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Interesting Report of Important Up-to-Date News Items in Alameda County

NEED OF AN EARTHQUAKE

Should the City Hall Be Destroyed a New One Might Be Built.

THE EFFECT OF PADEREWSKI.

Oakland's Saturday Night Audience Was Completely Won by the Musician.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, Feb. 23.

If such an old rattletrap of a building as the City Hall existed at Milpitas it would be at once condemned as unfit to cumber the ground in that thriving community. It has stood in the center of Oakland for about eighteen years, since a large portion of it was destroyed by fire, and when Mayors of other cities come here Mayor Davie is expected to invite admiration of Oakland's municipal pile. The latest proof of its uselessness was made manifest yesterday. Two prisoners became tired of restraint and some of the spirit of the hero of the day being yet unstified in their thievish breasts they decided to regain their liberty. They did not experience much difficulty in getting out. They looked for the part of the prison walls that required the least exertion to remove and then they walked out. Had they made their exit past the Chief's office and salaamed to him as they retired from incarceration there might be some ground of complaint against the department. But as they walked out through a wall the remedy must be looked for elsewhere.

The police force is far too small to establish a cordon around the walls of the City Hall to intercept fugitives who take advantage of its weakness and decay, so that the example of yesterday's escapes is likely to be generously followed. Only a few weeks ago two boys did the same thing. In their case they pushed the top off their cell and walked out with the boarders who had been accommodated at the prison during the night. The City Treasurer has to deposit his money in a bank vault, because it is feared that if a safe were built in his office it would tumble through into the prison. The City Engineer cannot be accommodated in the building, but he can be found a couple of blocks away in a private block. Any property-owner who wishes to look at plans for sewer improvements or at street surveys, which business naturally lies between the street department and the Engineer's office, can probably get all the information he needs if he has a whole day to spare. Notwithstanding all these deplorable inconveniences, not to mention the rat-in-a-trap experience that would be the lot of prisoners in case of fire, all efforts looking toward the erection of a new building have met with disfavor. An earthquake seems to be the only hope of making possible a new City Hall for Oakland.

The ladies who edited the Washington's birthday edition of the Enquirer made an innovation. They dispensed with the "society" page. This was not because the editresses, belonging more to the practical set than the so-called social set, considered the page as toadying to human weakness, but because no member of the staff was found with enough courage to accept the social assignment. There were seven ladies on the staff and as nearly as can be ascertained each had the support of six for the position of society editor. At the earlier meeting of the staff the value of the social column was extolled and the beneficiaries of the special edition expected hundreds of nickels from the sale of papers on account of it. Toward the time of publication the enthusiasm regarding the important detail waned and with a keen eye to business it was finally decided to dispense with it altogether.

Then the secret came out. There was a division of opinion in the council as to which of the social sets of the community should be given the prominence. There are sets and sets in this city and to array one against the other would be to destroy the prospects of street sales. So the social page did not appear for the first time in any paper edited by women, and it was as acceptable on Oak street as on Jackson and Lake.

The great amount of interest shown in yesterday's celebrations prove that the present controversy that is being carried on by exponents of different religious and political faiths is producing good. It is inducing a display of patriotism that was not previously noticed. In Oakland tens of thousands of people considered it incumbent on them to show that no matter what their creed may be, their patriotism is of the right kind. Nothing was seen anywhere but the stars and stripes, and they were seen everywhere. No matter under whose auspices any celebration was held, the text was "George Washington," and there was an evident effort to show that on that common ground all were in harmony. The same spirit has been noticeable in many business enterprises throughout the city.

General Thompson and the famous battle-flag that he carried were a great feature in yesterday's parade.

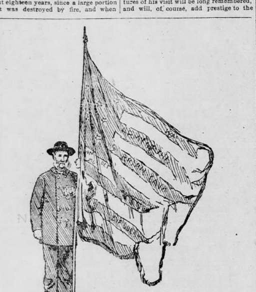
Paderewski was at the Macdonough last night, and an audience representing about $4000 in admission fees listened to his playing.

The people in the audience applauded when he played and they applauded when he bowed. If the applause after a bow was of long duration the mechanical bend of the be-haired head was repeated.

Continued applause after playing never brought the player back, so on several occasions the audience compromised on a bow and a wave of what appeared six rows away like a chrysanthemum.

The Macdonough audience went away satisfied. They had heard the great Pole and had seen his hair, and these two features of his visit will be long remembered, and will, of course, add prestige to the small army of teachers who went to hear him and to be seen at the concert.

S. W. B.



General D. W. C. Thompson, Commander of the Celebrated "California Cavalry Battalion" and the "California One Hundred," Carrying the Tattered Flag That Was Borne on Fifty-two Battle-Fields.

