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The Montevideo Times

EDITOR AND SOLE PROPRIETOR
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NOTICES.

Advertisers are respectfully informed that all «permanent» or monthly advertisements will be charged for until due notice is given of their withdrawal. This does not apply to prepaid advertisements inserted for a specified period. The collector is not qualified to receive verbal instructions respecting the withdrawal of permanent advertisements.

On account of our early hour of going to press it is especially requested that any notices or advertisements intended for publication on the following day be delivered at our offices not later than 4.30 p. m.

The Montevideo Times

MONTEVIDEO, OCTOBER 24, 1908.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A LIBERAL PROGRAM.

Referring recently to the misuse of the word «liberal» in the Census bulletins, we had occasion to say that, in this country, there is no liberal party, in the political significance generally attached to the word in all other parts of the world except here.

The assertion is absolutely true, though it may seem a strange one to have to make of a young country, supposed to be governed on republican principles, and by no means devoid of progressive tendencies.

Of the two parties into which the country is divided, the nationalist is perhaps the nearer to liberalism in politics, though it would be more correctly described as «progressive conservative.» Anyhow of the two it is the party more closely allied to the productive and commercial interests of the country, and the one that more frequently defends democratic principles of government and popular rights and liberties.

The other party, the «colorado» can certainly establish no claim to be called «liberal» for nearly all its proceedings, and the greater part of the legislation for which it has been responsible during the forty years that it has been in power, are distinctly contrary to liberal ideas.

That there is room and even necessity for a genuinely liberal party, there can be no doubt, if it were possible to form a new party powerful enough to break through the present traditional divisions which so many would be glad to see disappear. In fact, to those who know what liberalism really means in politics, the program for such a party seems ready made, and only waiting for some one of influence and prestige in the political world to take it up and make it a living force.

Without any pretensions to oracular wisdom in political questions we have roughly sketched out what we consider would be a really liberal program, and in the hope that it may not prove uninteresting, present it as follows:—

1. Popular intervention, direct or indirect, in the election of the President, which, after the experience of past years, should never again be left to the legislators.

2. Genuine electoral reform, so that in future the Chambers shall be the expression of the will of the people and of no one else. Introduction of the principle of proportional representation, so that every party and faction may be represented according to its strength. Absolute prohibition, under severest penalties, of the military and the police to intervene in any form in partisan and electoral affairs.

3. Reduction of the present excessive political power of the President; extension of that of the people, whose voice at the elections should be the determining factor in the national policy.

4. Recognition of the principle that, as the «State» is the embodiment of the people, the «interests of the State» can never be superior to those of the people, but the two should go hand in hand.

5. Assertion of the right of the people to manage their local affairs and to have a voice in the appointment of their local authorities.

6. Defence of all popular rights and liberties whenever assailed or threatened by the Government.

7. Assertion of the right of citizens to refuse to take up arms in a civil quarrel.

8. Assertion of the complete liberty of the press (except as regards military movements) in times of both peace and war.

9. Complete toleration for all religious opinions, and for all religious practices that do not interfere with public order. Elementary religious instruction, of a non-dogmatic character, to be given in the public schools, at the option of the parents. The attitude of the State towards religion should be one of complete neutrality, not of hostility.

10. Nationalization of the army, which should belong to the nation, not to any particular party. It should be made a serious disciplinary offence for any military man to take part in partisan movements, or to wear a partisan badge or utter partisan cries.

11. Preservation of Uruguay as a neutral and unarmed State.

12. Reduction of the military expenditure to one-half or one-third its present amount.

13. Assertion of the liberty of commerce, trade and industry. Gradual repeal or reform of the restrictive legislation of the last fifteen years.

14. Opposition to all State monopolies in commerce or industry.

15. Reform of the tributary system. Taxation should fall on results, not on efforts. Simplification of the tributary laws. Abandonment of the ultra-protective system, which has given such bad results. Repeal or reduction to a minimum of taxes and duties on food stuffs, first necessities, machinery, and the primary and secondary materials for industries. Reduction of the municipal imposts and restrictions on the sale of food.

16. Restriction of the national expenditure by elimination of all superfluous and unproductive expenses.

17. Application of treasury surplus to reduction of the taxes and duties, colonization and the stimulation of useful immigration.

18. Opposition to any employment of national funds for partisan purposes.

19. Accessibility to public offices, from the Presidency downwards, for all citizens of talent and merit, irrespective of party.

20. Encouragement of capital, both native and foreign, to invest in commerce and industry, by removing obstructions, simplifying procedures, and exemption of direct taxation on all new enterprises for one or two years.

