

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL
"AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER—THE PAPER OF AUTHORITY"
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The Railroads Active

Two railroad presidents—B. F. Bush of the Western Pacific and A. L. Mohler of the Union Pacific—within the last few days have both discussed plans for construction work which should have a beneficial effect on the prosperity of the districts particularly affected and also on San Francisco.

Mr. Bush has decided on two new lines within the state, one to connect with Reno, together with a feeder. Mr. Mohler says that the Union Pacific will certainly build a line connecting Boise City, Idaho, with the Union Pacific main lines.

The Western Pacific's new lines within the state will open up the Santa Clara valley to competition and will also let the road into the Bakersfield oil fields, while the road to Reno will give the Nevada city a near entry into San Francisco. The Union Pacific's new road to Boise should also help business between the Idaho capital and the coast.

The activity of the great railroads in planning new construction work for the coast region is wholesome and most promising. Both railroad presidents are naturally and properly cautious in safeguarding their utterances as to the time of beginning the work. Both say it will depend on the state of the money market, but it is noticeable that neither Mr. Bush nor Mr. Mohler seem to be particularly depressed by the condition of the money market, and Mr. Mohler, the elder and more conservative of the two, does not anticipate serious trouble in raising funds.

There is no room at any rate for the calamity howler to find anything to help his doleful cry in what the two railroad presidents say. The general public should feel confident, if these men express no lack of confidence, that the railroad activity means good times ahead.

"Base-Baaaaaww!"

When in the name of common sense did San Francisco change its name to Jayville? asked a visitor from Podunk, when he heard the noise on the street which goes by the above name and sounds like a bellyache.

Time was when all sorts of wierd noises were tolerated on the streets everywhere, and people went insane in flocks and never knew what touched them. Now people know better.

No longer does any city allow the fish peddler to shatter the air in pieces with his shouts about herring and smelt.

The maddening shrieks of shrill tongued vendors of strawberries and the bladder mouthed bellowings of banana men are not tolerated on city streets.

Noise in city streets is coming rapidly to be recognized as one of the very greatest evils of city life. Most of our up to date municipalities have put a stop to steam whistles and church bells because they have been found to affect the sick and the weak very unfavorably.

In Chicago a committee of the city council has come to the conclusion that Chicago is the noisiest city in the world and that much must be done to lessen the din, especially as local alienists are quoted as saying the noise is literally driving Chicago insane.

The invention of the steel car and the terrific noise it makes when it crosses other tracks at street intersections is one of the worst evils among city noises, but one which it is probably at present practically impossible even to minimize, and every car in crossing makes a constant tapping on the nerves of the ear which are so close to the brain and produce both nervous and mental strains and tire.

It behooves modern cities, then, to watch these noises and do all they can to minimize them. One form of noise that can easily be done away with and that the board of supervisors can and should see is stopped is that which is represented by the leather lunged fellow with the megaphone who yells up and down the streets his stomach rending cry of "Base-baaaaaww!"

New Parcels Post Rates

Postmaster General Burleson has made much amends for his extreme partisanship in some directions by his broadening the parcels post regulations so far as he has just done and by declaring his policy still further to extend them.

The principal changes authorized, an increase from 11 to 20 pounds in parcels' weight, and the reduction in rate in the first and second zones, up to nearly 150 miles, to 5 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional pound, or fraction, are so important to the general public that they amount almost to a revolution in short distance package transportation rates.

The greatest advantage offered is to the local merchant who has no elaborate system of delivery. When the small retail dealer and his customer both find that anything weighing up to 20 pounds can be ordered by telephone and delivered by mail the facilities of the postoffice are likely to be taxed to the limit.

When it is generally known that the postoffice will carry a 20 pound package 150 miles for 24 cents there is also likely to be a great increase in the amount of farm products handled directly in this way between producer and consumer.

Better even than the actual changes which are

to go into effect next month is the postmaster general's statement that he expects to see all weights increased and rates reduced; but that he wishes to feel his way in the right direction. When he does so he will no doubt find, as other nations have found, that it will pay the public to do its own package delivery business all over the country.

