

The San Francisco Call

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NE of the largest audiences ever assembled in San Francisco listened on Saturday night to a stirring debate on woman suffrage conducted by Rev. Doctor Aked and Colonel John P. Irish.

It will be conceded that these protagonists were both fully equipped by study, natural gifts and skill of fence to present their several theories and propositions in the strongest light of which the case was capable.

Now, it is the fact that the audience, giving, as a whole, both debaters a fair and cordial hearing, brought away the general impression that the reverend gentleman had distinctly the better of the wordy conflict. The threadbare argument from physical force was driven into a corner and beaten to a frazzle, as well in the way of logic as of testimony from eminent authorities. The law, urged Mr. Irish, was of no effect unless it was supported by physical force, which women could not supply.

Doctor Aked in reply quoted the tart remark of Mr. Balfour, formerly premier of Great Britain and leader of the tory party, who pointed out that as far as enforcement of the law was concerned all the average male citizen had to do was to pay his share of the bill. This was so obviously true that Mr. Irish could make no other reply than the silly retort that he wanted no advice from an "English lord" to guide or govern his views of American policies.

While one may feel a certain sympathy for an embattled debater put in a tight corner, that need not be permitted to obscure the fact that the learned colonel was making a cheap play to the gallery. As a military man, of course, he was interested to exalt his calling and magnify his profession of arms so that he might present it as the very foundation of government, but the suspicion obtrudes that should the gentleman be brought face to face with a law breaker menacing his peace and quiet or making away with his property, he would forget to draw his sword and would be instant to call the police. Then he would pay the bill like other tax payers, including the women who own property.

Altogether it was an instructive and stimulating debate, sharp and acridated on occasion, but conducted with honor and glory for both sides.

PROPERLY enough, the fire commission extends no official assistance to the warrant shavers who prey on the men in the department. The commission is in no sense a collection agency and it does right to refuse to be used in that fashion.

It is quite true that the men ought to pay their lawful debts, but people who engage in the business of warrant shaving must understand that they assume all the risk and will get no assistance beyond the legal machinery for the collection of debt.

This is a sound rule of public policy, because warrant shaving should be discouraged and not helped. It is a form of money lending that serves no useful purpose and it is always conducted at exorbitant rates. The men are tempted to borrow beyond their means and so involve themselves in a condition of debt and consequent harassment that impairs their value and competence as public servants.

It has happened in the past that these money lenders were given assistance in their business by the heads of departments, and there was always ground for suspicion that this was a peculiarly discreditable and injurious form of graft.

IT is not easy to foresee what will come out of the complications arising from the increased duty on imported lemons and the appropriation by the overland railroads of an important share of the margin thus created.

The commerce court now reverses the order of the interstate commerce commission, which decreed that the railroads had no right to appropriate in the way of freight rates 15 cents per 100 pounds out of the increase in the tariff on lemons. The matter will naturally be taken up on appeal to the supreme court and it is quite impossible at this distance and with the meager information in hand to form any plausible idea of the ultimate result.

That the lemon industry is fairly entitled to this protection in the full measure accorded by congress is probably capable of demonstration, but the attack on this policy is strong and will perhaps be reinforced by the decision of the commerce court. It is, of course, neither a fair nor a logical argument to urge that it is useless to protect a struggling industry if the railroads are permitted to grab a large share of the benefit, but it need not be doubted that some such position will be taken on the floor of congress by the aggressive faction making the attack.

AN order of the postoffice department recently issued forbids transmission through the mails of the Chicago vice commissioners' report, and people are asking why. This report is not at all of the sensational character that curious people might select for summer reading.

It bristles with facts and figures, deployed in scientific curves, and deals with a somewhat dry subject in a purely statistical and sociological fashion. It is the result of careful investigation and study of social questions by Rev. Doctor Gunsauld, Prof. Graham Taylor, Mrs. Ellen Henrotin and Dr. Anna Dwyer, whose names and reputations should be sufficient guarantee of the honest and useful purpose

President Taft and His Real Attitude Toward the Trusts

This is the fourth of a series of articles covering Mr. Taft's policies and discussing with frankness the wisdom or unwisdom of his course. The series deals with Mr. Taft and, first, the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill; second, the tariff vetoes; third, the Arizona veto; fourth, the trusts; fifth, the progressives; sixth, Controller Bay and Alaska; seventh, his general policy and creed. Any reader who has doubts concerning Mr. Taft for any cause not here considered is at liberty to ask—and The Call will welcome the request—for a discussion of any other definite policy followed by the president.

We do not mean to imply that Taft has been perfect, but we do mean to declare that he has been honest, effective and far seeing. In the above list we have selected only the live issues that are being urged against him by his opponents.

