

EL PASO HERALD

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Distributing the Immigration Stream

WITH the object of inducing immigrants to pass through the seaport towns and go into the west and south, representatives of 30 or 40 railroads met in New York recently to devise a plan for distributing the human stream.

The movement is immensely important, for it suggests the only practical way of meeting this problem except through the national bureau of immigration. Under our peculiar laws it is impossible for workers to be brought into this country with specific employment promised them.

The spell of the big cities can never be broken for the majority of these people. Although they come from small villages or farms and have never been used to great cities, nevertheless the influence of a city like New York seems to bind them about and make it impossible to divert them to wider fields of opportunity.

The railroads are beginning to take a broad view of this whole problem, and they see it to their advantage to encourage in every possible way the building up and populating of the sections of this country distant from the seaports.

This movement begun by the railroads should have the heartiest cooperation of the United States government. The scope of the national bureau of immigration should be sufficiently widened to enable it to carry on a broad campaign of advertising, a campaign of education that would result gradually in sending the stream of immigrants away from the chief cities into the undeveloped regions of the south and west, where labor is at a premium and where opportunities for self advancement are limitless.

Within 50 miles of the center of Manhattan island dwell 7,500,000 people, or one-twelfth of the population of the United States. This is an average of 1000 persons to the square mile; if El Paso country were populated to the same degree of density, El Paso country would have 10,000,000 population.

The commissioner of the national bureau of labor, reporting upon the telephone industry, gives the average requirements for telephone exchange operators as stated by the companies as follows: "The companies require of the candidates a calm, clear eye, a good appetite, and a rosy complexion; also that they shall have a steady hand and a firm set jaw, also that they shall not be easily excitable."

The Secretary Can If He Will

A NEW plan has been devised by the engineers of the reclamation service to expedite work on the Elephant Butte dam. Under the former plan it would have been necessary to excavate to bed rock about 70 feet in depth a ditch 200 feet wide and 400 feet long before beginning work on the foundations of the dam.

Under the revised plan, it will be possible to excavate only a narrow ditch across the river and build a low dam, to reach about 40 feet above the bed of the river. The water once being stopped and the underflow controlled, it would then be possible to make the additional excavations on the down stream side of the dam and finish the big dam more leisurely with no danger of ruination in time of flood.

The reclamation service estimates that the smaller dam could be finished by the end of next year and the stored water in moderate quantity be made available for the farmers in this valley, if \$1,500,000 in addition to the funds now in hand could be made available for expenditure between now and July 1, 1911.

There is money in the reclamation fund to do this work if the secretary of the interior, Mr. Ballinger, wills it. The secretary has the sole power and is solely responsible, and all that is necessary is for him to affix his signature to an order apportioning this additional \$1,500,000 to the Rio Grande project.

Rapid progress of work on the Rio Grande project right now depends more than all else upon the activity of Mexico in requesting that the treaty obligations be carried out to the letter without further delay. A strong delegation from this valley to Washington within the next month or two might also help greatly.

France is already beginning to be afraid of her airships. It is feared that anarchists may rise and fly in the night and drop explosives into the forts and upon public buildings. The danger is not so remote as it appears at first thought. Within 10 years aeroplanes will be a common sight in the air everywhere.

Making Use Of Cloudcroft

THE improvements that are being made at Cloudcroft this year will make it one of the most delightful and well conducted resorts in the west. The site selected for the new \$100,000 hotel is very greatly superior to the old site, because it is on high ground with a wonderful view. An extensive sewerage system is being put in, and sanitary regulations will be strictly enforced during the season.

It would be a good plan both for the higher success of the resort and for the pleasure and profit of El Paso people, if every family having a cottage there would make it a point to spend at least one month at Cloudcroft, even though a trip be taken afterwards to California or the east. Cloudcroft ought to be a sort of summer capital for El Paso, and a few weeks of each summer ought to be spent there, even if the balance of the vacation be taken elsewhere.

Cloudcroft belongs to the whole southwest. The people of eastern Texas and of Arizona and New Mexico will receive benefit from it, but its chief support should come from El Pasoans, for it is in fact our "roof garden."

UNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

FOR fifty years I've gathered gold, and made it yield a hundred fold. I have controlled the world's supply of vegetable whiskers dye; in every hamlet in the land where whiskers dye is in demand, I've had my agents, all alert, for any sort of tricks or dirt.

and stark; they gather round me in the dark; they point their fleshless hands, and cry: "A ghoul through a needle's eye can quicker leap than you can rise, with all your plume to the skies!" I hear that weird refrain all day; and so I'll give my wealth away, I'm near the ending of the road, and so I'll hasten to unload; and then, perhaps, the last milepost won't find me walking with the ghosts!