Concentration Means Success

A congress of women, composed of delegates from states that have extended the duties and privileges of suffrage to women will assemble at the national capital on August 15.

The delegates to this congress will represent 4,000,000 women voters. The avowed purpose of the assemblage is to formulate plans for a campaign for the extension of suffrage to women in every state in the union.

If the deliberations of this congress be directed and dominated by cool heads, it can not fail to result in tremendous advantage to the suffrage cause.

If the convention shall decide to center its efforts on the federal congress with the hope of securing a general extension of suffrage to women through congressional enactment, little will be accomplished.

If, on the other hand, the congress will formulate a definite working plan for co-operative action in those states where there is greatest promise of immediate success, it will most advantage the cause of universal suffrage for women.

The advocates of women's suffrage will reach the desired goal quicker if they refrain from flock shooting. The south is not ready for woman suffrage. It will not be made ready by trying to force a general suffrage measure through congress.

Suffrage, like the tariff, is still a local question. Its advocates have found their work difficult enough when they attacked it in local tasks. Every state they win makes the winning of the next easier.

There is probably not a state north of the Mason and Dixie line in which suffrage will not be given the women, instantly it is made apparent that it is demanded by a respectable minority of the women of that state.

The women, not the men, in official place are the stumbling blocks in the path of the suffrage generals. If they will devote their efforts for the next two years to arousing the interest of women in a half dozen northern states, where women do not vote, they will capture those states when their legislatures meet again.

Like effort in the ensuing two year period will give them a majority of all the states in the union and inevitably arouse a practical political interest in the solid south that will bring those states into the fold.

Women, north and south, get what they want when they make it clear that they really want it.

Marin's New Electric Line

Marin county can not fail to advantage materially from the construction of the San Rafael, San Anselmo and Fairfax electric line, which seems assured.

The new line will not only connect San Rafael, San Anselmo and Fairfax, but it will provide each of the towns with a local streetcar service.

The opening of the line will materially enhance the value of the attractions of Marin county and inevitably add thousands of dollars annually to the totals spent by sightseers and holiday visitors from outside the county.

One of the most satisfactory features of the improvement is to be found in the financing of the road. The company is capitalized at \$100,000, divided in 4,000 shares. Half the stock has been subscribed by 188 property holders and business men in the territory to be served by the road.

That means that all the communities served by the road will have an interest in its success quite apart from their interest in securing something in the way of transportation facilities.

Undoubtedly the new road will be a good thing for Marin county and for the business men and property owners whose faith in their communities has made it possible.

The Merchants' association of New York is making the best move to catch and hold foreign trade that can be taken, next to having quality, price and packing right. Instead of quoting goods f. o. b., the Merchants' association urges quoting c. i. f., which is the foreign method. To quote to a foreigner a price which does not cover cost of goods, insurance and freight is practically meaningless, because he can not compare them with competitive quotations.

Portugal appears to have made a substantial progress as a republic, in spite of the constant attempts of the monarchists to create the impression that nothing has been done. Religious liberty, for one thing, is now complete. Education has been improved, financial methods have been improved and what was practically a slave trade in Africa has been suppressed. In themselves these are achievements of no small importance.

Every foreign born citizen in the United States ought to protest against the duty of 15 per cent ad valorem which is put on books printed in foreign languages in the Wilson-Underwood bill. It is amazing that a scholar like President Wilson should stand for such a relic of barbarism and for its twin, the duty on art, when both have heretofore been free.

Evanston, a suburb of Chicago, has discovered that it has 3,483 more women voters than men, and the latter are worried to know what the women are going to do to them politically. Turn and turn about is fair play.

Dallas, Tex., has a law forbidding a man to get drunk anywhere except in his own house; but if his wife is of the right sort he won't have much chance there, either.

London women have taken up pipe smoking. Fashions will repeat themselves. It was quite the mode in the eighteenth century.

Now they are talking of making ex-President Roosevelt mayor of New York. Bully!

