

# San Francisco's Conscience

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

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San Francisco, May 25.—The majority of the people of San Francisco are good, honest folk who are still heeding the voice of that civic conscience which commands the city to purge itself of the guilt of the stupendous corruption of the Ruef-Schmitz era of graft. But civic consciences, like human consciences, are sometimes to be lulled to sleep—sometimes to be befuddled by false issues. One of the blackest crimes in the history of governments is now being attempted in the city of San Francisco. It is the effort to make the people forget the guilt of the grafters by falsely representing the purposes of the prosecution. The story of the shameful prostitution of the power of office by Mayor Schmitz and his administration, the story of the wicked boss rule of Abe Ruef, the story of the downfall of the grafters from high official position—these things have been told to every American who reads a newspaper.

But not even San Francisco realizes to the full extent the meaning of the present campaign of innuendo which aims to restore some of the chief criminals of the black era of graft to their old position of respectability, and to destroy the men who have been fighting to bring the grafters to justice by covering them with unjust innuendo. Newspapers, bank presidents, "respectable" citizens, men of high social position, and even men of high church position are actively engaged in a campaign of abuse and ridicule which has for its victim Francis J. Heney and his associates in the prosecution of the criminals who debauched the city's honor. At the same time they apologize for some of these men whose guilt is well established as is the fact of the existence of the men.

Desperate efforts are being made by business men who believe themselves honest to create a sentiment in favor of dropping the prosecution of these criminals because the "reports" of the trials in the newspapers will injure the reputation of the city with people abroad. They seem not to remember that the outside world expects the honest people of San Francisco to bring the criminals to punishment. They seem to forget that if these grafters go free other grafters are sure to arise and pursue their careers in confident expectation of the protection of the respectable business element of the city.

**Corrupt Newspapers.** Some of the newspapers in San Francisco ridicule every move made by the district attorney and his assistants. They impugn the motives of Rudolph Spreckels who made the graft prosecution possible. They float over the difficulties thrown about the prosecution by the hosts of thugs hired by the grafters of the Ruef stripe. They laugh at the arguments advanced by those who are seeking justice. They cartoon and lampoon Prosecutor Heney and Detective Burns.

The first thing one of the self-styled "respectable business men" says to the stranger within the gates of the city is: "Well, there are two sides to this question." If he is asked to name the two sides, he replies: "Of course Ruef and that gang of labor union officials were pretty bad, but then grafters are in every city. It is human nature. San Francisco is no worse than any other city. There always will be grafting. We can't help that, you know." If pressed to be explicit and give the two sides, he will say: "Well, you see this prosecution by Spreckels and Heney and that crowd has hurt business and this town has lost millions of capital by it. It ought to be stopped."

**Apologies for Grafters.** If the questioner will repeat his in-

dictment failed to set forth the fact that the murdered Chinese was being. In the same article he admitted that it was common knowledge that Schmitz was elected mayor, but that the indictment didn't say so. The testimony, of course, showed that Schmitz was mayor, but the supreme court was unwilling to accept this microscopic flaw in the indictment.

Patrick Calhoun, the president of the United Railroads, is the story center of the affair at the present time. He is a descendant of Patrick Henry and John C. Calhoun, and he uses the eloquence of both in asserting his constitutional rights. He declined to be sworn when called before the grand jury. He declined to answer the questions asked in the trial of another officer of his company, but he carefully abstained from refusing to answer on the ground that his answers might incriminate him. He has been demanding trial for some time, but the prosecution is not going to his case until the underlings are disposed of. Whether or not the prosecution has acted wisely in delaying his trial, there can be no doubt of the fact that the United Railroads did obtain the right to string overhead trolley wires over the city streets by paying bribes to the city officials.

The argument is heard in the business and financial sections of the city by honest bankers and merchants, that Calhoun ought to be permitted to go free because he has done so much for the city. This great service, that he consolidated the street railway lines, watered the stock enormously, was paid a huge fee for the city and the financial rewards usual in such cases.

**Rudolph Spreckels.** Two other men have also done something for San Francisco. One of them, Rudolph Spreckels, has furnished the money to carry on the prosecution of the grafters. His motives are attacked, and Mr. Calhoun declares with passion that he is being persecuted by Spreckels and other business men. The chief witness of the city who has done much is Francis J. Heney. He has worked two years as the chief prosecutor of graft cases without pay and without hope of financial reward. The services of Heney and Spreckels are not mentioned in these financial circles where "business" is sacred.

When Heney first undertook the prosecution he warned Spreckels that all these things would result. He predicted that when the prosecution failed to stop with the labor union culprits he would "higher up" that they would find men of wealth and social position arrayed against them, that enmity would be engendered, that some of these financial circles where "business" is sacred, would be feared. Spreckels did not turn back. He had tried to form a committee of wealthy men to back the prosecution. This was unsuccessful, so he put up the first \$100,000 himself. Heney went to work. William J. Burns, a secret police detective, went out and got the evidence. The guilt of the grafters and the bribers has been proved over and over again, but the convictions are not to be had.