21. Substitution of public and verbal trial for the present secret proceedings of the law-courts.

22. Submission of trade unions to the laws of the country, and assertion of the right to work against the tyranny of the unions.

23. Substitution of arbitration for strikes as a means of settling trade disputes.

24. State intervention for the protection of public services, and of property and person, in case of strikes.

25. More publicity for parliamentary business. No Bill should be discussed until its text and the Committee Report had been made fully public, so that those interested might express their opinion.

26. Assertion of the right of the Chambers to reprimand the President and the Ministers or to call for their resignation, when their conduct viola public interests or discredits public opinion.

27. Establishment of the right of the President to dissolve the Chambers when they fail to fulfil their duties or openly violate public opinion, their place being taken by a Council of State until new elections are held.

28. In case of violent conflict between the President and the Chambers, reference of the question at issue to a Council of Notables, whose decision shall be final, the side not accepting having the alternative of resignation.

And enough for the present. We are not vain enough to suppose that the above points are not open to controversy, but so far as we understand liberal principles, they are the points which we think would be adopted for its program by a liberal party if such came into existence in this country. At all events, no harm can be done by submitting them for consideration. And, as will be readily perceived, they have nothing to do with any religious question, and in many respects are completely contrary to the policy of the party in power, which, as we have already said, has no claim to be called liberal.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

MONTEVIDEO.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1908.

Saints Raphael, Mark and Paschal.

—Lady Jane Seymour died, 1538.—

298 days past, 68 to the end of the year.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The Representatives sat on Thursday and, with a minimum of discussion, approved in general and in a detail a batch of Bills which now pass to the Senate. Among these were the Bill relative to profits of the Bank of the Republic, Dr. Massera's Penal Jurisdiction Bill, Quarterly amortization of the Amortizable Debt, the 3 per cent Additional Duties, and some minor measures. Discussion of the Buildings Bill was proceeding when the Chamber adjourned. (We await the *Diario Oficial* for a fuller report of the proceedings.)

According to the *Diario*, now that the Port Works are approaching completion, it is already practically certain that the accommodation they will offer will be insufficient for the traffic of the port, in view of the great size of the transatlantic liners now visiting it, and plans for extension are therefore already being thought of. We await more definite information about the matter.

The Great Telephone Fire in Paris.

Paris, Sept. 21.

The Central Telephone Exchange, known as the Gutenberg, situated opposite the General Post Office in the Rue du Louvre, was destroyed by fire last night. As a result, not only are 19,000 subscribers in Paris unable to communicate with one another, but Paris itself is cut off, so far as the telephone is concerned, from London, Berlin, Brussels, and the whole of France.

The fire broke out in the basement of the building as the result of a short circuit. During the past fortnight the latest American central battery system had been installed, at a cost of 1,500,000fr. (£300,000) for the switchboard alone on one of the upper floors. In this system, as is well known, the current is derived from accumulators charged in the usual way by a dynamo. When, as the result of defective insulation of the cables, a short circuit occurs, it is apt to cause a fire by igniting the highly inflammable covering of paraffin and gutta-percha which surrounds the wires. It appears, indeed, that several short circuits had already occurred in the course of yesterday but had been rectified immediately. In theory a short circuit gives notice of its existence by automatically lighting an incandescent lamp. Soon after 7 o'clock, however, an employee discovered a fire starting among the cables in the basement of the exchange. The reports differ as to what actually happened, but it seems that he attempted to extinguish the fire with buckets of water. This, not unnaturally, had no effect, and in a few moments the fire broke out with irresistible violence, igniting an enormous quantity of inflammable materials stored in the basement and running up the cables from floor to floor of the building. The staff had no time to use the fire extinguishing appliances at hand, and together with the operators they were compelled to beat an immediate retreat. Fortunately it was Sunday, and only 200 women were on duty instead of 600, as would have been the case on a week day, and, being warned by the smell of burning gutta-percha which filled the building, all were enabled to escape in time. The fire spread with extraordinary rapidity, in spite of the efforts of almost the whole fire brigade of Paris. The firemen were much hampered by the nauseating smoke which filled the building, and the frequent explosion of carboys of sulphuric acid made the task of approaching the fire particularly dangerous. After an hour's fire it became clear that the building was doomed, and it was not until midnight that the fire was completely in hand. The only part of the interior which is not utterly destroyed is a portion of the inter-urban switchboard. The books were saved. The damage is estimated at over 20,000,000fr. (£4,000,000).

