

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL
"AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER—THE PAPER OF AUTHORITY"
FOUNDED DECEMBER 1, 1868
W. W. CHAPIN, Publisher

San Francisco's Onward March

The records of her real estate transfers and building operations are the best proofs of a city's development.

At the end of each biennial period since the 1906 fire San Francisco has shown a record which has been the marvel of the thinking business men of the civilized world.

And now at the end of the first half of 1913 San Francisco has fairly eclipsed all her previous proud records of stupendous achievement.

A total of \$30,846,027 is represented by the actual sales of San Francisco real estate completed during the first six months of this year.

That is an increase of \$8,140,285, or 36 per cent, over the same period in 1912, and \$8,376,536, or 37 per cent, over the total for the last six months of the preceding year.

The aggregate of the building operations for the period January 1 to June 30, 1913, is \$17,482,536, making a grand total of \$48,328,563 expended for real estate and real estate improvements since January 1.

An analysis of the totals serves better than the totals themselves to indicate what the expenditures mean to San Francisco.

Out of a total of \$30,846,027 involved in actual real estate sales, approximately \$22,700,000 changed hands incident to private transactions.

Railroad purchases amounted to \$6,400,000 and the city expended \$1,789,328 for lands for the civic center. These expenditures mean other big permanent improvements. They bespeak the commercial and civic virility of the community.

But the total of almost \$23,000,000 involved in private transactions speak more eloquently of the people's faith in the commercial dominance of the natural metropolis of the Pacific.

A money market which has compelled the establishment of a 6 per cent net rate for real estate loans is the best insurance of the conservatism of the deals aggregating this extraordinary total.

San Francisco is the best built city in America, and that means the best built city in the world. It has been built more rapidly than any city in the world. Its rebuilding has ever been free from any suggestion of a boom or unnatural development. It has suffered no marked depressions. It has marched on steadily and to a cadence no other city has ever approached.

The marvelous records for the last semiannual period do not represent the limit of San Francisco's achievements. They are but earnest of bigger accomplishments for each ensuing semi-annual period.

San Francisco can be neither stopped nor overtaken in the race for supremacy on the Pacific.

California Leads in Oil

California leads the world in the production of crude oil, and the output is steadily increasing. That assertion is made on the authority of Glenn D. Edmonds of Los Angeles, a member of one of California's leading producing firms.

The prevailing low prices would be discouraging to any set of men less enthusiastic than are the oil producers of California.

They seem fully to appreciate that it is only a question of a comparatively short time when the market demands will approximate the production. That will mean a readjustment of prices.

That situation will be brought about by two general causes—the substitution of oil for coal as power generating fuel, and transportation conditions, which will enable the oil men to stimulate the demand.

California's crude oil wealth means more in dollars and cents to the people of this state than did the wonderful gold discoveries beginning in 1849. Its aggregate is greater. Its potentialities are primarily and inevitably for the development of other natural resources.

The bonanza equation has been fairly eliminated from the California oil situation. Legislation looking to the protection of both consumer and producer against exploitation and transportation discrimination is only a question of a short time.

In the next ten years the oil business of California should contribute more to the wealth of this state than the coal fields of Pennsylvania have contributed to the wealth of that state in any two decades.

Coke Fiends

Up to the present time neither the municipal police nor federal officers have been able successfully to cope with the illicit cocaine trade.

Hereafter, by a recent decision of the secretary of the treasury, it may be possible to put a stop to the supply used by the coke fiends.

The department of agriculture recently called the attention of the secretary of the treasury to the pure food and drugs law, which prohibits the importation of any drug, or drug product, which is dangerous to the health of the people of the United States.

It is under this law that the importation of absinthe was prohibited, and the secretary of the treasury now decides that the contention of the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture that the pure food and drugs law is applicable to the regulation of illicit drugs is correct.

