afternoon. "Your husband painted the house himself this spring, didn't he?" asked the caller.

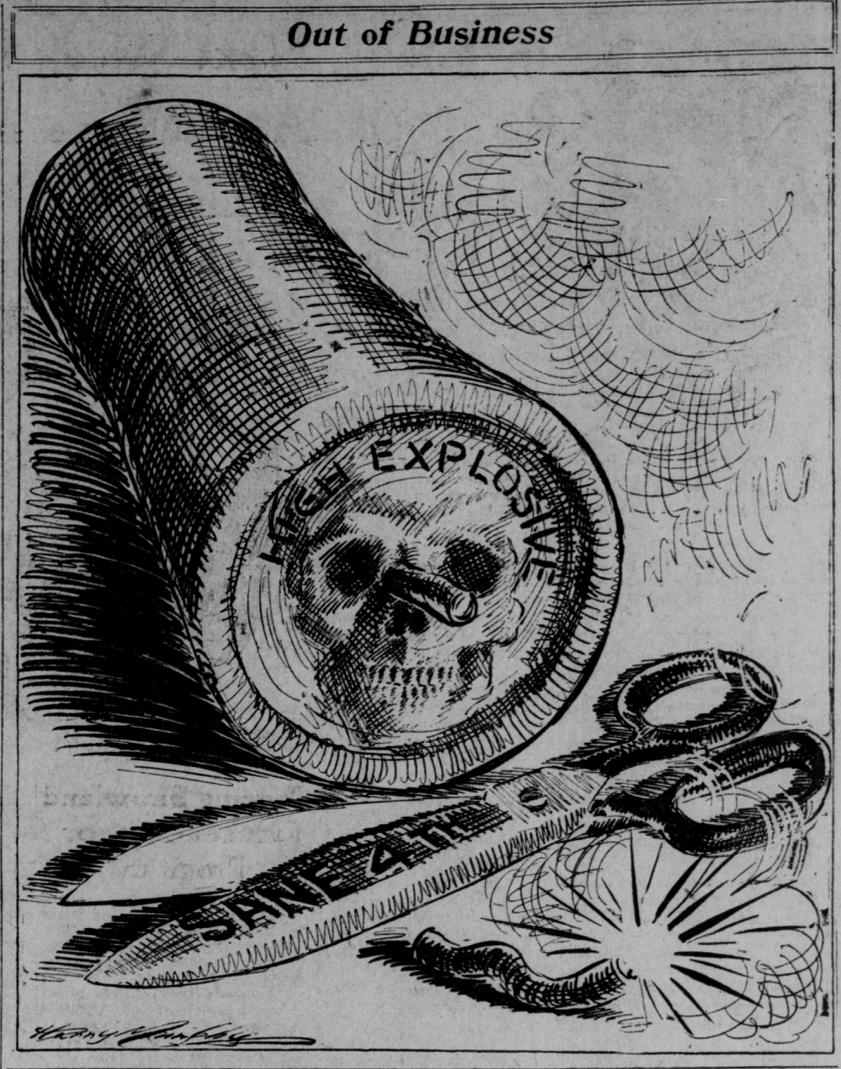
"Well, yes," replied Mrs. Ellis. "I suppose he got some of the paint on the house, but you wouldn't think so if you could see his clothes."—New York Post.

It Never Fails

"Oh, dear," she said, "I wish we could become prominent in society." "It's easy," he replied. "Start a suit against me for divorce and no paper will neglect to mention that we are prominent in society."—Chicago Record-Herald.

In Grandfather's Time

"Your grandfather is pretty odd, isn't he?" "Yes, he's an old chap. He can remember the time when the New York evening papers were published in the afternoon."—Judge.



LOBBY GOSSIP

Oil Production on Increase

"California is leading the world in the production of crude oil and the output is steadily increasing," said Glenn D. Edmonds, junior member of the Edmonds Midway Oil company of Los Angeles, at the Palace yesterday. Edmonds is here with his wife and family en route to Lake Tahoe, where they will spend several months vacation.