[From a photograph taken for "The "Call."]

THE ALAMEDA YACHTSMEN

Members of the Encinal Club Well Settled in the New House.

Executors Searching for the Will of Captain Morse, Who Left a $100,000 Estate.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Feb. 23.—The Encinal Yacht Club's closing party for the winter has taken place, under auspices more favorable than any preceding it. The new clubroom had been entirely completed and things were well settled down in it, so that the club was better able to entertain its friends than ever before. Although none of the yachts have as yet been brought down from their anchorage, there is as much life at the boathouse as in the middle of the season. The new clubhouse, with its bowling alleys, pool and billiard tables and shuffle-board, has proven to be immensely popular. It is quite the fashion for members and their wives or lady friends to congregate there in parties on evenings and holidays and bowl tenpins. It is even the vogue for members to give little suppers at their homes and retire thereafter to the clubrooms and pass a pleasant hour at billiards or bowling. The new clubhouse was a distinct success, and bids fair to bring the Encinal Club into much greater favor than it already enjoyed.

Morse's Estate.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Feb. 23.—George E. Plummer, named in conjunction with Clark Blethen and C. C. Blethen as executor of the will of the late Captain A. H. Morse, has obtained an order from the court authorizing him to search decedent's box in the California Safe Deposit vault, where the will is deposited. Deceased leaves no family of his own, and his estate, estimated at $100,000, will go to sisters and nieces. Captain Morse was for twenty-five years, during the flush times, the captain of a river steamer in Chinese waters, retiring six years ago and building a fine home in Alameda, where he ended his days.

Lecture on Civil Government.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Feb. 23.—Rev. William M. Lane of Christ Church will lecture for the Political Economy Club this evening at 8 o'clock in Tucker's Hall, corner of Park street and Santa Clara avenue. Subject: "Civil Government a Sacred Trust From God." All are invited to attend.

Miscellaneous Notes.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Feb. 23.—The father of W. J. Hynes, a popular entertainer, who was prominently on the programme for the patriotic entertainment given by Council 24, Y. M. I., died at his home in San Francisco last Saturday, and it was therefore impossible for the son to appear. A large audience was disappointed.

The Alameda Cyclers are elated over the fact that one of their men, Frank G. Thomas, was third in the 25-mile road race last Saturday.

The Political Equality Club has secured the services of Rev. Mr. Lane for to-morrow (Monday) evening, who will lecture on "Civil Government, a Sacred Trust from God." The regular session will be held in the afternoon, commencing at 2 o'clock.

A. de Santos will have his preliminary hearing on a charge of assaulting a little girl, on Wednesday next.

C. A. Nissen was badly hurt at the relay race Saturday. He was thrown from his wheel on the first lap and did not get up until assistance came.

The active Canadian militia, on its present peace footing, consists of 1987 cavalry, 1440 field artillery, 2342 garrison artillery, 243 engineers and 31,388 infantry, giving a total of 37,400 men, all of whom are taken from the first class.

THOMPSON MAKES REPLY.

He Resents Director Blinn's Remarks About Lyon Post.

VETERANS ARE OUT FOR WAR.

The Struggle Will Probably Be Protracted to the Next Encampment.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, Feb. 23.

The war among the veteran soldiers shows no sign of coming to an end. The skirmishing of Director Blinn of the Yountville Home has met with a counter-fire from General Thompson of this city. The general resents the statement that the resolutions passed by Lyon Post were instigated by him and were passed by a small attendance.

"The resolutions were unanimously passed at a regular meeting," said General Thompson to-night, "and if the directors only just now realize that their actions are unpopular they must have very little knowledge of the state of public opinion."

The general was shown the interview with Director Blinn and asked what he had to say about it. He replied:

"Director Charles H. Blinn of the Veterans' Home, in an interview published in to-day's CALL, talks about Commander Wilson placing under arrest and court-martialing all of Lyon Post No. 8, G. A. R., of Oakland, for unanimously passing some resolutions to have the mismanagement of the directors of the Veterans' Home investigated. Why does not Commander Wilson arrest and court-martial all of George H. Thomas Post No. 2 for passing and publishing resolutions defending and laudatory of Dr. C. O. Brown and abusing his opponents without the authority of the department commander? Is Dr. Brown of more importance than 600 Union soldiers?