All cocaine is imported into this country in the form of cocaine or cocoa leaves. Hereafter every importer will have to make an affidavit of the purpose for which the importation is intended, and he

must keep a complete record of each and every person, firm or corporation to whom the goods shall be sold in whole or in part, and a similar declaration is to be kept to which the purchaser will have to swear, and so on to the consumer—thus the department will have a complete record from the importer to the actual consumer.

The number of coke fiends, so called, in this country is estimated to be between 100,000 and 250,000 and the country uses 150,000 ounces or more of cocaine, which is estimated to be about ten times as much as is needed for legitimate medicinal purposes.

The securing of this decision is a triumph for progressive legislation. If properly enforced, as no doubt it certainly will be at first at any rate, it should go far to reduce the misery and suffering caused by this drug, which has upon human beings a most degrading effect.

Indorsing Local Charities

At a recent meeting of the Commonwealth club Mr. E. F. Adams spoke at length of the charities of San Francisco, and recommended that a committee of the Chamber of Commerce be appointed to keep track of charities and to recommend those which it found worthy.

As San Francisco spends between a million and a half and two million dollars annually in charity, the need of such a committee, in order to prevent economic waste, and to see that the money is properly spent, should be obvious.

Not only should there be such a committee of indorsement appointed by the Chamber of Commerce, but it should also act as a committee of prevention. It should expose unworthy claimants for charity, and its reports should receive the fullest publicity, so that no one would give to any claimant for charity who could not secure the committee's indorsement.

Demands for charity have become so constant upon business men and are such a drain that the need of their examination and classification as good or bad by a committee acting on behalf of the business community is becoming serious.

So serious, indeed, has the matter of indiscriminate charity become that the National Chamber of Commerce has taken it up and prepared a summary of methods of dealing with the subject in many American cities.

In Denver and in Springfield, Mass., for example, the retail associations of the Chamber of Commerce, by a secret committee, investigates all applicants for charity, and has found about 90 per cent of them unworthy. In St. Louis the Business Men's league has a charity expert, who makes reports. The Chicago Association of Commerce has a subscriptions investigating committee of 12, aided by nearly all the leading local experts in philanthropic work. In Buffalo, as the result of the Chamber of Commerce committee on charities and surveys, practically every faking soliciting scheme has been abandoned. In Quincy, Ill., any proposition calling for subscriptions requires the approval of the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce and also of the board of directors. In Minneapolis the committee on benevolent associations of the Civic and Commercial Associations is studying the methods of the local charitable organizations and issuing cards to those which are worthy, local and permanent. It has also aided them in systematizing their finances and improving their methods, has eliminated frauds and prevented wasteful and expensive manners of raising money.

All over the country cities are at work on this important problem, and San Francisco ought to get well up in the lead in this valuable work.

Idiocy, Not Patriotism

Idiocy masquerading as patriotism put the people of three countries to shame on the glorious fourth.

The consul general of Paraguay, Eustorjia Calderon, sought to convey his country's compliments to the American people by floating the flag of his nation over the consulate, in this city.

His courteous purpose was misunderstood and resented by two self-appointed guardians of the national honor. They waited upon the consul general with a demand that he haul down his colors, informing him that "foreign flags do not go on the fourth."

Subsequently they or two others of like lack of mind, emphasized their mistaken notion of patriotism and common decency by stealing the flag which had given them offense.

In Winnipeg, Manitoba, another fool American, precipitated a near riot, out of which a crowd of Canadians came with as little credit as did the idiot who incited them to avenge national affront with national affront.

An American, at large without a guardian, injected himself and the American flag into a Canadian military pageant. The Canadian commander's courteous request to put the American flag away was forestalled by an angry street crowd. The stars and stripes were trampled under foot before the military could effect their rescue.

Fortunately the fool acts of a few irresponsibles do not represent the sentiment of either the American or the Canadian people. Time was when diplomatic cognizance would have been taken of both incidents.

They serve now only to impress upon the sane people of all nations that the fool killer's job is an endless and a hopeless task!

