

Tabloid Tales About a Few People of Note.



EUGENE E. SCHMITZ

MAYOR EUGENE E. SCHMITZ of San Francisco, who has been convicted of extorting money from the keepers of French restaurants in his city, has had a very spectacular career. He is known as the "fiddling mayor," and when he ran for office it was predicted that if San Francisco were to burn down he would be found, like Nero, fiddling while the flames were at their height. But when the city by the Golden Gate did burn down after the awful earthquake shock the mayor rose to the emergency, and even his enemies credited him with acting with creditable energy and efficiency in the terrible crisis. When the crisis was past, however, according to the testimony of those who went on the stand at his trial, he yielded to the temptation to use his official power to get money illegitimately, and hence his downfall.

There have been many ups and downs in his career. As a young man he started to study medicine, but gave it up because of failing health and took up athletics, which enabled him to build up the magnificent physique he possesses. He has been violinist, orchestra leader, Klondike miner, gas engine maker and executive of a great city and now at forty-three has the prospect of spending a term of years behind the bars of a criminal's cell.

Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans has had few sadder duties than fell to him in announcing the death of the six officers and five seamen of the battleship Minnesota who were drowned in Hampton Roads. He has to go back to the days of the civil war to recall so long a death roll among men he has commanded or with whom he has fought. It was during the civil war that Evans commanded one of the detachments of seamen landed by Rear Admiral Porter to attack Fort Fisher on the sea front. It was intended chiefly as a feint to attract attention from the main assault to be made by the



ROBLEY D. EVANS

army, but the seamen were so much carried away by the possibility of capturing the fort by themselves that they charged it like crazy men as soon as they were ashore. The bluejackets, although they reached the foot of the parapet, suffered severely in killed and wounded. They did not retreat, however, but huddled along the outer edge of the glacis, where the Confederates could not fire at them without rising high enough to expose themselves. Among those who fell at this point was Bob Evans, one leg being so shattered at the knee that it was believed impossible that it could be saved.

"There we lay," said Evans afterward, "the Johnnies taking pot shots at us whenever they dared and our men watching the parapet to fire at every head that came up, for that was our only protection against annihilation. Not until the army took them in the rear and swept them from one traverse after another did we feel there was any hope to escape. We were so close that we could 'sass' each other back and forth, and it certainly had a discouraging influence upon the fellows behind the parapets to hear themselves damned unanimously by a line of men who apparently had cuss words enough to represent a whole army corps."

The United States navy has had few more picturesque figures than Rear Admiral Joseph B. Coghlan, who retired from active duty a short time ago after a lengthy service distinguished by several episodes which gave him a good share of public attention. He is a native of Kentucky and was appointed to the navy from Illinois in 1890, becoming an ensign after three years at the Naval Academy in 1893.



REAR ADMIRAL COGHLAN

He rose through the various grades until in 1898 he was a captain and in command of the cruiser Raleigh on the Asiatic station. At the battle of Manila Bay his heroic conduct won him praise second only to that accorded Dewey, and on his return to American shores some months later he was one of the lions of the hour. But the admiral, though brave, has always been exceptionally free and blunt of speech, and this trait has got him into embarrassing situations more than once. A number of years before the Spanish war he was put back several places on the naval list on account of too free expressions of opinion. It was in 1890 at a dinner that his story of the

trouble between Admiral Dewey and Admiral Von Diederichs at Manila, together with his now historic "Hock der Kaiser" song, nearly led to international complications, for the Germans were much offended by the remarks of the gallant but indiscreet American officer.

Despite his bluntness of speech and the troubles caused thereby, Coghlan reached the rear admiral's grade and has retained the popular affection his courageous sea duty has inspired. He is very fond of good stories and once told one to illustrate his distaste for being the last speaker.

"Having the last word," the rear admiral said, "reminds me of a story I heard not long ago. A certain man died, and a clergyman was engaged to offer a eulogy. The worthy minister prepared a sermon of exceeding length and strength, but just before he entered the parlor to deliver it he thought that it might be advisable to learn what the dead man's last words had been. So he turned to one of the weeping younger sons and asked:

"My boy, can you tell me your father's last words?"

"He didn't have none," the boy answered, "ma was with him to the end."

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., who lost a \$15,000 gem box a few months ago and recently recovered it, was an heiress when she married young Mr. Vanderbilt, so that money has been plentiful with her from girlhood up. She was Miss Virginia Fair, daughter of the late Senator Fair, and is a beauty of the brunette type, small, but well built, and graceful and very vivacious. The gem box, or "vanity box," was stolen at Sherry's one evening after the opera. It was set with 500 diamonds and seventy rubies. Detectives recovered the box from a waiter who tried to pawn it. Mrs. Vanderbilt was asked if there were any marks by which she could identify it.