"Probably the friends of Dr. Brown and those of the home directors are in about the same fix, and they are going to stand by each other. Mr. Blinn says that Captain Currier, the treasurer, does not keep the $50 a month paid him, but gives it to his clerk, but gives no name. Perhaps it is to the same friend that he kept on the Government payroll when he was Pension Agent. Will Mr. Blinn kindly prepare a statement for the Governor's investigation of all the money he has received from the home treasury for going to the home more or less every week since he was a director; for what it has cost the home to keep him and his family there in country outings during the same time? Also what commissions or favors he has received for buying supplies for the home from certain parties who are known to have offered inducements to another director to make such purchases? Also of what he knows about farming, gardening, grounds, buildings, or the care of old soldiers, if anything, or what good, if any, he has been to the home at Yountville?

"Mr. Blinn will find out that when Governor Budd makes his investigation Lyon Post will substantiate every allegation unanimously adopted at a large stated meeting held February, 1896, and also many other charges relating to the incompetence and drunkenness of officers and the ignorance, corruption and mismanagement of directors.

"It will also be shown that of the many hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been contributed by the taxpayers of this State and nation to maintain indigent and disabled veterans at this home not more than two-thirds has been properly used for that purpose, and that at least one-third has been wasted, misappropriated or stolen by the ring that has controlled the home since its organization.

"I see that Colonel Hussey is also mentioned by Blinn. The colonel was not at the meeting at all and did not know that the resolutions were being adopted."

FREE THOUGHT.

The Christian Church Is an Advocate of All Forms of Religious Freedom.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 23.—Rev. Edwards Davis, minister of the Central Christian Church, delivered the second of a series of liberal sermons to-night. A week ago the youthful preacher took for his theme "The Realm and Reign of Free Thought in the Church." He announces as the subject of the third sermon, "The Broad Basis of the Liberal Church to Come." The subject of last night's discourse was, "Correct Belief Not the Essential of Salvation." Rev. Mr. Davis believes in stirring things. He will likely succeed in his aim.

In last evening's discourse he said:

Sincerity and desire cannot of necessity presage truth. Every true philosopher has written the tenets of his theories with the blood of sacrifice. Socrates paid mortal life for a belief in immortality. Dante endured ostracization for the sake of society, Savonarola felt the fire of his funeral pile because of belief in political liberty, Jesus of Nazareth suffered sacrifice on the cross of Calvary for belief in vicarious atonement. But there are those who lived and died, not for truth, but for error. The accepted rights of respective ages have become the conceded wrongs of others, and individual opinions have blown along like autumn leaves before the winter wind.

The search for complete truth cannot assure its discovery. Correct belief is yet to be possessed. In consequence I claim it cannot be the essential of our salvation. We are seeking knowledge and searching the Scriptures as if immortality depended on such stuff. Philosophers have lived in continual domestic discord, libertine poets have eulogized purity and preachers have fallen in their practices far short of their teachings. It is not a knowledge of truth, but a possession thereof, that is to be desired. The rude pioneer felling the forest and planting the clearing with grain may not have allowed the rubbish of things to have overgrown the intuitive mind, and have planted good deeds and reaped rich harvests.

But deeds do not demonstrate creeds. Our beliefs will neither damn or save us. The terms of knowledge are not the shibboleth of entry into the gates of the eternal city. If salvation depends upon belief humanity is lost beyond redemption. If salvation hinges on such requirement, and granted the church of Christ is correct in its belief, but one million souls of Christendom can be saved.

No denomination has a patent right on truth; no church can monopolize salvation. But it is equally true, if one believes unto faith in a doctrine and disobeys its teaching, this I know, for that he cannot receive reward. It is a dangerous thing to read the word of God without a willingness for obedience upon conviction thereto. Nor can one that has realized the inspiration of a broad conception be saved by a narrow creed.

The church of which I stand a minister pleads for freedom of thought, pleads for liberty of speech, pleads for the learning of literature, pleads for the search of the star of science, that we may know when its light will brighten the world—pleads that the highest exhalation of a mortal man is his obedience to God and a faithful compliance to the positive teachings of his word. O wonderful creed, the recreating Christ, infinite thou art, but mine, and hence to thee I give my life, my partial comprehension, my complete obedience.

WAITING FOR FRIENDS.

Mrs. Willmore Still in Jail for Lack of Bonds.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 23.—Mrs. Willmore, the mother of Burt Willmore, is still in jail, charged with burglary.

Mrs. Willmore blames Mrs. Wagner for all her troubles. She denies knowing anything of what the boys were doing and says she is a very much persecuted woman. She says the Wagner boys have been the guilty parties all through, and deeply regrets that the two families ever became acquainted.

Her story conflicts strongly with certain facts that have been unearthed by Sergeant Hodgkins. It is the opinion of that officer that the prisoner has practically been conducting a fence for several months. Next Tuesday the boys will appear in the Superior Court and Mayor Whitney will endeavor to have them committed to a reform school. It is understood that the District Attorney will not oppose the plea if the boys plead guilty.