The Houston Post says "the north is taking a southern administration so seriously that it wonders if objection would be made to filling local jobs here by patriotic southern democrats." Glad to know this is a real southern administration. Help yourself to the offices.

TOLD AND RETOLD

Properly Trained
The topic that was being talked in Washington the other evening related to the proper training of children, which reminded Congressman Oscar Calloway of Texas, of an incident that occurred in one of the small towns in his state.

For the fifth time, the congressman said, a colored boy was arrested on a charge of appropriating chickens, and the magistrate decided to try an appeal to the lad's father.

"Look here, Rastus," said the magistrate, when the father appeared in court, "this is the fifth time that your son Ebenezer has been in this court and I am tired of seeing him here."

"I don't blame yo', Judge," responded the father, a little sadly. "Tse tired of seeing him here myse'f."

"Then why don't you teach him how to act?" demanded the magistrate. "Why don't you show him the right way?"

"Say, Judge," earnestly replied the father, "I hab done gone an' show dat boy de right way a dozen times, but somehow he allus git caught wid de chickens on him."—New York Mail.

Tracing the Frost Line
The treasurer of the United States, John Burke, is an interesting talker if his Wednesday address to the West Virginia bankers is a sample to judge by. "Every fall," he told them, "the treasurer's office receives many fragments of burned paper money which had been stored in stoves during warm weather and the hiding places forgotten until the awful discovery of the charred bits raked out after fires have been built with the approach of frost. About 2,000 such cases are received yearly, coming first from the northern sections and by degrees from the warmer zones. This is the treasurer's means of tracing the frost line from Canada to the gulf."—Hartford Courant.

By a Jugful
A small pikanny heaved a jug over the counter to the grocer. "Mammy want er dime's wuth er lasses," she announced. Knowing the family ways, the grocer was inquisitive. "Got yo' dime with you, Sally?" he asked.

"Yas, suh." Thereupon the grocer went below to the molasses barrel in the cellar. It was a cold day, and the stream ran slowly from the spigot, but he whistled and stamped about for 10 minutes to keep up his temperature as well as his courage. At last the jug was filled and his cold and lonely vigil ended. He turned and heaved the jug back over the counter.

"Lemme have yo' dime, Sally," he said. Sally's eye grew white and wide. "Laws a mussy," she exclaimed, "er mammy ain't done an' put dat dime in er bottom er dat jug."—New York Post.

What's the Use?
Provost Smith of the University of Pennsylvania interrupted with a story at the recent alumni convention in New York, an argument that threatened to grow stormy. "Now, gentlemen," he said, "abandon that subject, please. We desire harmony here. Let us not, then, like the Smiths, stumble on discord."

"Mrs. Smithers, reading her Bulletin before the fire, looked up one evening and said: 'George, dear, if we were both young and single again, would you still choose me for your helpmate?'"

"Now, my love, the husband murmured absent from behind the market reports, 'what's the use of trying to start a row just when we've settled down to enjoy a quiet evening?'"

LITTLE MOVIES

Sanity in Spring Hollow
"Yep," replied El Cortassell, "we're goin' to hev one o' these here sane fourths down to Spring Hollow an' don't yo' overlook it!"

"Goin' to cut out all th' fireworks, eh?" suggested the man from Scabbie Corners.

"None. We ain't never had no fireworks."

"What are you goin' to do to make it sane?"

"Why, we ain't goin' to let Squire Beasley read th' declaration, nor Judge Bascom deliver his two hour oration."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Serious Oversight
"That's always the way!" said Mr. Growcher. "The people who give the best part of this show aren't mentioned on the program."

"Why," protested the manager. "I have made a point of using all the names possible, even those of the people who make the wigs and shoes."

"Yes; but you haven't mentioned the men who put up the electric signs outside the theater."—Washington Star.

Always Going and Coming
The devoted follower met the lady with cries of joy.

"My dear Mrs. Pankhurst," she exclaimed, "are you just leaving jail?"