FERRY TALES

By LINDSAY CAMPBELL

WILLIAM SPECK, chief engineer of the California state naval militia, combines with a first class practical and theoretical knowledge of machinery an eloquent and persuasive tongue. Also he is regarded by his shipmates as a good fellow, evidence of which lies in the fact that they have honored him with a nickname. Socially and in the cozy and informal privacy of the Marblehead's wardroom they speak of him and address him as "Pico."

Nicknames may not be very dignified, but they are really marks of distinction and a recognition of individuality. The late general Shafter took more pride in the fact that he enlisted men referred to him as "Pecos Bill" than in all the medals with which he had the right to decorate his expansive bosom. Speck would rather be called "Pico" than admiral.

All of which has nothing at all to do with the following hitherto unpublished extract from the log of the recent mid-summer cruise of the state naval militia, when the citizen sailors took the U. S. S. Marblehead to Santa Cruz. The Ancient Mariner told me about it as we crossed the bay the other morning on the steamer Berkeley.

Speck owns an automobile, which he enjoys best when sharing with his friends. When it was decided to make the cruise to Santa Cruz the chief engineer shipped his car to the city by the sea, and when the officers went ashore there he invited as many as could get aboard to join him in a joy ride.

The motorcop who arrested them said that they were traveling at 50 miles an hour. He gave up trying to catch them when the speedometer on his motorcycle showed 30 knots. He headed them off later and just an hour before they were due back aboard the Marblehead the chief engineer, who had been driving the car; Lieutenant Chris Bauer, Lieutenant Harlowe and a few others of the Marblehead's after-guard—the very flower of the state naval militia, in fact—found themselves in a Santa Cruz jail with a charge of exceeding the speed limit being pressed against them by a cop who was doubly indignant because Chief Engineer Speck had undertaken to prove that the bracing air of Santa Cruz had so affected the motorcop's speedometer that it overregistered more than 50 per cent.

They could have their liberty by putting up bail at the rate of \$25 apiece. Otherwise the jail had cells enough to hold them all. A census of their combined assets showed \$8 in money, three lottery tickets, five corkscrews and a pocket edition of the navy regulations.

Then somebody remembered that Commander Morey of the state naval militia was a resident of Santa Cruz, and the commanding officer of one of the seaside city's banks. Also it was discovered that he had a telephone.

"Commander" Morey read them all a lesson on the risks involved in rough liberty. As "Citizen" Morey he explained to the chief of police who the offenders were and begged for leniency and another chance for them on the ground that they were strangers and unfamiliar with the local speed regulations. As "Banker" Morey he offered to put up the requisite bail, but the chief of police concluded that naval militiamen were entitled to some leniency on the fourth of July and released them.

LITTLE MOVIES

Hard to Please

"I hope you're pleased with us, sir," said the proprietor of the summer resort to the departing guest.

"Perfectly, perfectly," heartily responded the guest; "delightful walks and drives, magnificent views, best bathing I ever had; cool, airy rooms, a table equal to the best in the city, and charges reasonable. Why, I never enjoyed a vacation half as much!"

"Thank you, sir, thank you!" said the beaming host. "I trust you will come again next summer."

"No, sir," said the guest emphatically; "not much!"

"Why—why not?" asked the astonished host.

"What's the use," demanded the guest, "of spending your summer at a resort if you can't complain all winter of the discomforts you've endured, and tell how much better off you'd have been if you'd stayed at home?"—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

The Right Idea

As a stolid young German was steering a trio of other Germans about for a day, it became necessary to use a telephone. Though Fritz had small doings with telephones, the idea was so appalling to the three newcomers that it occurred to him as an opportunity to cover himself with glory.

He stepped up to the phone in an jaunty and debonaire manner as he could.

He rang the bell for central with something of a flourish and took down the receiver.

"Hello—is dis—?" He paused. He was stuck! Only a second, however. Then his self-confidence came back:

"Is dis der middle?" he finished, smartly.—New York Times.

A Warning

"The wedding month is here and the parents of sweet June brides should be warned by the experience of my friends, the Blanks.

The speaker was Simon Ford. Smiling, he continued:

"Why, what's the matter, here?" I called upstairs to Mrs. Blanks one June morning, for the house looked bare and upset. "What's the matter? Have you sent your furniture to be stored?"