**Cannot Blame Unions.** The situation in San Francisco today is fraught with great danger to the city and to other municipalities of the nation. When the grafting was brought to light men said: "Look what a labor union set of officials did." The thing has changed. The majority of the people of this city believe the guilty ought to be punished whoever they are and they said so at the polls. But if the guilty are not punished, if the grafters and the bribers go free, whose fault will it be? Not that of the labor unions. Not that of the people. It will be the fault of men in high standing in the community because of wealth, men who believe themselves to be honest. It will be the fault of business men who think it is a crime for a city official to force a saloon to buy whiskey from the concern in which that official is interested, but who see no wrong in a transaction by which the official's man gets a valuable franchise by bribing those same corrupt officials. Of course all of San Francisco's business men are engaged in this campaign to defeat justice—but practically all the men in the conspiracy are business men.

If San Francisco's conscience is stilled to sleep by the campaign now being carried on by the criminal and their defenders, if the prosecution of the grafting criminals fails because of the campaign then the cause of municipal honesty in America will be given a blow from which it cannot recover in years. But if the people of San Francisco insist that the conscience which is still speaking, if they will send a few criminal politicians and a few criminal business men to the penitentiary, then American cities will look to San Francisco as a leader. It is for San Franciscans to say.

**HEADSTONE TO MARK GRAVE OF WAR HERO**

Estate of General H. B. Compson Will Allow of Removal of Remains.

The remains of General Hartwell B. Compson, hero of the civil war, are to be removed from an 88 grave in the Grand Army cemetery to a 230 grave in a good location, and the place where his dust reposes will be marked by a modest headstone.

This is the action recommended to the county by H. Northrup, executor of the Compson will. When Compson died it was thought that his property would not be inherited by his son, the expenses of the funeral and small debts he had contracted. That he owned a tract of land in Lincoln county was not discovered until after claims had been made against the estate by those who held mortgages on it. Now it is found that the executor's expenses paid there will be \$470 left. The body of the man who wore two medals of bravery awarded by congress was buried with the greatest honor. It is money for the creditors, but now that there is money left, the executor desires to have the remains of the man reinterred in a more befitting grave.

Calling attention to the honored career of the deceased, the executor says: "The testator was a brave soldier during the civil war on the side of the Union. He entered the army at the age of 19 years. He was discharged as lieutenant-colonel of the Eighth New York regiment, volunteer cavalry, one of the most distinguished of the Army of the Potomac. He received two medals of honor voted by congress for bravery. It is a man should have a better sepulcher than that which has been awarded to him."

General Compson is distributed by his wife among members of his family and intimate friends. A gold medal awarded to him by congress for gallantry in action he gave to his daughter, Mrs. Myrtle E. Long, who was last heard from in Nevada. Erich Schmidt of Portland was given a special medal awarded for bravery on the battlefield of Gettysburg. J. F. Ketchum was bestowed a telegraph captured by Compson from General Jubal Early, a famous Confederate cavalry officer. Ketchum also received a letter to him cut the rope in launching the battleship Oregon.

**Discuss Hog Cholera.** Ames, Iowa, May 25.—Representatives of the United States department of agriculture and the experts from the agricultural experiment stations of Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota met in conference today at the Iowa state agricultural college to discuss plans for supplying serum for the prevention and treatment of hog cholera. The department of agriculture was represented by Secretary Wilson, Dr. A. D. Melvin, chief of the bureau of animal industry, and Dr. M. Dorrest, chief of the biochemical division of that bureau.

# LARGE FRESHMAN CLASS ASSURED

## Applications for Entrance to University of Oregon Far Exceed Expectations.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) University of Oregon, Eugene, May 25.—Notwithstanding the state of unrest caused by the referendum of the university appropriation applications for entrance next fall have far exceeded expectations. Registrar Tiffany had anticipated a freshman class of about 300 but from present indications it will be far larger. As this year's freshman class was only about 150 it can be easily seen that unless the appropriation is carried it will be almost impossible to take care of the increase and they will be compelled to go to other states for their education. The greatest number of applications is from Portland, nearly 100. Registrar Tiffany expects over 600 students next year.

**Attention Mr. Voter!** Vote for the increased appropriation for the University of Oregon. Don't brand Oregon as a "mossback" state. Vote "yes" on election day. The bill has been endorsed by all the Oregon commercial clubs, chambers of commerce, the State Federation of Labor and the Tax Payers' League of Portland.