"No," replied the famous militant, "I am just going back."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Timely Gift
Angry Farmer—Is this your dog jest been killin' my pigs? Acquaintance—It is nat. Angry Farmer—Thin whose dog is it? Acquaintance—It's yer own. I giv'm to yer jest before he killed the first.—Sketch.

His Preference
"You say I've got to take more outdoor exercise, doctor. Any particular kind?"

"No; anything that will keep you moving will do."

"All right. Some day we're going to have movable sidewalks; then I'll take a seat in an easy chair and circulate all over town."—Chicago Tribune.



LOBBY GOSSIP

Arizona Leads in Copper

Although the vast copper deposits of Arizona have not yet been developed to any extent, the state leads in the production of that mineral, said W. C. McFarland of Clifton, Ariz., general counsel of the Arizona Copper company and the Arizona and New Mexico railroad, at the Palace yesterday. Mr. McFarland is here on legal business. He is accompanied by his wife and family.

"At the present time the copper business is most encouraging, although the prices remain slightly below the average," said Mr. McFarland. "The larger plants about Clifton are running to their full capacity, yet the production is still far below the demand. The mineral is selling now at 15 cents a pound, but we are looking for an increase in price before fall. The tariff revisions will have little if any effect on the market."

"Last year Arizona produced about 250,000,000 pounds of copper and jumped into first place. That immense output will be doubled or even quadrupled when capital begins to come to Arizona and the country is developed as it should be. As a matter of fact the copper industry of the state, which is now its greatest source of wealth, is merely in its infancy, even if it is a pretty big infant."

The Goat and the Negro

Colonel "Jim" Bowen owns a big plantation down in Alabama. He is a gentleman of the old school, devoted to cock fights and horse raising, and he never hesitates to take a bet on anything, as he says himself. He told a story about himself at the Manx yesterday, illustrating his betting propensity.

"A neighbor planter had a goat, a most unsavory goat, and he claimed that the animal outsmelled anything in creation," said Colonel Jim.

"I bet my neighbor that my negro Hank was more objectionable to the olfactory sense than was his goat."

"All right, you are on, only we'll have a jury to decide the merits of the affair," said my neighbor.

"We each picked six friends and took them to my big tobacco barn. They sat on chairs and looked solemn. We had a lot of money on that smelling contest."

"In came the goat on the run. He hadn't taken two turns until every man jack of the jury fainted."

"I win, I win," shouted friend neighbor. "Oh, no, you don't. Wait until my boy has had a chance," said I.

"Just then Hank came in on the run and he hadn't gotten within 25 feet of that goat when the goat died."

The colonel says the tobacco crop this year is promising.

Trout Not Plentiful

"Unless the famous California mountain trout is protected better than at the present time it will not be long until the fish will be in a class with the Dodo," said George Hargrave, a business man of Santa Cruz, who is staying at the Sutter.

EFFICIENCY HIGHER UP

George P. Brett, the publisher, whose

breadth and independence have often caused routine ridden business men to sit up, has been discussing the effects of a lower tariff, increased competition at home and enforced efficiency. He is an advocate of scientific management, but he would not limit it to the rank and file.

According to Mr. Brett, there is a good deal of waste and lost motion "higher up." He finds tendencies to extravagance and an overloading of corporations with ornamental officers. He holds that the craze for bigness has led many corporations to waste more capital on destroying legitimate competition than that competition could ever have cost them.

Trusts that are always talking about economy and efficiency do not exemplify those fine principles "at the top." Fancy salaries, sinecures, favoritism, junketing and banqueting not infrequently characterize the management of such

trusts. Mr. Brett would apply scientific management all along the line and sees nothing in modern industrialism that emancipates us from the old-fashioned virtues of thrift, method, intelligent organization.

