

Fifteen thousand horses will be worked to death in two years to get new San Francisco ready for the painters! Read this unusual article in

The Sunday Call

THE CALL

"What Delmas Has Done to Jerome." Here is an intimate story of the Thaw trial, which every Californian will find of intense interest. See it in

The Sunday Call

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SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1907.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Mayor Schmitz Offers Confession for Promise of Immunity Thirteen Indictments Voted Against Abram K. Detwiler

SHOUT OF JOY GOES UP ALONG THE SACRAMENTO

River Begins to Subside
After Great Breaks in
Two Islands

WORST HAS PASSED
Rich Farms Sacrificed, but
Widespread Disaster
Is Averted

AID FOR HOMELESS

Boat to Be Sent to Relief
of Those Who Were
Flooded Out

SACRAMENTO, March 22.—A sigh of relief went up from the down-river districts all the way from Courtland to Isleton tonight when Sherman and Twitchell Island went under and the water began to fall above, lessening the strain on the levees. All points reported the water both in the river and in the overflow as dropping and the dispatches received were of a most optimistic nature. The belief was generally expressed that the worst was over; that the levees not already broken would hold and that the districts not already flooded were safe and that the river would soon subside to its normal stage.

While the river was falling rapidly late tonight, it was at down-river points still from one to two feet higher than ever before known, and all places where levees are at all likely to break are more zealously guarded than ever now that there is every hope of saving the lands thus far successfully protected.

Farther south, however, conditions are far different, with the fertile acres of Sherman and Twitchell islands under several feet of water. There are many breaks in the levees of both islands. The flood waters are now rushing over rich farming lands.

Many distressing scenes are being witnessed along the lower stretches of the river. Men, women and children, to say nothing of horses, cattle and sheep, have taken to the levees for protection from the flood in many places and are in precarious positions. So appalling is their condition that Governor Gillett has authorized Alden Anderson, president of the Chamber of Commerce, to dispatch a boat to the relief of those who are marooned on the islands and levees, and at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning the swift river steamer Fruto will start on a mission of relief and rescue.

In Yolo County the water has risen high over the Lisbon and Glide districts, where the levees broke early this morning. There is a new break at Bryan's Landing 250 feet wide, and the whole country around is rapidly filling up.

Down on the San Joaquin River Union Island and Clifton Court, a rich district of 4000 acres, are under water.

SUNSHINE AT STOCKTON

Flood Waters Have Receded and
Pumps Are Busy

STOCKTON, March 22.—The water is receding in all directions and normal conditions are rapidly being established throughout the city.

Today the sun was shining and everything wore a cheerful aspect. Except for a small portion of the city in line with the escaping fuel oil, Stockton was never cleaner than it was today. The flood waters swept away all the mud that had accumulated during the particularly severe winter.

Gas engines were operating centrifugal pumps on all sides and flooded basements were speedily cleared of the flood waters.

LONG ROUTE TO CITY

Portland Trains Sent Via Ogden to
San Francisco

PORTLAND, March 22.—Train communication has been re-established between Portland and San Francisco, but instead of traveling direct via the Southern Pacific Railroad passengers

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Death of Juliet Crosby, talented actress, closely followed by sudden passing of M. E. Mayor of the Alaskan. Page 8

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Sister of Oakland's Mayor fights fire successfully in the family residence. Page 7

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Many prominent men and women attend reception in Berkeley to Nicholas Murray Butler and wife. Page 6

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Breaking of levees on Sherman and Twitchell islands lower flood in Sacramento River and general anxiety is relieved. Great storm rages in Northern California and shortage of provisions threatened. Rail communication between Sacramento and Oakland re-established by way of Tracy and Stockton. Two trains are started East. Page 1

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Place Your
Want Ads

FOR THE

Sunday Call

THIS MORNING

Send them to Main Office
or through Branch Offices—
or telephone them.

Day's Important Developments in the Local Graft Situation

1. Mayor Schmitz offers to confess if granted full immunity and allowed to remain in office.
2. Thirteen indictments voted against Abram K. Detwiler, Ohio capitalist, for bribing Supervisors for Home Telephone Company.
3. Citizens' committee to be formed to supervise city government. The Mayor to be ousted from office.
4. Ruef refused to deal with Supervisors individually, insisting that Gallagher distribute the bribe money.
5. Confessions of members of the Board of Supervisors cover only four of deals in which they participated.
6. James D. Phelan tells of how Mayor attempted to turn relief millions over to hoodling Supervisors.

Cleaning the City



Home Telephone Capitalist Skips Company's Handy Man in the Graft Net

When the seventy-five indictments against Ruef and Theodore V. Halsey were returned by the Grand Jury Wednesday afternoon there were thirteen others which had been voted, but which were not returned. These thirteen true bills are against Abram K. Detwiler, a rich Ohio man, who bears the same relation of outside agent to the Home Telephone Company that Theodore V. Halsey bears to the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company.

These indictments were not returned because Detwiler cannot be found. Every effort has been made by the prosecution to locate him, but so far without success, and Detective Burns is of the opinion that he has decamped.