Only the wires connecting Paris with the principal French towns can be got in order again within the next two or three days. The Paris subscribers whose supply is cut off are those whose numbers begin with 100, 200, 300. Among them are the Ministries, the principal newspapers, and the leading places of business. There are close upon 44,000 subscribers in Paris. 19,000 of them have now their communications destroyed.

This afternoon the Minister of Public Works had a long consultation with the port office authorities. The departmental engineers informed him that they hoped to be able to restore telephone communication within two days, as regards the Government offices, business houses, and newspaper offices, but private subscribers will have to wait at least three weeks before they can use their instruments.

Every effort will be made to restore the foreign service for «stock exchange business» at least, but all other foreign telephonic communications, Press messages, included, must wait for a time. Communication between Paris and the chief towns in the provinces will soon be restored.

The disaster has also considerably affected the telegraph service between Paris and London and other foreign capitals, and M. Barthou, the Minister of Public Works, says that delays may be expected.

Curiously enough, the building was regarded as fireproof, being built of concrete, with woodwork reduced to the lowest minimum. There is now a danger that the walls still standing may topple over.

In comparison with this fire, the burning of the greater part of the shops known as the *Ville de Saint Denis* yesterday morning is important mainly on account of the damage, which is estimated at 4,000,000fr. (£160,000), and of the fact that 600 employees are thrown out of work.

John D. Rockefeller.

American Oil King's Advice to Business Men.

«It has not been my custom to press my affairs forward into the public gaze; but I have come to see that if my family and friends want some record of things which might shed light on matters that have been widely discussed, it is right that I should yield to their advice, and, in this informal way, go over again some of the events which have made life interesting to me.»

So runs Mr. John D. Rockefeller's apology for penning his autobiography, the first instalment of which appears in «The World's Work» for October.

«Some Random Reminiscences of Men

Salvation Army.

Spanish Meetings are held at Calle Nueva York 14, Aguada, every evening except Tuesday at 8.30 p. m. Sundays, at 8 p. m.—Children's Meetings, Sundays at 2 p. m.—Head quarters, Florida 59. Adjutant Thomas in charge. Services in English at the Home Florin 54, every Sunday 8 p. m.

SUNDRIES.

—WEATHER.—The threatened storm broke on Thursday evening and was violent while it lasted, but although the rainfall was heavy it was too brief to be of much use. Hail also fell and is reported to have done some damage. Telegraphic communication with the interior yesterday was interrupted, showing the storm to have been more or less general. The weather cleared yesterday morning, but the big temperature continues, showing that normal conditions are not yet restored.

—THE CONSULAR CHAPLAIN.—We received a hurried note yesterday from the Rev. H. A. Allpass, written on board the «Highland Harrier» on the way to Buenos Aires, that steamer not touching at this port. The reverend gentleman will be here to-day, and will take the services at Holy Trinity Church tomorrow and henceforth. We used not speak of the hearty welcome awaiting him.

—HOSPITAL SUNDAY.—Tomorrow, coming within the Octave of St. Luke «the beloved Physician», will be observed at Holy Trinity Church as Hospital Sunday, and the collections at all the services will be on behalf of the British Hospital.

—CRICKET.—The season of the M. V. C. C. opens at the Blanqueras ground tomorrow with a match Captain versus President, commencing at 10.30 a. m. Any cricketers who have not been asked by the Captain and who wish to play, may do so by turning up at the ground.

—AMATEUR THEATRICALS.—As announced in our advertisement columns, on Tuesday, November 3, an amateur dramatic performance will be given at the Victoria Hall under the auspices of the Firefly Club. The piece chosen, which has been in active rehearsal for several weeks, is «On Change», a comedy in three acts, translated from the German of Herr Von Moser. It is a most amusing and interesting piece which has had a prolonged success in England and the United States. The cast, which will be found in the advertisement, is a strong and attractive one. Particulars respecting the sale of tickets will appear early next week.

—QUINZA THEATRE.—The great and unique Fregoli reappears this evening, which means a full house. His program consists of «Artículo 338», «Ragnatela» and the indispensable «Variety Theatre», in which he introduces several new impersonations. The performance commences with a comedieta by an Italian Company.

—POLITEAMA THEATRE.—The program for this evening consists of «Doña Rosario» and «La Estirpe».

—CABINET.—The latest arrival here is Liolette Loiseau, singer and dancer. Some important novelties are promised for next week.