Out for McKinley.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 23.—Last evening a temporary organization of the McKinley Club of Oakland was effected at Kohler & Chase Hall. F. R. Porter was chosen president and Fred Murdoch secretary. A number of ringing McKinley speeches were made and much enthusiasm prevailed. It was announced that next Saturday the Republican State Central Committee would meet and designate the city whereat the State convention will be held. At that convention eighteen delegates to the National convention in June are to be chosen. The Oakland district will be entitled to two representatives at the St. Louis convention. Permanent organization of the McKinley Club will take place next Saturday evening.

Stole His Watch.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 23.—Thomas McNamara was arrested to-day for robbery. He was eating in a restaurant at Seventh and Broadway, and at the same table sat Captain Cummings, a retired sea captain. When the captain started to go he missed his gold watch. A waiter, who had been suspicious of McNamara's movements, told of what he had seen, and when arrested the watch was found in his pocket. Under the name of John Wilson McNamara is under bonds for an offense in San Francisco.

THE STUDENT LABORERS.

Three Days a Week to Be Set Aside for the Campus Improvements.

The Old English Comedy "Love for Love" to Be Produced at the University.

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23.—To-morrow afternoon the students will meet for the purpose of making definite plans for the carrying out of the proposed "student labor" work, which is to be undertaken during the latter part of the week. Thursday afternoon, Friday and Saturday are to be set aside by the academic senate as the time for carrying out the plans of Regent Reinstein in making the new approach to the buildings from Center street. The entire work of organization for the undertaking will be left to the students themselves for determination. Whether it will be on the military or section plan remains for them to determine.

Some objection has been raised among them as to the plan for working on Saturday, but it is thought that this can easily be met by the argument that they should be willing to place themselves to some inconvenience for the sake of the university and the desire to see the grounds in better condition.

Visiting Preachers.

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23—Dr. Warren Landon of the San Francisco Theological Seminary preached both morning and evening to-day at the First Presbyterian Church. His address this evening was on "The Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church." It was a doctrinal sermon throughout, and many important principles upon which the foundation of the church rests were elucidated.

Dr. Buckley of San Francisco conducted the morning service at the Dwight-way Baptist Church.

Dr. McLean of Oakland filled the pulpit of the First Congregational Church, having exchanged with the regular pastor, Rev. George B. Hatch.

Blue and Gold Election.

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23—The election of the University of California class of '98 Blue and Gold officers will take place next Tuesday. The polls will be open from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. Those who have been nominated for editor are Chickering, Dickie and Rector, and for business manager, Baker and Mead. The officers on the Blue and Gold staff have grown to be of much importance within the last few years, as the university has increased in size and strength, and it is expected that a fierce political battle will be fought on Tuesday before the last ballot shall have been cast. As all of the candidates, save one, are fraternity men, "frat" spirit and interest will play a prominent part in the struggle. There are about 375 persons who will be eligible to vote.

Will Vote for More Bonds.

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23.—Notwithstanding the fact that the proposition to bond the town for $200,000, to be expended in the erection of four new school buildings and a wharf, was defeated at the election held on February 15, the Board of Education will ask for another election to be held on March 28 for the purpose of raising $60,000 to be used in the erection of needed new school buildings. The West Berkeley Progressive Club is preparing a petition to the board asking for $40,000 to be spent in the erection of a wharf. Authoritative citizens state that the two propositions are likely to kill one another in the same manner the last two were lost.

Charter Day Baseball.

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23.—Arrangements are being made for a baseball game on Charter day, March 23, between the Varsity nine and the University Club of San Francisco. The game, if played, will be something out of the ordinary and would be expected to draw a large crowd. It is the hope of Manager Miller to make the occasion a day of sport and festivity after the usual ceremonies are ended.

"Love for Love."

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23.—L. D. Syle of the department of English at the university is training a number of his class members with the view of producing a version of the old English comedy "Love for Love" some time next month. Those who are to perform the most prominent parts are: Miss Jessie Anderson '96, Thompson '95, Kierulff '96, and Fryer '99.

Cathode Ray Experiments.

BERKELEY, CAL., Feb. 23.—Experiments with cathode ray photography will be continued in the laboratories of the Mechanics' building to-morrow morning. The success of yesterday has given much encouragement to the experimenters.

MANY BROTHERS PRESENT

Several Orders Attend the Funeral of the Late Peter Pumyea.

Two Thousand People Attend the Ceremonies at the Oakland Residence.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, Feb. 23.