"No, Mr. Blank answered in a sour voice, 'no, not at all. My daughter was married last week, and she has merely taken away the things she thought belonged to her.'—New Orleans States.



LOBBY GOSSIP

Quinault Indians Richest Tribe

Chief "Billy" Mason of the Quinault tribe of Indians, whose reservation is in western Washington, is on his way home after having spent more than two months in the national capital in the interests of his people. Chief "Billy," who is at the Manx, says that his tribe is in the richest timber country in the United States. He said:

"The reservation selected by the tribe is in the heart of the northwestern timber country, and the Quinault river, in which there is an abundance of salmon, runs through the reservation. In addition to these sources of wealth, on the edge of the reservation evidence of oil has been found. Wells are now being sunk at the Hoh river, just north of Grays Harbor, and that whole country is aflame with excitement.

"That is why I am going back home now, instead of spending a few months longer in the east, as I originally planned. I went to Washington in the hope of getting permission for each Indian to cut and sell the logs on two acres of each individual's land.

"Some of our men have made a proposition to us to lease the unallotted portion of our reservation. Some people believe this is the Standard Oil company. It has been decided to allot this land to three Washington tribes which have no holdings, they never having made treaties with the United States. I hope my Indian brothers will gain some benefit from the unallotted land, and I hope further that they will show good judgment in making peace treaties with the federal government.

"The Quinault tribe of Indians is credited with being among the most intelligent and industrious of the American Indians. During the time of the fearful Indian wars in the early settlement days of the Oregon territory, the Quinault tribe was always at peace with the settlers and the United States government. We have no complaint to make against the government, and all my people are well satisfied with their lot."

Why He Wears Glasses

It happened in the park one Sunday morning. Todd and Edgely were sitting there together, discussing, needless to say, the eternal and feminine question.

"Yes," said Todd, "I quite agree with you; the way women dress nowadays is positively absurd."

"It's worse than that," added Edgely. "What's more, in nine cases out of ten, their men folk are to blame."

Todd sighed.

"I suppose that is so," he remarked.

"Yes. Look at that woman coming toward us now. I'll bet you anything you like that her husband tells her she looks positively charming when she goes out in that outrageous getup, just because he hasn't the pluck to say the truth, to laugh at her, to—"

But Todd had risen to his feet; and, hat in hand, a happy smile upon his face, was awaiting the lady thus referred to. The lady was Edgely's wife!—New York Mail.

Ever Catch a Snig?

A boy was found fishing stolidly with an improvised rod and hook.

He paid no attention when spoken to, but mournfully pursued the matter in hand.

"What are you doing?" he was asked.

"Fishin' for snigs," he replied, in a lifeless voice.

"What are snigs?" said the curious spectator.

"I don't know," he replied dearily. "I've never caught one yet."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

DECLINE AND FALL OF THE STEAK

We used to smile in a superior way when we read that the roast beef of old England was raised on the cattle ranges of Montana and Texas.

Also we used to smile when we found a few years ago that the little Japanese soldier fighting the Russians in the trenches had no more substantial diet than dried fish, with a rice ball or two to help out.

But now—the department of agriculture at Washington has issued a bulletin estimating that there has been a decrease of 20 per cent in six years in the number of beef cattle in the United States. "It is evident," announces the department, "that the country is facing an era of short production of meat."

So it would be well to haul in the proportions of our smile and think deeply. It is startling, but true, that for the first time in American history the exports of animals and animal products last year fell below the imports in value. England has taken to eating Argentine cattle and Australian sheep.

What is to be done? A prominent

western packer formally advised consumers of meat a short time ago to refrain from buying veal so that the slaughter of calves might stop. If anybody pays attention to him, which is to be doubted, only a small part of the damage will be repaired. The theory that the breaking up of the great western ranges has much to do with it is not accepted by many who point out that in Great Britain, a much more congested country, there are estimated to be 120 cattle to the square mile, as compared with fewer than 31 in this country.