—THE PRESIDENTIAL TOUR.—Dr. William will leave on his visit to Colonia on Wednesday next, going by the river route in the «18 de Julio». His secretary Dr. Barbraux has already left to make preliminary arrangements. Dr. William and his family will probably remain in the Swiss Colony for a fortnight.

—SUICIDE.—In the early hours of yesterday morning the Sra. M. Prolosone de Ardo, aged 49, mounted to the roof of the house Calle Rampla 189 and threw herself into the street below. Neighbours promptly rushed to pick her up, but she was found to be already dead, the fall having broken her neck, besides causing other serious injuries. The deceased lady, whose husband keeps the drapery store at the corner of Calles Piedra and Treinta y Tres, was not in her right mind, and had previously made attempts upon her own life.

SUBSCRIBER'S COPY.

NOTICE.—All copies of this paper issued for distribution to subscribers are stamped with the words «SUBSCRIBER'S COPY» in red ink, at the head of the front page. Copies thus stamped are not for sale, and if any copy thus stamped is offered for sale in the streets by newboys or others, it has been STOLEN and should not be purchased.

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THE KING OF TEAS

Sole Importers

J. J. WALKER & SONS, LD.,

Calle 25 de Mayo 336.

LONDON NOTES.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.

The King yesterday took part in a deer drive in the Glenmuck portion of Balmoral Forest, and two stags and a roebuck fell to his gun. His Majesty was accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, and Prince Alexander of Teck. In the evening there was a deer dance by torchlight in front of the Castle.

Holy Trinity Church.

Oct. 25.—XIX Sunday after Trinity.

8.15 a. m.—Holy Communion.

Hymn, 321.

10.30 a. m.—Matins. Hymns, 210,

298, 365.

8 p. m.—Evensong. Hymns, 165,

172, 368, 477.

Collections, British Hospital.

Rev. H. A. Allpass, Chaplain.

Calle Durazno 303.

Methodist Episcopal Church

Calle Constituyente, corner of Medanos.

Sunday.—10 a. m. Sunday School.

11 a. m. Public Worship.

Wednesday.—Mid-week Prayer service,

8 p. m.

Rev. G. E. Martin, Pastor.

Calle Rivera 308, Aguada.

Saturday, October 24, 1908.

Mr. L. d'Gonzo, M.P., in opening a special session at the Chamber yesterday, spoke on the subjects of the Celtic character, Nonconformity, and religion, and extolled the great forces for good which had been trained and disciplined in this country by Nonconformity.

A large company of archaeologists met yesterday, at Montevideo, and after inspecting the excavations at Montevideo Ridge, heard an address on the subject by Mr. St. George Gray, who has directed and supervised the work.

Willful murders were the verdict at the inquest on Mrs. Luzzi yesterday, and in addition the writers of the anonymous letters were strongly condemned, and the police stated that there was no foundation for the accusations against General Luzzi.

At Hatfield Police-court, yesterday, Sidney Broughton P. P., formerly an estate agent at North Mimms, Herts., was charged with obtaining from Mr. William Lermite a cheque for £650 by means of a forged instrument. Several other charges of fraud were brought against him, involving a total sum of £6,523. The accused, who was brought from prison, where he had been committed on a charge of forging the name of Mr. Lewis Harcourt, M. P., was recommitted on the new charges.

The analysis of the returns from the schools in which the movement was observed this year has now been completed. It shows that Empire Day was observed in 15,940 schools, training colleges, and institutions, with an attendance of 3,222,000 scholars; whilst in the Colonies the day was kept by 35,482 schools with an attendance of 2,548,200 scholars; making a total throughout the Empire of 51,122 schools, training colleges and institutions, and of 6,770,200 scholars; who came under the influence of the movement. Last year Empire Day was observed in 12,811 schools in the United Kingdom with an attendance of 2,562,200 scholars, and in 35,192 schools in Greater Britain, with an attendance of 3,500,000 scholars; making a total throughout the Empire of 48,003 schools and of 6,062,200 scholars. The figures show an increase over last year throughout the Empire of 3,119 schools and of 715,000 scholars.

A charge of sending a menacing letter demanding £500 and threatening to kill Mr. J. B. Joel was heard at Marlborough-street yesterday.

COMMERCIAL

Stock Exchange

Montevideo, Oct. 23, 1908.

Bank shares were busy again, and fairly steady. Other values quiet but firm. Sales as follows:—

Mortgage Bank, 2110 shares at 55.70 cash and 56.10 to 56.90 closing 56.00 of month, 56.50 to 56.70 end of Nov., 57.20 end of Dec.