TAFT is a friend of the trusts. "Taft's Detroit speech sends trust stock tumbling."

"It is not easy to recall a time when the financial world has felt more staggered than now."

"Wall street combines to beat Taft."

"Taft not true to Roosevelt policies."

"Taft makes Roosevelt's big stick look like a lady's parasol."

"Taft is carrying out policies about which Roosevelt simply chattered."

"Socialists denounce Taft as an enemy of the people."

"The interests are encouraging La Folletteism in its attacks on Taft."

"Taft trusts the courts, but not the people."

These lines are taken at haphazard from the public prints of different states and reflect the views of the extremists on each side of the great issues now before the people. "You pays your money and you takes your choice." Common sense tells you that a man can not be "in with" and "out with" the trusts at the same time. If La Folletteism attacks the president for his lack of earnestness in prosecuting the trusts at the same hour and on the same day the trusts and the reactionaries are denouncing him for the "persecution of big business" there must be something remarkable in his course to justify such charges. Some one lies, or some one misunderstands. The unobservant have declared it to be the result of a wobbly policy. The unobservant is an inspired donkey. The Taft course has held straight for the port where justice lives. Duty, always duty, has been the steersman.

Surely there is a phenomenon here quite worthy of analysis. What is Mr. Taft's course toward big business—toward the trusts? Examination will show that it has been perfectly clear, consistent and determined. Without passion, without hatred or noisy threats he has kept the legal branch of his administration untiringly and dispassionately on the track of every unlawful combination whose operations fall within the inhibitions of the Sherman law. The files of the department of justice are fairly loaded down with trust evidence, gathered with great care. Agents of that department are at work in every state of the union where suspected institutions are engaged in business. As the necessary facts are gathered to justify proceedings, indictments and trials follow.

This untiring, organized work is not spectacular; there is nothing theatrical about it; none of that wild gesticulation and shaking of fists and shooting of guns into the air such as the soldiers of Spain indulged in at Cuba when they saw our fleet far out at sea and then ran for cover as the ships approached. The campaign Mr. Taft has made has been the arduous, plugging, determined, make-sure-of-every-step fight that knows no letup and seldom faces failure. It is the sort of a dogged legal fight that marks the proceedings of a well organized private concern with a definite goal.

That sort of a fight means business; that sort of a fight appeals to men who understand; it is that sort of a fight which carries real fear to the man or to the thing pursued. It is relentless; it has no letup, no foolish side issues, no tinsel, no brass band. It is the fight of a determined man backed by able judgment. Naturally the trusts don't like Mr. Taft.

Consider for a moment what the Boston Herald says, commenting on Wickersham's prosecutions and the president's Detroit speech. The shrinkage of stock values brought forth this editorial, and we urge you to read it:

Is the government playing politics, making friends with the populist element, without real forethought as to ultimate consequences? Has the disastrous fall in market prices come from unwarrantable and unprovoked attacks on captains of industry and their belongings?

To such questions there are now as many answers as there are men heatedly discussing them. ** * * To the great industrialists the edict has gone forth: "You are all under suspicion. If you would escape criminal prosecution you must put yourselves in the hands of the government and let it ask the court for instructions in winding you up." Under the circumstances both railroad and industrial stocks have been extremely depressed, the holders no longer looking upon them as property safeguarded by law, but rather as uncertainties dependent on government mercy.

And again, this same Boston Herald says in an editorial:

There can be no question that the present national administration means to carry out the Sherman law. * * * There is, however, one question which the friends of the administration should ask themselves constantly: What final outcome is sought and foreseen? Is Mr. Taft merely trying

of the document. In fact, the report has been largely circulated through the mails, and the newspapers have printed full extracts from its findings, so that the order, if justified at any time, appears to be somewhat belated. The mischief, or supposed mischief, has been done.

It has sometimes happened in a Washington bureau that the summer clerk finds no useful work for his idle hands to do, and so in the excess of a dull time he is impelled to engage in strange adventures, alarms, excursions into the unknown and the ridiculous. No better explanation appears to be available for this extraordinary order. One thousand copies of the report addressed to philanthropic societies and sociologists have been returned to the commission out of a bureaucratic solicitude for the morals of the scientific mind lest it be contaminated by inspection of curves and tables of figures. Truly, 'tis an odd and irresponsible censorship that we are up against. A speculative and inquisitive generation need no longer puzzle its perturbed brains over the determination of nice questions of morals. Let it ask the postoffice department, which will depute a \$1,000 a year clerk to solve its perplexities.

to enforce the law blindly, without knowing whether his activities will lead to anarchy, starvation, riots, class hatred, insolvency, the end of progress, or to a surer and just foundation of renewed prosperity?