# LETTER RETURNED AFTER LONG JOURNEY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Astoria, Or., May 25.—A letter has been returned to the custom house after a long journey in search of the man to whom it was addressed. It was sent from here on March 14, 1907, was addressed to Charles Rowe at the Seaman's Y. M. C. A. in San Francisco and contained Rowe's discharge from the American ship John Currier on her arrival from the Orient preparatory to going to Alaska. In San Francisco the letter was sent to several substations, then to Vallejo, Mare Island and finally after making the rounds of various places was sent to Washington and thence back to Astoria.

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First one finding and bringing one of the stamped souvenirs to our office will receive \$5.00, second \$4.00, third \$3.00, fourth \$2.00, balance will receive \$1.00 each. Parties bringing in stamped souvenirs will register as they are paid and their names will be published later.

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- A. Wickes & Co., 341-343, 1st st.
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- The Morrison Grand Drug Store, 394 E. Morrison.
- A. R. Flemming, 241 N. 17th st.
- Miller & Kohrs, 192 Grand ave.
- E. J. Mann, 750 Washington st.
- W. T. Dick, 520 38th st.
- Funk Bros., 561 Washington st.
- Boehl & Wetzel, 248 Front.
- Sloan Grocery, 65 N. 4th st.
- B. F. Grocery Co., E. 21st and Powell.
- Parker Bros., 480 Washington.
- F. T. Dick, 520 38th st.
- Bullivant, 461 Jefferson.
- Peterson & Faucetta, 1030 Hawthorne.
- J. M. Bohnsen, 10th and Jefferson.
- J. C. Clark, 860 E. Burnside.
- Masonic Temple Grocery, 380 Yamhill.
- Oak Pharmacy, E. 12th and Oak.
- E. Clair, 334 4th st.
- Beckwith & Smith, cor. Union ave. and Weldier.
- C. D. Ott & Co., 435 6th st.
- The Albina Pharmacy, 280 Russell.
- J. D. Bleeding, 4th and Sherman.
- The People's Market & Grocery, 281 Williams ave.
- Chehak Bros., 754 1st st.
- Walnut Park Grocery, 1047 Williams ave.
- Woolfolk Grocery, 361 Corbett.
- Grubbe & Harrington, 233 Broadway.
- R. E. Cowen, 680 Front.
- Hills Pharmacy, 32d and Thurman.
- Portland Ry. waiting room, 188 Morrison.
- Reed Deutch, 221 N. 17th st.
- Roberts & Southworth, 50 N. 23d.
- Ben A. Bellamy, 401 Hawthorne ave.
- McCombs Pharmacy, 534 Washington.
- White Front Grocery, 375 E. 11th.
- J. P. Fullam, 415 Everett st.
- E. G. Urfer, 639 Milwaukee.
- Cook Elite, 497 Washington.
- H. J. Faust, 36th and Powell.
- N. Y. Grocery, 11th and Morrison.
- O. S. O'Neil, E. 34th and Division.
- G. J. Barnes, 372 1/2 11th st.
- Yates & Raymond, 1614 Belmont.
- Vienna Bakery, 250 Morrison st.
- Alder Street Grocery & Bakery, 560 Alder.
- Coffman's Washington.
- Washer Bros., 574 Broadway.
- C. B. Buckler, 375 4th st.
- Portland Cash Grocery, 694 4th st.
- M. Ward, 678 Williams ave.
- L. Mollie, 695 1st st.
- F. J. Clarke, 1003 Union ave.
- Copeland's Copeland, 1033 Corbett.
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- Cottel Drug Co., 591 1st st.

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40 ACRES farm land, 3 miles from Vancouver and 2 1/2 miles from country town, 21 acres under good state of cultivation and crop, balance good pasture, fair 4-room house, barn 60 by 80 wide, shed, chicken-house and all other necessary outbuildings, place fenced and cross-fenced, family orchard of assorted fruits, good well and living stream, 1 1/2 miles from school, in good neighborhood, including the following personal property: 3 cows, 3 heifers, 3 pigs, 10 chickens, 3 horses, wagon, buggy, shovel plow, rake, 3 stirring plows, mower, etc. Price \$2,500. Terms if desired.

80 ACRES, 11 miles from Vancouver and 5 1/2 miles from river and railroad town, 15 acres under good state of cultivation, fine large new barn cost \$1,000, fair 6-room house and 2-room house, good well and living stream, family orchard in full bearing and 3 acres in orchard of winter apples, 15 acre standing timber, place all fenced and cross-fenced, 1 mile from school in excellent neighborhood, including 3 cows, 24 goats, 4 horses, some sheep, hogs, chickens and complete set of farming implements, crops and all feed on hand. This is absolutely the best buy of the kind in Clarke county. Price \$5,000.

20 ACRES, 16 acres under cultivation, new 4-room house, barn 30 by 40, wooded, chicken-house and all other necessary outbuildings, fine family orchard of assorted fruits, 2 1/2 acres strawberries, 5 miles from Vancouver, 1/2 mile from church and school, in excellent neighborhood, on fine road. Price \$2,500. Terms if desired.

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