"Just at present the average price for oils is low, although the apparent slump will not be of long duration, according to the signs of the market. The installation of oil burning furnaces in factories, on steamships and railroad engines has increased the demand for the crude product to a greater extent than we ever imagined would be the case."

"Our great gusher, known as the 'Midway Special,' which poured out 10,000 barrels of oil daily several months ago, has decreased to about 150 barrels a day, mainly because it needs cleaning out."

"When the gusher poured forth at its height it was one of the wonders of southern California. The roar could be heard for miles and residents of the district would have complained loudly by the fact that each person expected to find a gusher on his or her property, thus making the nuisance mutually acceptable."

"Los Angeles will send a strong delegation to back Rivers, who is one of the greatest little pugilists that was ever born in this state. I expect him to take Ritchie's measure before the twentieth round."

The Mid-Pacific Carnival

"Honolulu will stage one of the most attractive fiestas the islands have ever seen next February," said James D. Dougherty, director general of the carnival committee, who is at the Stewart preparatory to touring the United States in search of novel ideas and rounding up famous swimmers for competition in the aquatic sports. Dougherty leaves today for Chicago, where he will induce several champion swimmers of the Chicago Athletic club and members of other athletic organizations, to participate in the events.

"We are desirous of securing the best electrical effects and Mardi Gras stunts possible for our great carnival," he said. "The fiesta will last about one week and it will be worth going across the Pacific ocean to see. The feature of the week will be a reproduction of the landing of old King Kamehameha, who conquered the islands several centuries ago. He drove the inhabitants to a high cliff and forced them to jump off. We won't hurt anybody, but we'll try to reproduce faithfully the invading armies, with plenty of war canoes filled with painted warriors. The lightning effects are to be magnificent, while the natural scenery will suffice because it can't be improved upon. The final day will be devoted to a floral parade, for which handsome prizes will be awarded the winners."

Louisville Women Dressy

"I imagine the society women of Louisville are pouting over that order of the chief of police putting the ban on slit skirts," said Hayward Moorman, a stock raiser of Louisville, at the Manx yesterday.

"Louisville has a reputation for its handsome and stylish women and the last time I was at home the slit skirt was so common on the streets it wasn't noticed any more."

"I think if any woman cared to dispute the matter, a court would politely tell the police official he acted beyond his authority."

"Rather than trouble themselves with a fight, the women probably will discard the slit skirt and attempt to please the police force with the next creation."

TOLD AND RETOLD

Uncle Joe's Memoirs

Uncle Joe Cannon is not hard at work on his memoirs, and John Lorraine tells the Boston Advertiser's readers why. Uncle Joe doesn't believe in memoirs. "What's the use?" says Uncle Joe. "Nobody wants to read them. There was John Sherman, a great man, and he wrote interesting memoirs, but I doubt if 5,000 volumes of them were sold. Few, indeed, know that he ever wrote memoirs. And there is my dear friend, former Senator Cullom of Illinois. He has been in public life longer than I. He wrote his memoirs, and they have been mighty interesting, but there has been so little demand for his books that he has given them away. No memoirs for me!"—Hartford Courant.

Self-Evident

During a lull in the dinner conversation the hostess turned to the famous traveler and author, who was the lion of the occasion, and said:

"I enjoyed reading your book so much. Now, tell me honestly, did you really encounter all those wonderful adventures you narrate?"

"No, indeed," replied the traveler in a burst of confidence. "If I had I'd never have lived to write about them."—Philadelphia Ledger.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

ROSE BEADS—H. S. City. To make rose beads, take a good sized basket of clean rose leaves, turn a food chopper down to the lowest point, put the leaves in this and grind them, preserving what little moisture you may have obtained from them. Sift thoroughly, all together, and put on a common sheet iron baking pan, spreading well over and put in the air, but not in the sun, for 24 hours. Repeat the grinding for 11 days, also the spreading and drying. At the end of that time take a saucer of water, wet the hands, work the leaves into the shape of good sized marbles, for they shrink a great deal. Then lay them carefully in the same pan and after three or four days, when they are firm enough and will not break, run a small nail through each. It will then take from two to three weeks until they are thoroughly shrunk and have hardened. Once in two days turn the nails in the beads, so they may be easily taken out when the beads are sufficiently dry. The moisture that is obtained from the first grinding of the leaves should be poured on the first sifting.