This is only one clipping of many pitched in the same general key. We ask you, you short sighted complainer, calling Mr. Taft a friend of "the interests," to read and reread it until it finally dawns upon your intellect that this man Taft, through Attorney General Wickersham, is enforcing the law and that his effective insistence is bringing down upon him the sharp criticism of the interests and the press that howls when those interests are hit.

The Chicago Inter Ocean has this to say, showing the same fears expressed in the Boston Herald:

The great menace today is to thousands of interstate industries that have found it impossible to live without a certain amount of mutual agreement and co-operation. For instance, there is not a large newspaper or large magazine in the United States today that is not in the shadow of distant legal trouble. For the welfare of our souls, we are being led into the valley of desolation. We are assured that we there shall be cleansed. But how are we to get out of the valley when Mr. Taft and Mr. Wickersham have made us into the likeness of better things?

Meanwhile in his public speeches what is this remarkable man Taft saying? Under all of the rules he should be tearing the air with denunciations of "the interests" he is prosecuting. He should be denouncing these men and the things they represent with one broad sweep of noisy rhetoric and be claiming for himself all of the virtues of the vestal virgins.

Is he arrogating to himself in noisy periods the sole custody of the people's rights and liberties? Not Mr. Taft. He is telling the people in clear, understandable language that the possession of wealth is not a badge of crime any more than poverty is a badge of honesty. He is frankly advising them that a corporation is not to be hated merely because it is a corporation, but is to be condemned in so far as it does wrong, violates the law, tramples on the public's rights, and no further. He is admonishing them that state and national development, all enterprises, manufactures, transportation, labor for the worker, markets for the producer, and prosperity itself rest upon broad fundamental principles of even handed justice to all—that you can not with safety vent the punishment of hate and blind prejudice upon any great interests of the nation without involving the entire people in the resulting harm.

Taft is advising the states which stand in need of development that they can not invite capital to further enterprise if they shake the mailed fist of hatred in its face and breathe threats into its ear while they petition it to engage in the development of their industries. "Tell the corporations you will compel them to keep within the law, and doing so you will protect them from groundless attacks" is the essence of his advice. Enact just laws and compel your officers to enforce them, and wrongdoers will cease wrongdoing.

We are presented with this strange spectacle: While one department of the Taft administration is persistently at work, under his direction, uncovering the wrongs of the guilty and punishing them, he is cautioning the people that they must not be induced to confound the good with the bad—that mere bigness is not a crime and is not punishable, but that bad practices alone constitute criminality, and that it is the intention of his administration to enforce the law.

No previous administration has ever taken just this stand, nor have conditions ever stood just as they do now. No politician, no trickster, no time server, would dare take such a course. The resulting abuse and misconceptions seem as natural as they were inevitable. The trusts fear him and regard him with sullen eyes because of his program of insistent prosecution, while the noisy, thoughtless extremists torture his brave plea for fairness into slavish trucking. As Mr. Taft has aptly said, "We are all in the same boat and tossed by the same waves," and he might have added, "and we must make the fellow sit down who is standing up and rocking the boat."

The American people have never before experienced anything just like this man Taft. They are coming to understand him better day by day, and to appreciate his great, patient, well poised attitude toward the small, ambitious men who, like a greedy pack, have followed yelping at his heels, obstructing rather than helping reform. One of his rules of conduct may be briefly stated thus: "In the performance of a duty he will go to any length; to serve the ends of justice he will face any danger."

Uncle Walt THE POET PHILOSOPHER

Say, do you plow or peddle glue, or do you buy, or trade, or sell? What'er may be the work you do, be sure you try to do it well.

DO THINGS WELL

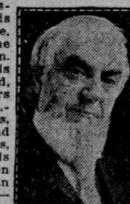
If there's a man entirely great, a shining mortal, grand and good, be sure he reached his high estate by doing things the best he could. When I was young I herded hens and guarded them from hawks and coons; at night I drove them to their pens and fed them tacks and shredded prunes. And people stopped upon their way to greet my flock with joyous howls, and often they'd rear up and say: "Whoever saw such gorgeous fowls?" In after years I sold seed oats, and sawed the horns from muley cows, and shaved the beards from billy-goats, and did a stunt with cross cut plows. And always I would buckle down, and say: "I'll do this job so well that nary critic in the town can view it with derisive yell." That's been my platform all my days, and now I live in Easy street, while round me inefficient jays have not, alas, enough to eat.



WALT MASON

A Bible Lesson As Expounded By PASTOR RUSSELL

MIDOCLEAN, Oct. 8.—Pastor Russell is en route for his fall visit to his London charge, full of vigor. Crossing the ocean takes no time for him. He is accompanied by his stenographer, Mr. Rutherford, and through the newspapers preaches weekly to about 12,000,000 in the United States, Canada, Great Britain and Australia. His text today was: "For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar as an atonement for your souls."—Lev. xvii, 11.