Every one knows that while the number of beef cattle has been decreasing so fast the price of meat has been going up. Why did higher prices fail to stimulate production?

If the tariff is taken off cattle and meat, it will scarcely increase the raising of live stock at home and is very likely to lower it still further. Meanwhile the population grows enormously.

Here is a real national problem, the solution of which is worth every pound of intelligence the government can put into it.—Baltimore News.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

ARABIC SAYING—R. L. City. The following is the Arabic as to four types of man:

The man who knows not and knows not he knows not is a fool, shun him.

The man who knows he knows not is simple, teach him.

The man who knows and knows not he knows is asleep, wake him.

The man who knows and knows that he knows is wise, follow him.

The same idea has been rendered in verse as follows:

The man who knows not that he knows ought—He is a fool; no light shall ever reach him.

Who knows he knows not and would fain be taught.

He is but simple; take thou him and teach him. But whose, knowing, knows not that he knows—He is asleep; go thou to him and wake him.

The truly wise both knows and knows he knows—Teach thou to him and nevermore forsake him.

FROM HORATIUS—S. W. The quotation to which you call attention, but which is not correctly printed in the article you allude to, is from the Latin of Horatius Flaccus in "Innocence of Life," Od. 1, 22, 1, and is

Integer vitae scelerisque purus Non eget Mauri jaculis neque arcu,

which, translated, is: The man whose life has no fear, pure from guile, needs not for defense, either Moorish javelins or bow.

LITTLE BIRDIE—F. G. H. Callista. The verses in which appear the lines

Little birdie in the tree, Little red bird in the tree,

are to be found in the "Arbor Day Manual."

THE STATE PRESS

Redding Money

Money of Redding tax payers helped build the free bridge at Anderson, which helps Anderson, and the free bridge at Balls ferry, which helps Cottonwood. Still many of the people of these two thriving towns oppose the new bridge at Redding. The bridge tax which Redding has uncomplainingly, though unlawfully, paid for a number of years would be more than sufficient to build the much needed bridge at Reid's ferry.—Redding Courier-Free Press.

Tax Payers' League for Sanger

A call is being circulated for the organization of a Tax Payers' league here, the object of which is to promote the best interests of Sanger and build up the town. This is a worthy proposition, and every enterprising and active citizen of Sanger should attend the meeting and assist in forming the organization.—Sanger News.

CADETS—A. W. B. C. Oakland. The rules governing the United States military academy at West Point say in relation to sending money to a cadet: "No cadet is permitted to receive money, or any other supplies from his parents, or from any person whatsoever, without the sanction of the superintendent. A most rigid observance of this regulation is urged upon all parents and guardians, as violations would make distinctions between cadets, which it is the especial desire to avoid. The pay of a cadet is sufficient, with proper economy, for his support. The pay is \$600 a year and one ration per day, or commutation therefor at 30 cents a day. The total is \$709.50 to commence with his admission to the academy. The cadet must keep himself supplied with certain designated articles of wear and furniture and immediately after admission candidates must be provided with an outfit of uniform, etc., the cost of which is about \$150. This sum, or at least \$100 thereof, must be deposited with the treasurer of the academy before the candidate is admitted."

LAWYERS—J. H. City. If you desire information as to whether a certain bill passed at the last session of the legislature was signed by the governor, address a letter of inquiry to the office of the secretary of state, Sacramento.

BATTING AVERAGE—B. B. C. City. To find the batting average of a baseball player divide the number of base hits by the number of times at bat.

SHARP POINTS

For Auld Lang Syne

The fact that there isn't any ambassador to Dahomey to be appointed is all that keeps Colonel Harvey from being favorably considered.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Always Present

Bring on your stant gooseberries. Here comes the silly season.—Chicago News.

Progressive Vic

Victor Murdoch is so progressive that if he starts tomorrow he will arrive yesterday.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Cubist Gowns

Cubist gowns have appeared in Paris. They give the impression of nothing at all.—Philadelphia Ledger.

One Balkan Trouble

Perhaps it's those neckties which have got Bulgaria into all this trouble.—Charleston News and Courier.