MRS. W. K. VANDERBILT, JR.

"Yes," she replied after a few moments' thought; "there are some telephone numbers on a celluloid card inside of the box."

"Can you remember what they are?" asked the detective.

Mrs. Vanderbilt knitted her brows, and then her face cleared. She repeated three or four numbers on the card, and the detective smiled.

"It's yours without question," he said as he drew forth from his pocket the gold and jewel studded case. There was an exclamation of delight from the leader in society as she eagerly clasped the box and held it to the light.

"Yes, it's mine," she said. Mrs. Vanderbilt refused to appear in court against the thief and delegated the task to her husband.

Representative Theodore E. Burton of Ohio, who has been prominent as a supporter of Secretary Taft for the Republican presidential nomination, has attained many of his ambitions, but has never won a wife. His friends are having considerable fun at his expense on account of an incident in connection with his invitation to speak at Mechanicsburg, O., on the glorious Fourth. In announcing the expected visit from the congressman the editor of the Mechanicsburg Weekly Telegram said:

Hon. Theodore Burton of Cleveland will deliver the Fourth of July address in Mechanicsburg. It is also understood that the ladies of this community have tendered Mrs. Burton an invitation to spend Independence day in Mechanicsburg, and it is more than likely that she will be our guest on the Fourth. She is a most attractive woman, and her appearance here will be a great event in social circles.

The congressman's friends now say it is up to him to produce a "Mrs. Burton" for the occasion of the nation's independence anniversary.

Brand Whitlock, who criticizes the prevalent penal practices of this country in an article in a leading magazine, succeeded the late Sam Jones as "Golden Rule mayor" of Toledo. He combines reform politics with literature and makes his success in the one contribute to his success in the other. It was his political novel, "The Thirteenth District," that gave him his greatest fame, and for years he has worked for the promotion of his reform ideas, both in the field of literature and in that of practical politics, in that respect resembling Winston Churchill of New Hampshire. There is this difference between the two men—Mr. Whitlock got a chance to carry out some of his ideas of reform through being elected to office, while Mr. Churchill was not chosen to the position to which he aspired, that of governor of the Granite State. Mayor Whitlock in his recent article on the penal system in vogue in this country scores the treatment of criminals under it and says that society makes and perpetuates the only criminal class by refusing to forgive a first offender or to trust an ex-convict and by making the conditions of imprisonment of criminals in most instances wholly discouraging, brutalizing and degrading.

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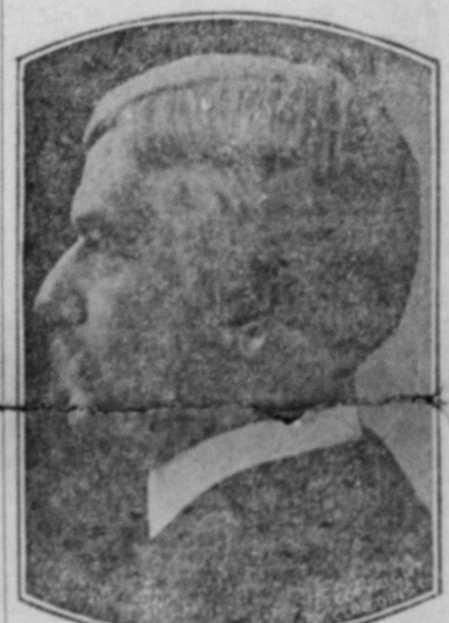
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Colonel Gorgas' Sanitary Work In The Canal Zone.

WHEN Colonel William C. Gorgas, chief sanitary officer of the Panama canal zone, addressed the graduating class of the medical department of Cornell university on the subject of sanitation he suggested to the fledgeling doctors that a great opening exists for ambitious and scientific medical graduates in the direction of sanitary science. It is a field that has come into existence within a comparatively few years. Now wherever there are large centers of population in America there is a demand for those skilled in sanitation, and in the semitropical countries their services are in special demand, for it has been shown that in such countries as Panama, Cuba and various islands of the Caribbean the climate is not inimical to the health of the Anglo-Saxon race if only there is good sanitation. On the strength of the results at Panama Colonel Gorgas predicts with confidence that in the course of two centuries the settlement and development of the semitropical American countries will have progressed to such an extent that the centers of wealth and population and civilization will be in the tropics again, as they were at the dawn of history. He expressed the opinion that with yellow fever and malaria and other maladies peculiar to the tropics banished life in these climates will be found more healthful than in the temperate zones.