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When John Sharp Goes To the U. S. Senate

Washington, D. C., March 28.—"I am anxious to see John Sharp Williams in action when he reaches the United States senate," said a prominent member of the house today. "I suspect that he is down home at his plantation in Mississippi schooling himself up for his new job in 1911, but I am not certain that he will be able to forget his old tricks."

Whenever he had anything to say, he stepped out into the aisle and started to walk down toward the speaker's desk, shaking his finger as he walked and raising his voice at each step. By the time he reached the desk every one knew that the Republican party was getting an unmerciful tongue lashing.

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14 Years Ago Today Plans Made For Morehouse Block. Copper Boom Is Expected.

Everyone in this section is talking of the copper boom that is about to result from the erection of the new smelter here.

Col. Masten, chief engineer of the Gulf, Rio Grande and Pacific railroad, and Col. R. M. Moore, ex-special agent of the treasury department, left this morning in a wagon for a long ride from Juarez to Batopilas, over the proposed route of the new railroad.

The United States court docket will show about 25 civil and 50 criminal cases for Judge Macey to dispose of, when he convenes court April 6.

W. A. Morehouse plans to erect a modern office building on the corner of Oregon and Texas streets, to cost \$25,000. The building will have a frontage of 100 feet on Texas street and 92 feet on Oregon street.

The collector's deputies seized 62 head of cattle at Deming yesterday and six head at Ysleta this morning. The cattle had been smuggled over and the owners are unknown.

F. Van Vleet of Monterey, Mex., is being sought by the police. The man is wanted for a robbery.

With The Exchanges

EL PASO'S FIRE AUTO. From Big Springs (Texas) Enterprise. The El Paso Herald says they've got an automobile fire apparatus there now, and are getting as cheery as Big Springs.

EL PASO'S CRUSADE. From Galveston (Texas) Tribune. The crusade against smuggling at El Paso is taking on goodly proportions and maybe there are some of the crooks who are not getting caught.

GET IN LINE. From Mesa (Ariz.) Free Press. El Paso has a volunteer census club, the duty of members being to see that the enumerators count every one. Mesa might follow this example with profit.

WEST TEXAS HOMES. From Colorado (Texas) Record. If west Texas realizes on the present crop prospects, the influx of people to this section next fall will break all records. Inquiries for lands, both in large bodies and small farms are coming from the east, to all realty agents.

FRUITS OF LABOR. From Santa Fe (N. M.) New Mexican. The scientific farmer who worked during the winter and spring months to store by proper cultivation the moisture

The Comedie Francaise

Some of the Great Artists It Has Produced.

LOUIS XIV. and Napoleon had not lived and the Comedie Francaise had not been created by royal decree, there would not be much of historical interest in France, the remark an American tourist a short time ago upon his return from Paris.

While the generalization is extravagant, it is a fact that the names of these two great rulers and of this powerful dramatic organization are more closely associated in the public mind with the French nation than any other array of personages or group of institutions.

The Comedie Francaise occupies a place of preeminence in the world of dramatic art, and has maintained the position almost since its creation by Louis XIV. when he decreed that the three great theatrical organizations—King's company, Moliere's company of the Marais theatre and the Royal company—should combine in 1680. It is practically the only royal institution of France which survived the revolution.

Napoleon gave it a new home and revived it by his decree from Moscow in 1812. Its handsome theater, a treasure house of records, was burned in 1870 and rebuilt with a government appropriation.

It is governed in a most peculiar manner. In fact, no one seems to know exactly what its code is. Its laws are rather a common law, which has grown out of custom. When a promising young student graduates from the conservatory, the national training school for actors, he may be employed at a yearly salary to play minor roles. After he has been in the employ of the theater for several years, shows aptitude, and there is finally a vacancy either through death or retirement, he is elected one of the "associates."

As an associate he shares in the annual profits of the institution, which are sometimes considerable, as the institution receives an annual subsidy of 50,000 francs from the government, and in addition receives the theater free of rent and taxes.

One of the best features of the organization is that actors cast for minor parts do not quit in disgust. They know that while they may be playing the part of maids and men servants today, tomorrow they may be cast for principal roles, as one play is seldom given more than two days in succession and three days a week for the same play is the limit. By this means of rotating the actors and actresses the ensemble excellence of the casts is made every finest in the world.