We have not forgotten the amount of graft and waste which the Hughes insurance investigation revealed. The insurance business today is much more efficient and economical than it was prior to that investigation. Rate legislation, anti-rebate laws and publicity have admittedly placed the railroad industry on a higher level. Privilege and overproduction have undoubtedly encouraged sloth and standpatism in many industries. Why should suggestions of efficient management at the top stir the wrath of the very people who preach it to the bottom? Mr. Brett's article in the Outlook ought to be incorporated into a public speech on the new freedom and the readjustment of business to a competitive tariff.—Chicago Record-Herald.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

GORDIAN KNOT—Subscriber, Berkeley. The following is given as the origin of the term "Gordian knot": "Gordius was a legendary king of Phrygia, Asia Minor. He was, the story goes, a peasant, and one day while plowing, an eagle alighted on his yoke of oxen and remained there until evening. To learn the meaning of the sign he consulted the soothsayers. A prophetess explained it as the presaging that his family would rise to greatness and power and he married her in return for her good wishes. Some years later the country of Phrygia was torn by civil dissensions and an oracle declared that a new king, who would end all disturbances would be brought in a peasant's cart. While the wise men were deliberating on these utterances, Gordius and his wife and son suddenly appeared in a cart and he was hailed by the soothsayers as the people's king. The new ruler fastened the yoke of his team to Jupiter and back so ingeniously tied that no one could loosen it, and an oracle declared that whoever should untie this knot, which was shown to Alexander the Great, would become master of Asia. Then," said the enquirer, "it will perform the task, and so saying he cut the knot in two with his sword. The expression 'Gordian knot' has come from this legend to mean 'any great difficulty' and the expression 'to cut the Gordian knot' signifies to evade the difficulty, or by some prompt or decisive act, dispose of it."

MOUSE TRAP—A. A. R., Oakland. Who it was that first used "If you write a better book, or preach a better sermon, or build a better mouse trap than your neighbor, though you build your house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to your door," has never been definitely settled. Mrs. Tule in her "Borrowings," published in 1880, credited this to Ralph Waldo Emerson as part of an address delivered "long years ago," and at about the same time Rev. W. E. Barton of Chicago produced proof that these words were used by Rev. John Paxton in a sermon delivered in the West Presbyterian church of New York "some years ago," but neither fixed the precise time.

NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO—F. M., City. The steamer route from San Francisco to New York would be from San Francisco to Valparaiso, along the lower western end of South America, around Cape Horn or through the straits of Magellan, along the eastern coast of South America to Pernambuco, thence in direct line to New York. The distance would be about 14,000 miles. A first class modern steamer ought to make the trip in 23 or 24 days.

LOCOMOTIVE—R. G. Y., City. The heaviest locomotive on the Santa Fe system is used for hauling freight. It weighs 308 tons. It is 120.74 feet long. The tender weighs 117 tons, making a total of 425 tons.

THE STATE PRESS

Oil at Thermalito

It would seem that the presence of oil at Thermalito and the circumstances surrounding its discovery would justify a full investigation into the matter. These facts are certain: That oil is seeping from the ground at Thermalito; that the quality of the oil and the location of the point of seepage show that it must be coming from an underground deposit; that there are many surface indications of oil to be noted throughout the section; that oil bearing formations were discovered in a well sunk but 1,100 feet some years ago.—Oroville Register.

SHARP POINTS

A True Diplomat

There can be no doubt that Mr. Penfield will amply fill the position of ambassador to Austria. Any diplomat who knows enough about his business to marry \$50,000,000 can not fail.—Boston Advertiser.

Argument From Analogy

The New Jersey man who killed the cats and then discovered it was built-frogs that were killing the chickens, furnishes another argument against capital punishment.—Cleveland Leader.

A Bold Start

The 82 year old Duke Ludwig of Bavaria, who is seeking a divorce from his second morganatic wife, can hardly hope, at his age, to overtake Nat Goodwin; but he has made a bold start.—Manchester Union.

Sheep as Lawn Mowers

Mr. Rockefeller is having his golf links mowed by sheep. With the price of labor and also of meat very high this year, he ought to save enough to feel rejuvenated.—Boston Advertiser.