This idea of good sanitation has an intimate relation to the development of the community along co-operative lines. The tendency is now for the public in its corporate capacity to do a great many things that were formerly left to private enterprise or perhaps were not done at all. The protection of the public health is one of the things that have come to demand a large share of attention. Medicine and other branches of science are called on to contribute their quota toward the grand result of minimizing the evils of disease and making people healthier and therefore happier. Wonderful results have been achieved by the American sanitary experts in Panama. Cu-



COLONEL WILLIAM C. GORGAS

ba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Yellow fever has been wholly stamped out in Panama by the extermination of the species of mosquito that spreads this disease, and malaria has been reduced to a minimum. It is claimed that sickness is no more frequent in the canal zone than in the average city of the United States. Yellow fever was banished from Cuba under American control, but returned again when the native government allowed supervision to grow lax. It has been driven out again since American control of the island was resumed.

It is now recognized that the mosquito is largely responsible for the prevalence of malaria in certain localities, and the suffering and annoyance for which this insect is responsible have hindered the development of districts in the neighborhood of large cities and kept down the values of real estate. In recognition of this the New Jersey legislature recently appropriated \$350,000 for the prosecution of the war against the mosquito, and a corps of sanitary experts has gone to work to spy out the breeding places and treat them in such a way as to exterminate the pest so far as possible. Staten Island, now a part of New York city, has achieved considerable success in this direction by drainage of salt marshes and is rapidly losing its unenviable fame as a mosquito infested district. In New Jersey the drainage of one mosquito infested district resulted this year in the building of 100 new houses, and one real estate owner—not a large holder either—estimated the increase in the value of his property at \$50,000.

Capitalists are coming to see the value more and more of sanitary surroundings for their employees and to realize that from the business point of view alone it pays to spend money to have such surroundings as they should be. One of the good results of the investigation into the meat packing industry of Chicago was the increased attention the packers were forced by it to pay to sanitation and the physical welfare of their employees generally. When Colonel Gorgas first took up his work at Panama a good deal of fun was made of his "bug brigade." Then when the homes of residents were invaded and tons of sulphur, pyrethrum and other things that did not smell sweet were burned under their noses, while hundreds of barrels of oil were poured on waters that had not been troubled for years, jokes turned to anthems. But even the Panamanians have come to see the value of sanitary science now.

ROOM FURNISHINGS.

They Should Be Simple, Durable, Sanitary and Artistic.

Do not act on the supposition that everything old is beautiful. "Your grandfather's taste may have been worse than yours," observes an expert. Do not buy many things. Do not make a museum of your house.

The furnishings should be adapted to the use to which the family wishes to put them. The life for which the white and gold chair was designed is elaborately and distantly formal. Conventionality and ceremony rather than cozy comfort are suggested by the white and gold room. The use of the room and the purpose of the article should be kept in mind in the selection of furniture.

Furnishings should be simple, durable, sanitary and artistic. Color is one of the most important elements in the selection of furnishings. Do we realize that the indefinable difference between the restful room and the inhospitable room is largely a matter of color? A room requires its color to be in unison if it is to soothe and rest.

Frequently the householder may recall Morris' words, "Have nothing in your homes that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful." And those from Henderson: "One must surround oneself with wholesomeness and beauty. This parallelism between conciseness and nature makes this insistence upon convenience of arrangement and respect for form and color more than a mere matter of taste. It makes it a matter of moral obligation. A man's surroundings are not accidental. They are a part of himself and must likewise be chastened and purified. An ugly room, badly lighted, poorly ventilated, inadequately heated, must be regarded as morally reprehensible, whether provided for oneself or for somebody else. It is the projection of an evil thought and, entering into consciousness, lowers the level of human life."—Boston Traveler.

THOUGHT HER IMMUNE.

While waiting for the speaker at a public meeting a pale little man in the audience seemed very nervous. He glanced over his shoulder from time to time and squirmed and shifted about in his seat. At last, unable to stand it any longer, he arose and demanded, in a high, penetrating voice:

"Is there a Christian Scientist in this room?"

A woman at the other side of the hall got up and said:

"I am a Christian Scientist."

"Well, then, madam," requested the little man, "would you mind changing seats with me? I'm sitting in a draught."

Attaining Success.

The following is taken from a printers trade magazine:

"Some people get results if kindly encouraged; but give me the man who can do things in spite of hell," shouts Elbert Hubbard. In the case of the printer, kindly encouragement is forever wanting; for success in our field is won in spite of hell and the devil, and then some.

A. E. Schad

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