The body of the late Peter Pumyea was buried at Mountain View Cemetery this afternoon. The deceased was a Knight of Pythias, a Red Man, an Odd Fellow and a Patriarch Militant. All those societies turned out to honor the memory of their late comrade, and the funeral was the most imposing since that of the late A. N. Towne.

The ceremonies were attended by the whole family and were conducted by Rev. Dr. Coyle and Rev. Maynard. The honorary pallbearers were delegates from the various lodges.

Hundreds of prominent people attended the funeral and the cortege extended over six blocks. It was led by a platoon of police under command of Chief Lloyd and Captain Fletcher. The Red Men came next, and Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Patriarchs Militant, under command of Judge Odgen. The hearse and pallbearers were led by W. Kent and H. V. Herbert. A long line of private carriages followed containing the following:

Mayor Davie, R. J. McKillican, D. C. Brown, T. J. Carrothers, J. J. White, Captain Wilson, Sheriff White, Al White, D. Holland, U. Williams, W. Quigley, J. Murphy, W. D. O'Connell, T. F. Garritty, Judge J. J. Murphy, Baron Baroteau, O. D. Brown, Fred A. Campbell, W. H. H. Hussey, Albert Shorey, John Barnett, John Mackey, J. E. Johnson, Phil Walsh, George Furry, O. L. Rodgers, Harvey Wilson, Judge Ogden, J. B. Letter, E. Bernstein, M. Samson, Charles McCleverty, William White, T. Noonan, C. D. Burnham, Con Keefe, W. D. McCutcheon, J. J. Hanniffin, George T. Carleton, R. A. Hughes, M. Jones, E. Aarons, J. T. McDonough, J. Joselyn, L. Filmore, Meyer Cohn, E. E. Lamping and B. L. Curtiss.

PATRIOTIC CONCERT.

A Washington Celebration at the Twentieth Street Church.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 23.—There was a Washington and Lincoln sacred and patriotic concert at the Twentieth-street Baptist Church this evening. Professor L. P. Meads of the High School presided, and the pastor, Rev. Philip Graif, delivered an address. He said:

"To study a great soul like Washington is more instructive and charming than any mere philosophical theories of the intellectually or the morally beautiful. If it be wise and inspiring to uplift heroic figures before the eyes of youth, we cannot too often hold aloft for admiration and worship a character so strong, pure, symmetrical and well-poised. Under the searchlight of microscopic criticism, views from every standpoint of ethics and history, he stands forth an object of preeminence and love, not so much for his wealth or military exploits as for his elevation and spotless integrity of character. Inexpressibly finer than printed words or eloquent tongue, than genius or gold, is it to possess the majesty of manhood and the beauty of personal worth. Earth presents no prouder or more distinguished scene than that of a man dedicated to the art of virtuous character-building.

"The best way to honor Washington is not so much with chime of bells or gay procession, as it is to appreciate his superb traits and incarnate his moral ideals.

"In proportion as we revere his character will it be an index of either our progress or decadence as a nation. The more devoutly we draw around his forehead the aureola of political esteem the more we honor ourselves. When Washington's sentiments no longer flash from the eyes of our citizens, or throb in the hearts of our countrymen, or cease to dominate our councils of State, our Republic is doomed."

INTERESTS AT OAKLAND.

The Salvation Property at Beulah Is in Ballington Booth's Name.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 23.—The present unsettled condition of affairs regarding the commander of the Salvation Army in the United States is creating no feeling of uncertainty among the local officers. It is the general opinion that Ballington Booth will soon be restored to his command.

"I do not for a moment anticipate anything like a division of the army in this country," said Ensign Reid to-night. "I do not think General Booth fully understands the position that Ballington Booth holds in the estimation of the American people. I had a telegram from Colonel Eadie telling me that he is now temporarily in charge, and that Ballington Booth has left the headquarters. The commander had such a perfect system that Colonel Eadie can easily carry on the work."

Mrs. Ensign Reid is positive that there will be no split.

"All the officers in the army," she said, "are sworn to obey God and the army. We are not bowed down to Commander Ballington Booth, although we all love him and his wife. I do not think he will be away from his command for long, and when he returns everything will be straightened out. It is unfortunate anything like this should have occurred, but it will not affect the army. Everybody will be as loyal to Colonel Eadie as they were to the commander."

There is considerable property in this county standing in the name of Ballington Booth, and this will all have to be transferred to his successor. The Beulah Rescue Home, Children's Home, and Home of Rest are all held by Ballington Booth for the army, and these represent a value of nearly $20,000. The feeling is that the commander will soon be restored, and it is impossible to predict what would be the result should General Booth persist in his removal.

THE RISE IN CAMPHOR.

Price of the Drug Has Nearly Doubled in Twelve Months.