PANAMA CANAL—J. L. Williams. It is expected that the Panama canal will be opened to general traffic some time during the last three months of the current year.

BION J. ARNOLD—L. G. City. By an ordinance adopted October 23, 1911, and approved by P. H. McCarthy, mayor, October 25, of the same year, Bion J. Arnold was engaged at a salary of \$250 a day "for such time as he is engaged upon said work together with his traveling and living expenses while away from Chicago, and \$100 dollars per day for said services while traveling in addition to his traveling and living expenses; that if after said work has begun this board shall decide that it is necessary for said Bion J. Arnold to make a detailed and exhaustive study of the said street railway system, which said study will involve the use of an office force, then the said Bion J. Arnold is to be paid in addition to the foregoing as follows: For one first assistant upon the ground \$50 per day together with his traveling and living expenses while away from Chicago and engaged upon the work, provided that the city and county shall pay for said living expenses for a period of 30 days only; also twice the salary cost to the said Bion J. Arnold of all technical assistants necessary for him to place upon the work to properly carry it out, such as engineers, draftsmen, calculators, technical observers and others skilled in the work, the city and county engaging to furnish all necessary office space, facilities and supplies, clerks, stenographers, etc."

An Occasional Visitor

A notable housekeeper of the past generation, before the days of screens, had just announced with decision that she never had any flies.

"But, Aunt Augusta," faltered the timid visitor, "it seems to me that I saw a few in the dining room."

"Oh, those," replied her aunt, with a majestic wave of the hand, "were the neighbors' flies. They will come in occasionally. But I was saying, we never have any of our own."—National Monthly.

Orland's Celebration

Orland will celebrate the fourth of July. At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Chamber of Commerce called for the purpose, it was decided to hold a gigantic get together picnic at Greenwood grove on Stony creek, north of Orland. The fun will start early and last until the fourth is no more. An interesting program is being arranged by the committee. Speakers of statewide reputation have been procured and there are some novelties on the bill which are scheduled to make the occasion more than the ordinary natal day celebration—Orland Register.

A Madera Oversight

There are 12,000 acres of Miller & Lux land devoted to alfalfa production in Madera county, according to information filed with the county supervisors. There is no report of the filing of such information with the county assessor.—Madera Mercury.

THE STATE PRESS

Rothschild vs. Rockefeller

The Rothschilds are fighting the Standard Oil on the Pacific coast and are cutting down the price of gasoline. Go it, Rothschild! Go it, Rockefeller! Go it all over the country. Both of you can stand it. So can we.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Good at Any Temperature

We have our opinion of the man who eats chile con carne when the mercury stands at 98 in the shade.—Chicago News.

Bombs and Bleaches

Does the "chemical adviser" of the suffragettes tell them how to make bombs or how to bleach their hair?—Chicago News.

Saving Oil at Night

Mr. Rockefeller gets up at sunrise these days and thus sets another precedent that very few will follow.—Chicago News

SHARP POINTS

Orland's Celebration

Orland will celebrate the fourth of July. At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Chamber of Commerce called for the purpose, it was decided to hold a gigantic get together picnic at Greenwood grove on Stony creek, north of Orland. The fun will start early and last until the fourth is no more. An interesting program is being arranged by the committee. Speakers of statewide reputation have been procured and there are some novelties on the bill which are scheduled to make the occasion more than the ordinary natal day celebration—Orland Register.

A Madera Oversight

There are 12,000 acres of Miller & Lux land devoted to alfalfa production in Madera county, according to information filed with the county supervisors. There is no report of the filing of such information with the county assessor.—Madera Mercury.