Detwiler, according to the confessions of the thirteen Supervisors who received money for their votes favoring the granting of the Home Telephone Company's franchise, was the man who paid the \$62,000, through Ruef, into their hands. The evidence against the Ohio capitalist is considered by Heney and the grand jurors to be conclusive of his guilt and sufficient for conviction.

It had been intended by the graft prosecutors that all of the eighty-eight indictments which were found should be returned at the same time Wednesday, but at the last moment those against Detwiler were withheld for the reason that he had not been located, and only the sixty-five against Ruef and ten against Halsey were placed on file. These are the only indictments that were voted by the Grand Jury prior to its report on Wednesday, the investigations of the other bribery cases not having reached the point where indictments could be directed over Ruef's head.

Detwiler is a capitalist of Toledo, Ohio, and one of the incorporators of the Home Telephone Company. Although not publicly known as an active official of the company, he has been closely identified with its various deals, secretly holding the position of "outside man" with duties of the same shady nature to perform as those which led to the finding of the indictments against Halsey. Prior to and at the time of the passage of the Home Telephone Company's franchise through the local Board of Supervisors he made several trips to San Francisco from Los Angeles, and was in and around this city much of the time.

Body of Citizens to Take Control Supervisors Ordered to Oust Mayor

The city government of San Francisco is to be supervised by a citizens' committee, if the plans of Assistant District Attorney Heney and other representative men of the city are regarded with favor by the people. The intention is to render impossible a repetition of the recent carnival of graft. The citizens' committee is to be in reality a people's lobby. In order to make its work more effectual the intention is to make it a regularly incorporated body. It will place a representative in every municipal office, who will act as a sort of auditor of accounts. Any discrepancy or irregularity will be noted and reported, and the official called to account. A representative will attend every meeting of the Board of Supervisors and will investigate its acts. The record of every man who appears as a candidate for office will be made public. The national administration has offered to co-operate with the local reformers, and Secretary Straus of the Department of Commerce and Labor is assisting the movement. No chairman has been chosen for the citizens' committee, but Rudolph Spreckels has been urged to accept the position.

The citizens' committee, immediately after its organization, will proceed to map out a programme for the reconstruction of the city. One of the first acts will be the adoption of a general scheme for street improvements. The last vestiges of the April fire will be removed and the thoroughfares of the city cleaned and paved. This is considered one of the primary needs of the municipality. Plans for other civic improvements will be outlined and held in readiness. The way will be prepared for the speedy reconstruction of San Francisco. Question after question will be taken up. The sanitary needs of the city, the gambling problem, the saloon question, will each be considered in turn. There is no desire to make San Francisco a Puritan town, but the widespread ramifications of municipal dishonesty will necessitate a civic housecleaning from cellar to garret.

As preliminary steps toward the consummation of the programme, the present Board of Supervisors is to be retained in office for a time. It will act as directed by the District Attorney's office. This is considered necessary to a successful outcome of the project. The Supervisors will be obedient. On that score there can be no doubt.

Boldly Requests He Be Kept in Office, Terms of Surrender Rejected

Schmitz has offered to confess. The Mayor whose "history began on April 18" is willing to furnish Heney and Burns with a full account of that history to date.

Yesterday afternoon an emissary from Eugene E. Schmitz was closeted with the officers of the graft prosecution. He came with terms of surrender.

The terms were rejected. "Of course I am not vested with authority in this matter," explained the cautious emissary. "One must be discreet in such affairs of state. It is a time to be cautious—very cautious."

The emissary was met with encouraging smiles and told to proceed.

"What I want to know," he said, "is whether you fellows will let Schmitz serve out his term as Mayor if he will tell what he knows?"

There was a silence, which the emissary interpreted to be encouraging.

"If he gives you the name of every man who has come through with boodle—I mean, with the amounts?"

"Of course I have no authority, myself, but if you are willing to do business on those terms Mr. — will see you and arrange for everything."

The Call is not at liberty to disclose the name of the individual who was named as go-between, with authority. He is a man who holds no office under the present administration and is not known as an administration man. When his name is published it will be a surprise.

The emissary paused and listened earnestly for an answer.

He was politely informed that the prosecution was not able to discover any merit in the proposition. He was shown the door.

The news that Schmitz was willing to turn State's evidence, and duplicate the performance of the Supervisors, did not come as a surprise. Schmitz is the only one surprised in the matter. He imagined that he could purchase immunity—even be allowed to strut out his term in office—perhaps settle other international difficulties with Theodore Roosevelt—if he said the word that would put a few of his millionaire business associates in San Quentin. But he can't.

The prosecution holds that it is fully furnished with evidence against the men who paid Schmitz and Ruef when these two sold the city to the United Railroads, the telephone companies and whatever other corporations felt inclined to take the risk of buying a Mayor who would turn against them to save himself.

Schmitz one time sought to break into society. Very soon he will experience the full fruition of his desire. He will be locked up with a very respectable portion of society. They will all look very much alike.

The man who had a brilliant opportunity as labor's Mayor to make an honorable name for himself and his posterity has come to the end of the chapter. Like a rat in a hole he squeals and is willing to bite.

No Mayor of San Francisco was ever so praised through the country. In the East they took his second re-election as a remarkable personal triumph. After the fire he had a chance that comes to few men to make a record of honor that would not soon be forgotten.