The peculiar and uncertain position of camphor in the market has caused more comment and speculative gossip concerning this article, its source of supply, methods of production, etc., than it has received in years past. The manipulations of a syndicate, said to have headquarters in London, and the air of mystery which has surrounded its operations have made camphor a commodity toward which much interest has been directed for months past. Refined camphor, prime quality, sold at 34 cents per pound a year ago, since which time it has brought 64 cents. It is now quoted at 59 cents, this decline from the higher figure being attributed to the bearing of the market by the syndicate, or because of outside competition with the syndicate. The future course of the market is problematical. The syndicate commenced buying last June and has not yet cornered the market. Dealers believe that if the syndicate can continue to purchase all that is offered during another six months it will be in absolute control. Whether it can do this or not is uncertain, because the personnel of the operators and their financial strength are not known and can only be guessed at.

In view of the interest and the possibilities of the situation, timely reference can be made to Japan and Formosa, where most of the crude camphor of commerce is grown. In olden times camphor was produced in Sumatra, Borneo and other parts of the East Indies and China, but of late years they have been no factor in production. Camphor trees are of the evergreen variety, symmetrical in proportion, blossoming with white flowers and bearing red berries. They attain great age, some living 300 years, and are of ponderous size, the largest measuring fifteen feet in diameter. The camphor of Formosa is inferior to that of Japan, which, coupled with the fact that the former island is inhabited largely by savages and the production of crude camphor being attended with so much danger, leaves Japan practically to supply the world. The annual export of crude camphor from Japan averages about 5,000,000 pounds, of which one-fourth comes to this country and the remainder is distributed over Europe. This merchantable product must be refined before it can pass into consuming channels, and until two years ago it was exclusively treated at American and European refineries. The attempts recently made to finish the product in Japan have met with moderate success, resulting in "Japan brands" being placed on the market by about a dozen small refineries established on native soil.—The Paint, Oil and Drug Review.

SATAN'S FORWARD STRIDES

Rev. Dr. Case Talks About the Moral Corruption of San Francisco.

IS VERY MUCH LIKE HADES.

Mayor Sutro and the Native Sons Are Strongly Criticized—"The Moral Pesthouse of the Beach."

A discourse on "The Devil's Forward Movement" was delivered at the Howard-street Methodist Church last evening by Rev. Dr. W. W. Case. The preacher said:

The religious forward movement of our time has its best exponent in Hugh Price Hughes of the West London Mission in England.

He has tried the experiment of going to the people with the gospel and it has worked well.

The eyes of the religious world have been upon the movement to learn the best methods of aggressive work under the peculiar conditions of modern civilization.

Heroic efforts are being put forth in many lands, and in many centers in our land, to drive out the prince of darkness, but as yet the devil holds the fort, and not only so, but he seems to push his way from Atlanta to the sea without much opposition.

Looking out from my watchtower, it appears to me his satanic majesty has been working on the line of the forward movement in this City for years, and that he is now leading the hosts with accelerated speed to perdition.

Every editor, reporter and newspaper man of every class, every municipal officer, every Judge now on or off the bench, and thousands of others are well aware that San Francisco behind the scenes is a lazar-house, full of putrefying sores and pestilential diseases—he knows that San Francisco by gaslight is a real Inferno, that underground San Francisco is full of rottenness and too disgusting to be described.

This is the City of my adoption, and I want her to prosper and to be saved, but when I see so much wantonness and corruption I tremble for its future.

When I look upon its votaries of pleasure, sacrificing every principle of virtue, of Godliness and prudence, I shudder to think of the sure and certain consequences.

When I see the sacred institution of marriage treated as though it had been abolished by the God of families and avoided as though it were a bondage into which none should dare to enter, when I see the dancehouse and the saloon and the variety theater filled with maddened and debauched human beings, when I see men whose business it is to corrupt and destroy innocent girlhood and thoughtless youths, when I see these things I wonder that the vengeance of heaven does not in flaming fire consume us all with a single flash.

As I have walked these streets by day and by night I have asked myself the question, "May it not be possible, as some ministers have taught, the second coming of Christ took place at the destruction of Jerusalem, and, the judgment having taken place, we are now in hell?"

I ask the question, Is not this really hades? But why am I here if it is hell? I never meant to make my bed in hell.

Then as I look around and see some good people here who never told a lie, like Father Yorke, for instance, I am sure it is not hell.

But there is so much that is devilish and infernal that it is hard to believe the race started in a harmless paradise.

As a whole the world is bad—very bad—bad everywhere—and Satan's seat is high and in almost every place conspicuous.

Business methods are wickedly corrupt—politics is corrupt—municipal governments are corrupt. Corruption rises everywhere.