Another reason why actors do not complain of appearing in minor roles is that they are given a small extra stipend for every performance in which they take part. There is no laziness or "temp-tation" when an actor has grown too old to do capable work he is retired on a pension. In the division of the annual profits the actors are ranked according to length of service.

One of the features of the Comedie Francaise which strikes Americans most forcibly is its uncompromising attitude in opposition to the "starring" system, which is such an integral part of the stage in both England and America. And this antipathy to "stars" is well founded at the Comedie, for its one experience in that direction was fraught with much artistic and financial distress.

The single exception was the great Rachel, who packed the theater to the doors every night that she appeared, bringing into the box office 10,000 francs upon each appearance, all of which went into her own pockets. On the nights which the star did not appear, however, the theater was practically empty. On one occasion it is recorded that "Tartuffe" and "L'Ecce Homo," the two masterpieces of Moliere and Marivaux, were produced without the star and the receipts were 67 francs, or \$110.

But Rachel had been elevated to the position of a star because in the opinion of her associates she was the greatest actress in the history of the world. One critic, Mr. Lewis, described her thus: "Rachel was the panther of the stage, with a panther's terrible beauty and undulating grace, she moved and stood, glared and sprang."

Discovered by Americans. It is not generally known that the honor of discovering the great artist belongs to an American. When Edwin Forrest was in Europe in 1834 and 1835 he was asked by the manager of a Paris theater to give his opinion of an actor who he had just seen in a play. At the conclusion of the performance Forrest said he thought the man only mediocre, but he added, "But that Jewish looking girl, that little bag of bones, with the marble face and the flaming eyes here is a real star. If she lives and does not burn out in a year she will become something wonderful."

And it was not long before the "bag of bones" artist, by the way, was long of work before she reached the top. M. Legouve, the author of "Adrienne Lecouvreur," relates that on one occasion she worked with him for three hours in the part of the heroine in "Louise de Lignerolles."

Another of the greatest names associated with the Comedie Francaise was Mlle. Mars, who, unfortunately for her sensibilities, tried to reign too long as the mistress of her art. She continued to appear in the roles of heroines long after she had passed the half century mark, and one night a heartless brute threw a wreath of immortelles upon the stage at her feet, and shortly after this incident she was hissed and had to come before the footlights to make a pathetic apology. Mlle. Mars (her part in the play) is only 16 years old. Mlle. Mars, alas! is 60.

Mme. Plessy in Tragedy. Next to Mlle. Mars and Rachel, the comedie gave to the French people that wonderful comedienne, Mme. Arnould-Plessy, of whom the following amusing story is told. Mme. Plessy having achieved every possible honor in comedy parts, yearned with her laurels as a tragedienne, and so she enacted the role of Agrippina in Racine's "Britannicus." At that time Françoise Sorey, the greatest dramatic critic of France, was living, and in his review a few days later he wrote: "I shall not say that Mme. Plessy is mediocre. With her immense authority over the public, she could not in any way be mediocre. She is not, therefore, mediocritically bad. She is bad to an inexpressible degree."

A few days later he was calling at a friend's house, and seeing Mme. Plessy in the drawing room, he tried to hide behind a palm, but she came straight toward him, and holding out her hand, said: "You are right; you might have told the truth more amably, but it was the truth. I shall not again risk myself in a tragic part. I thank you." And with a bow, she walked away, leaving Sorey stupefied.

Go's First Appearance. All celebrities of the comedie have not received adverse criticism. Sorey, the good grace, however, as witness the case of M. Got, the immediate predecessor of the lamented Coquelin, as the head of the national company. Got's first appearance as a member of the company was a pitiful failure, and two days later he read a scathing criticism by Charles Maurice, a clever free lance, who, if he were living today, would describe his press agent of the most virulent type.

On the night after Got read the article he met Maurice and the latter said: "Well, young man, why have you not been to see me? In France, it is customary for an artist to call on a writer to thank him for kind or unkind criticism with the sting of the review still rankling in his breast, replied: 'The fact is, sir, I am poor and I have no money to forgive the critique. The journalist never forgave the actor. He was ever after that Got's bitterest enemy.'