PASTOR RUSSELL

The trend of all scholars within the past forty years in particular has been away from the proclamation that all finds in the bible. Even those few who still conformed to the bible concede much to the higher critics and merely strive to retain a hold upon certain shreds of truth. The bible is suffering at the hands of christianism. Perhaps we would better say, christianism is suffering from letting loose its hold upon the bible. The bible theory, that all the sin and death manifest in the world resulted from Adam's disobedience, is now generally denied. Consequently those who still preach a forgiveness of sins and an escape from the penalty of sin are in the minority. And those who admit that the death of Jesus was necessary as a sin offering, the just for the unjust, are extremely few. Our text is looked upon as foolish by the worldly wise.

Darwin's evolution theory, that man sprang from a monkey parentage and has been evolving higher and higher for 6,000 years, finds apparent support in the rapid growth of intelligence during the past 50 years. But those who heed the bible find a more satisfactory explanation in its teachings, that we are in the dawning of a new dispensation—the Messianic period, so long promised of God as the time in which all the families of the earth will be blessed.

The bible theory of man's sin and condemnation to death and of a redemption of Adam's race from the power of death by the blood of Jesus is one consistent narrative. Because one man alone was the original sinner and the sentence came by one, therefore it was possible for divine mercy to arrange that by sacrifice of the righteous one, the just for the unjust, the entire race of Adam might be judicially freed from death sentence and be permitted to have a resurrection of the dead and the opportunity of restitution and to approve themselves to God for everlasting life. This, the bible theory, lays the whole stress of salvation upon the work of our redeemer. Without it Adam's race would have been as dead as the brute creation. By it a way of life to resurrection and restitution has been opened up. This is the meaning of our text and is fully concurred in by the apostle, who says: "Almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission" of sins. So unless our redeemer had purchased Adam and his race by his own precious blood there would be no hope of future life, either for the church during this age or for the world of mankind in general during the kingdom age, which will follow this.

Abe Martin



It's no disgrace to be poor but it might as well be. Did you ever notice that the most disoblidin' folks t'ed with hold positions that anybody could fill?

Answers to Queries

CANARY—F. D. Palo Alto. What is the best mixture of seeds for canary birds? The Bird Fancier's Companion says: "The best food is a mixture of rape and canary seed. Rape seed when old, or kept too long in a damp place, becomes musty, bitter and will not agree with the bird. The canary seed must be clean and of a glossy hue, feel heavy, be free from a musty smell and have a sweet taste. The best rape seed is the German summer rape. This has a nutlike flavor in distinction from the English kind, which tastes somewhat like mustard. The seed is given half and half. A little fresh green food, such as chickweed, lettuce or cabbage, in season or sweet apple in winter, will be found beneficial."

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

FRED E. VINCENT, Edward Caser, Mrs. Caser, Mr. and Mrs. David P. Fleming, R. E. Dill, J. H. Bean, B. Bledsoe, S. E. Burke, Dr. C. H. Erwin, D. J. Reese and Fred Mercer make up a group of Masses staying at the Manx, registered from Los Angeles. They are here to attend an annual convale. DR. GEORGE W. BURGESS, superintendent of the Old Fellows home at Thumail, Cal., is at the Stewart with his family. FRANK CRESSY, head of the Gas and Electric Light company of Modesto, is spending a few days at the Manx. GEORGE W. GALDIER, a furniture man of Grand Rapids, is registered at the St. Francis. E. L. LILLYBLADE, who is interested in a number of hotels in Seattle, is a guest at the Manx. C. C. MORTON, a silk importer of New York, is among the recent arrivals at the Palace. THOMAS F. CHATFIELD, proprietor of the Ben Lomond hotel, is at the Stewart. JUDGE G. W. HUNTER of Eureka is among the recent arrivals at the Turpin. M. GREENWALD, a merchant of Arcata, is at the Turpin with Mrs. Greenwald. W. C. MAZE, a merchant of Modesto, is at the Palace.

Bits of Fun

Informed Small Brother—Are you going to marry Sister Ruth? Caller—Why—er—I really don't know, you know. Small Brother—That's just what I thought. Well, you are!—Life. The Horrors of War Wars wouldn't be nearly so bad if, after brave men are done with them, cheap men did not from time to time insist on fighting them all over again.—Puck. Hill Wrong Again Mr. Hill says that the only thing that will drive people back to the land is an empty stomach. Aviators say an empty petrol tank amounts to the same thing.—Wall Street Journal.