It is a sorrow to many that our distinguished citizen, the Mayor of this City, after all he has done for the City, in the maintenance of beautiful gardens and the gathering together of a fine museum and the completion of elegant baths, should have rebuilt in elegance the Cliff House, to be furnished with two immense barrooms, in one of which hangs nude and partially nude pictures.

I hope the Mayor, for whom in some respects I have a great regard, and for whom in all respects I have the kindest feelings, will think wisely of the heritage he is leaving to the present and future San Franciscans. Time is short.

We shall soon go to meet our Judge.

If there is one place in San Francisco County where the blood of wrecked humanity will ooze out of the timbers more profusely than another—one place where the wail of the lost will come up with shrieking horror above the roar of the angry waves of the sea—it will be the Cliff House—dedicated to Bacchus and to death.

The old Cliff House, as well as the old Ocean House, was a veritable Bethaven, a house of iniquity, where sin of deepest dye perpetually reigned unto the death of souls.

We had hoped that those dark days had passed away from San Francisco forever; that our honorable Mayor, who is in sympathy with good government and moral progress, would never rebuild the Cliff House as the throne of Bacchus and the moral pesthouse of the ocean beach.

Let us pray that the honorable Mayor shall be constrained to use the few remaining days which may be allotted to him on earth to purifying the Cliff House and the City by putting away as far as possible everything that shall have a tendency to debase and ruin mankind.

The horrors of the liquor traffic are indescribable. Earth would be almost a paradise were it not for the curse of the drink habit. How long must this barbarism be retained among us?

Look at this train of weeping ones, clad in weeds of widowhood, stricken and bowed with the anguish of years! They were once the wives, they are now the widows, of drunkards. With swollen eyes and faded cheeks and bleeding hearts, they tread upon the brink of the grave.

What countless multitudes of innocent little ones are there in tatters and in filth, hatless, bonnetless, shoeless, haggard with hunger and pallid with disease. Their tiny feet patter over the stony streets until their pathway reddens with their trickling blood!

These are children of drunkards and from this wretched, endless procession comes up the cry, "How long, O Lord, how long?"

The devil's forward movement is seen in the added facilities which the prince of darkness is inspiring men to employ for the desecration of the "Lord's day."

The Almighty Father could never govern and manage or develop a people without a Sabbath day; but San Francisco presumes to do what the God of nations cannot do.

It is no justification for Sabbath desecration to say that under the Christian dispensation all days are sacred, for the fact is in San Francisco no day is sacred, but all days are profane.

Many young men to my certain knowledge have been ruined by yielding to the enticements to Sabbath desecration.

The Sunday theater is blighting young life every week in the year, right under our eyes.

The management of the organization of the Native Sons is not above criticism.

Please notice I place emphasis upon the word management.

In my addresses in other years I have had occasion to speak well of the organization of the Native Sons of the Golden West. In a public address a few years ago I said: "Since I became an adopted son of California I have never been outside her borders but I have longed to get back to the land of pure atmosphere, rich and abundant fruits, with her profusion of flowers and to the society of her royal people, for she contains many of the best."

The responsibility of native sons, and adopted sons as well, is exceedingly great.

I am sorry to be compelled to say that the history of our grand commonwealth has not always been distinguished for its superior morality.

This may be accounted for, perhaps, on the theory of Jean Paul Richter, that—

"Too much fortune or too much misery drives both men and nations to immorality—as it is only in extremes of heat and cold that the pond fishes hide themselves in the mud."

We are improving, however. The State is better; this City is better in its morals than it ever was before.

But we are far below what we ought to be in the scale of social and political morality.

Sons of the Golden West, native or adopted, I adjure you to "quit yourselves like men."

It is yours to give to this great commonwealth a civil Sabbath.

It is a great sorrow to many native sons and daughters and others as well that the dedication of the new Native Sons' building was set upon the holy Lord's day, and especially that the day should have been desecrated by a banquet in the evening.

It is proper enough for a jolly crowd to make the air blue singing "He's a jolly good fellow" and other college songs on proper occasions, but when the name of any society to which members belong who hold sacred with conscientious scruples the Sabbath of the Lord, proceedings are allowed and indulged in which outrage those convictions, there is just cause for criticism and complaint.

ON PATRIOTISM.

A Washington's Birthday Sermon by Rev. E. R. Dille.

The sermon preached by the Rev. E. R. Dille yesterday morning in the Central Methodist Episcopal Church was on "Patriotism" and was listened to by a large and attentive congregation. After dwelling upon love of country and loyalty to its institutions and the heroes who are known in history as patriots, he dwelt upon love of law and said:

No wonder the robbers said the other day when they had the bank employes shut up in the vault "Let us kill them; that will be the safest way." They know that murder is about the only crime for which a man can hardly be punished in this City and that the death penalty for crime inflicted by due process of law is about the only kind of taking life to which our courts seem to have any objections.