Another "bag of bones with a Jewish look," who has added lustre to the comedie is the incomparable Sarah Bernhardt, whose final enrolment under the banner of the institution was accomplished only after great difficulty. Even the youthful Sarah's education was gained only after many trials, for she was expelled four times from a convent. She is such a finished actress, of course, capturing many prizes, she was undecided whether she wanted to be a nun or an actress.

She finally decided on the latter profession and entered the conservatory. The director of the Theater Francaise, in due time, but she was of such an obstreperous disposition that she had to leave after having slapped the face of one of the principal players. She became quite an eccentric personality and acquired a great difficulty, even the most important theaters of Paris.

She early showed a remarkable genius for the press agency end of her art, and she was the most talked of woman in Paris, even before she was renegeaded at the comedie, where she won distinction in spite of the fact that all the older members were antagonistic to her. She was aided in her fight for pre-eminence by the fact that she had an extremely thin figure, while her chief adversary was inclined toward embonpoint, which precluded the effective enactment of poetic roles.

Coquelin's Work. The last of the really great figures of the Comedie Francaise died only a short time ago at the moment when he was about to achieve a triumph in the title role of Edmond Rostand's latest play, "Chantecler"—Coquelin, sine. Coquelin's engagement at the comedie was attended with an unusual incident. After graduating at the Conservatory, with first honor, he was assigned a part in a new play, but his joy was of short duration, for it was soon taken away from him and given to the son of an old actor.

To console the young Coquelin, the manager offered him the privilege of choosing any part he wished, and he selected the valet Figaro in "Marriage of Figaro." It is said that during the first four acts he was so frightened he played most stupidly, but in the last act, having regained his nerve, he achieved such a notable triumph that he was for many years cast for all the important valet parts in Moliere's great comedies, in which serving men have the center of the stage.

FARMINGTON PLANS BETTER ROADS

Election to Be Held April 5 to Decide the Liquor Question.

Farmington, N. M., March 28.—Active measures are underway to open a first class public thoroughfare from Farmington west, down the San Juan river to the "hog back," a distance of some 25 miles. Roads generally in the county are in indifferent condition, the fact brings much complaint from motorists.

Miss Hattie Locke, of Farmington, and Homer Norton, of Antoino, Colorado, were married at the latter place. The old Farmington brass band is re-organized and rechristened the "1910 band" and starts out with splendid prospects.

The Modern Woodmen gave a minstrel show to a packed house. Apricot trees are out in full bloom, while many peach trees are decorated with blossoms.

J. C. Strawn, one of the station masters long in the service of the D. & R. G. railroad, has retired from active service and is building a home in Farmington where he will reside permanently.

On Tuesday, April 5, will be held a city election, the main issue in which will be "wet or dry" and much local interest is manifested.

A declamatory contest will be held at the public school building on April 2 and \$10 prize awarded by Prof. L. M. McGrett. These contests are held annually.

The San Juan County Realty Dealers Association is the name given a new organization formed at a meeting of all dealers of the county held here. The object is to boost San Juan county.

J. F. McCully of Antonito, Colo., succeeds J. M. Strawn as local agent of the D. & R. G. road.

Postmaster Fay, finding the business of the local office increasing so rapidly, has doubled the capacity of his box rental accommodations.

AMUSEMENTS

"THE PRINCE OF TONIGHT." Direct from its 200 night triumph, "The Prince of Tonight," which Henry Woodruff as the mythical prince, will be seen at the El Paso theater, matinee and night, on April 1. "The Prince of Tonight" is the joint effort of those well known authors, Adams and Hough, and the music is by Joseph E. Howard. Mort H. Singer has spared no expense in mounting the play, and it is declared that everything that money and brains could devise to make a play attractive has been done. The company is a large one, consisting of over 60 people, among whom are Miss Ruth Peebles, Margaret McBride, Mrs. Jos. Herbert, Jr., and Arthur Appleton, Lew Lawson, Jos. Herbert, Jr., and the famous American beauty chorus from the Princess theater, Chicago.

Seats are now selling at the Crawford theater. The box office is open from 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. All reservations of season seats must be paid for by Wednesday morning, or they will be put on sale, owing to the demand for seats.

CRAWFORD CLOSURE. The Crawford theater closed for the season last night. Before it opens next season, probably with vaudeville, the front will be made on the plaza instead of where it is now—on Mesa avenue.

TO TAKE COMPANY TO TUCSON. Frank Rich left today for Tucson, where he has made arrangements to place his Majestic show for a season. The show, which was a success in El Paso, will give way to a new one after this week, and will go to Tucson for an indefinite run.