Said a great jurist "When the guilty are acquitted the Judge is condemned," but in the Shattuck case it was the jury that was condemned for allowing a redhanded murdress to go free upon a wretched technicality. There are two things that are responsible for this carnival of crime:

1. Our American system of court procedure by which a verdict can be set aside upon some paltry quibbling technicality which has no bearing whatever upon the guilt or innocence of the accused—a miscarriage of justice that has no place in the criminal procedure of any other civilized nation in the world.

2. The unwholesome and debauched state of public opinion. With many, instead of a righteous anger against crime and a righteous indignation against criminals, there is a gushing, maudlin, sentimental sympathy for them. From various quarters there comes the cry, "The worst use you can put a man to is to hang him"; whereas frequently it is the only use he can ever be to the humanity upon which he is a foul blot to be made an example of to deter other wild beasts like himself from crime.

It is the divine law, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed."

VIEWS OF RELIGION.

Rev. J. Cumming Smith Discourses on So-Called Common-Sense.

Rev. J. Cumming Smith's evening lecture at Trinity Presbyterian Church was on "Christianity and Common-Sense." It was the second of a series on the relation of Christianity to phases of modern thought and action.

Mr. Smith called attention to the confusion of conservatism and inertia with common-sense. Continuing, he said:

All the progress the world has made has been right against common-sense. In consideration of those spiritual, transcendent things I pity the man who gropes in the groove of reason. Take some of the common-sense matters as illustrations. The common-sense of one good lady dictates that her child be kept from the society of children. That good lady or her sister is likely to take a "common-sense" measure of requiring her child to be silent at the table. In short, there are good people who still believe that the proper way to bring up children is to keep them down.

Children are not novelties. They have been presenting themselves for the last 6000 years. Yet people take widely different common-sense views in regard to their education. There are people who believe children should be compelled to go to school, and there are others who think that theory an absurdity. Some belive children should be educated from the first along the line of specialities and they have strong opponents. Strong are the opposed beliefs as to the teachings of religious principles.

When we realize the contrariety and chaos of opinions in the world we have cause to shudder at the outlook if the future of religion depends upon so-called common-sense. I open my Bible and remember that good and great men with the gift of common-sense have differed and warred and driven each other to the stake because of their different interpretation. Common-sense theologians of Chrristendom are of different creeds and they do not like each other any too well, either.

There are as many varying views of religion as there are stars in the sky.

The common-sense of to-day is not the common sense of yesterday. I tell you there is no common-sense belief that is worth your credence for a moment.

Depending upon my fragile common-sense, I would say there are things in the sacred book I could not believe. Religion is beyond and above that realm. Therefore, I subordinate my reason, I subordinate my judgment.

Yet the signs of the times in the world are the indications of a coalescence of the churches on the pivotal fundamental truths. That, I believe, will be the Christianity of the future.

May we rise above earthbound common-sense into the large, more generous realm of faith. May we surrender our common-sense to His!

LINCOLN'S COUNTERPART.

Strolled Into the House Gallery and Attracted Attention.

In the gallery on Saturday last there sat a man who attracted more attention than would have been accorded the President of the United States had he walked into the seat set aside for him in the House gallery. The man, who was sublimely unconscious of the curiosity of the people about him, was the absolute counterpart of Abraham Lincoln. A lady, who sat beside a Star reporter, and who had known the liberator well, almost fainted when this man crossed her vision in taking his seat. He was tall and lank, and wore immaculate broadcloth, which sat loosely about his form.

He had the large, homely, but kindly mouth that Lincoln possessed, and wore the same fringe of whiskers on his chin that Mr. Lincoln used to wear. He had the same gentle eyes, and iron gray hair tossed back in rather long locks from his strongly marked face. As he sat listening to the debate, his face in profile was so startlingly like that of the martyred President that it was positively uncanny. And when he seemed to forget his surroundings there came into his face that worn, weary expression which sat so often on Lincoln's face during the last months, and the lady beside the reporter, who was fascinated by the resemblance, got up to leave the gallery.

"I can't stand it," she said. "His face will haunt me to my dying day. "Hundreds of people turned their eyes upon him and the buzz of surprised comment was almost audible to the speaker, but the man sat oblivious through it all. Perhaps he was used to it. A man with Lincoln's face and form couldn't go round over the United States and not be told of it.—Washington Star.

NEW TO-DAY.

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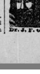

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