MISS DELACOURT IN BISBEE. "Babe" in Toyland," which Genevieve DeLaCour joined in El Paso principal, closed in Los Angeles, Cal., and Miss DeLaCour is now in Bisbee filling an engagement.

FELIX MARTINEZ ADDRESSES THE STRANGERS CLUB. "The Ideal of the Races in Comparison With the American," was the subject discussed by Felix Martinez at the meeting of the Strangers' club at the Carnegie library Sunday afternoon.

The salient facts relative to numerous races beginning with the Romans' idea of discipline, were considered, as well as the Etruscans' idea of religion, and the features marking the early history of the English, German, French and Spanish monarchies. The hospitality extended by the Mexican race was also referred to at considerable length.

The American race, however, Mr. Martinez stated, was the best of all and has the best principles. It was stated to be more cosmopolitan and more alive to existing conditions. The generosity of the American race was also praised.

The only menace was stated to be the possible acquisition of too much power, which resulted disastrously to the Romans, and which the speaker also stated has been true in reference to other races.

Get a pair of goggles and you can face the high wind. El Paso Optical company has all kinds.

GLOBE SEEKS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FOR CITY. Globe, Ariz., March 28.—An economical business administration, regardless of expense, this will be the chief plank in the platform of the non-partisan ticket which will be placed in the field for the coming city election, according to the statement of one of the leaders in the non-partisan movement.

There will be other planks, probably one dealing with local option, but none other has been made public. Although considerable discussion has been had regarding the personnel of the ticket, only a few of the candidates have been definitely selected. One of them is Charley Wilde who will be the candidate for city marshal and another is J. W. Frye for alderman from the fifth ward whose nomination petition was thrown out by the city council.

The leaders hope to get William Ryan to consent to have his name go on the head of the ticket as the non-partisan candidate for mayor, but Mr. Ryan has not as yet given his consent.

DENIED CHANGE OF VENUE. Globe, Ariz., March 28.—J. C. Phillips has been denied a change of venue by Judge W. E. Lewis in the district court and another effort will be made to have the trial held elsewhere, according to the statement in court of the defendant's attorney, Judge Nave. Judge Lewis's session (Saturday) to Phoenix to attend the session of the supreme court and there will be no further sessions until after the return of Judge Lewis from Solomonville, where he will hold court for Graham county, beginning the first week in April.

You can face the sand storms if you have goggles. Segall has them at all prices.

LETTERS To the HERALD

(All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the name will not be published where such request is made.)

FAVORS SATURDAY HOLIDAY. Mexico City, Mex., March 23, 1910. Editor El Paso Herald: I have read in The Herald that the question of Saturday closing is again to the front. What is the matter with El Paso? There should be no reluctance on the part of the business men. It is a most benevolent movement; all concerned will be both morally and physically benefited by the adoption of such a rule. No possible loss can accrue to anyone in the majority rule. Surely by the majority of the business men and working men of El Paso will approve.

We have Saturday closing in Mexico and other cities of much greater commercial importance in various parts of the world. It works well. Some real-estate spirits are ill at ease when idle, and oppose such movements, apparently on the principle of "business is the devil's opportunity." It is not so in this case. Imagine for a moment that the amassing of money is not the sole end and aim of human existence. Relax the nervous strain, just break away from the cares of business. You are making no sacrifice; you are the gainer. I predict that the Missionary union

will win. I have yet to see any valid objection. Experience by other larger and more important communities; it is the possible argument, in support of such a movement. Very truly, W. E. Barnes.

BICKNELL RESIGNS FROM COMMISSION Railroad Man to Quit Arizona and Go to San Francisco. Globe, Ariz., March 28.—M. O. Bicknell, the railroad expert, member of the territorial railroad commission, has tendered his resignation to Governor Sloan to become effective on April 1. Mr. Bicknell also is chairman of the commission.

The first news of Mr. Bicknell's resignation from the commission, was received in a letter by commissioner George J. Stoneman of this city requesting his attendance at a meeting of the commission on March 31 to transact business necessitated by chairman Bicknell's resignation.

Mr. Bicknell, who was formerly general freight and passenger agent for the Randolfe lines, quits the commission to accept the chairmanship of the Transcontinental Ship Bureau at San Francisco. He has been chairman of the commission since the resignation of Sims Ely last year.

AD BY PHONE. Call Bell 115, Auto 1115, tell what you wish to buy, sell or rent and The Herald will do the rest.