Mortgage Bonds E, \$16,000 at 91.50 to 91.70 tmw.

Consolidated Debt, \$16,783 at 90.10 cash and 90.20 tmw.

Consolidated Debt, \$2350 at 67.80 tmw, London quotation, 70 3/8.

Exchange

	Bank Com'l
L'don 90d/s	51 7/16
Paris 90d/s	5.39
Antwerp 90d/s	5.435
Germany 90d/s	4.39
N. York	0.97
Italy	5.36
Spain	5.96
Brazil	15.900
B. Aires	1 pr. par.

Buenos Aires, Oct. 23.

Galicia, 19.30.	
Catolinas, cash, 8.00.	
Do. end of month, 8.05.	
Puerto San Nicolas, cash 35.10.	
Do. end of month, 35.20.	
Do. en. of Nov., 35.40.	
Certificados Banco Español, cash, 62.00.	
San Juan de Oro, No. 3 0.40.	
Matto Grosso Lavadero de oro, cash, 1.00.	
Pavimentación, 70.70.	
Credito Argentino, 88.20.	
Consolidada de la provincia de Buenos Aires, 6 cto (24. serie), al contado, 84.10.	
Cedulas Nacionales R. 91.70.	
Do. L. 81.90.	
The "Paris" and "Colombias", rails.	

MARITIME

Arrivals and Sailings

Montevideo, Oct. 22, 1908.

—Str. Hamburg from La Plata.

—Str. Araby from (not for) Liverpool.

—Str. Umbria for Genoa, 91 pass.

—Str. Italia for Marseilles, 3 pass.

—Str. Esland for B. Aires, Oct. 23.

—Str. Venus from B. Aires, 67 pass.

—Str. Rio de la Plata from B. Aires, 85 pass.

—Str. Londres from Salto, 171 pass.

—Str. Roma from B. Aires, for Port Madyre, 5 pass.

—Str. Neptune from Middlesborough.

—Str. Edith from San Nicolas.

—Str. Polehall from Cardiff.

—Str. Mont Ventoux from Mers-el-ks.

—Str. Entre Rios for Hamburg.

—Str. Oceana for Liverpool, 23 pass.

—Str. Monza for B. Aires.

—Str. Venus and Rio de la Plata for B. Aires.

MAIL STEAMERS

LEAVING TO-DAY

—The river str. TRION will leave TO-DAY for Buenos Aires only. Correspondence at G. P. O. till 5.15 p.m.

—The German str. CAP ORTEGAL will leave TO-DAY for Rio, Coruña, Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton, Boulogne and Hamburg. Correspondence at G. P. O. till 3 p.m.

GAS

ANOTHER LARGE REDUCTION IN PRICE

From the 1st August, 1908, the Montevideo Gas Company Limited, has resolved to offer to its Consumers, another large reduction in price. From the date mentioned until further notice, the Company will charge only

8 CENTS

per Cubic Metre, for Gas consumed for Lighting purposes and

6 CENTS

per Cubic Metre, for Gas consumed for Cookers, for Heating, for Motors and for Industries. In these latter cases it is necessary that the Gas consumed be registered by a Meter or Indicator completely independent of the Meter for Lighting.

Fixed Prices without discounts.

With these new reductions it can truly be said that Gas is now put within reach of all the inhabitants of the City, even the poorest, and that for

LIGHTING

as also when used as a

Combustible or for Motive Power

it is the **Best, the Cheapest, and the Most Convenient.**

Installations and Apparatus of all kinds at reduced prices. Upright and Inverted Incandescent Lamps, Cooking Stoves, Heating Stoves, Bath Heaters, Boiling Rings, and many other Apparatus.

Montevideo Gas Company, Limited.

CALLE 25 DE MAYO Nos. 334, 338 and 342.

Sole Agents for Crossley's Celebrated Gas Engines.

The Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company

ESTABLISHED 1836

ACCUMULATED FUNDS. \$ 51,000,000

Sole Agents in the Republic of Uruguay

MAGLEAN AND STAPLEDON

CALLE PIEDRAS 123.—MONTEVIDEO

URQUIZA THEATRE

REPRESENTACIONES EXTRAORDINARIAS

—DE—

FREGOLI

Debut, sabado 24 de Octubre 1908

Artículo 338.—Ragnatela.— Teatro de variedades.

PRECIOS MODICOS.

POLITEAMA THEATRE

GRAN COMPAÑIA COMICO-LIRICA NACIONAL

EN LA QUE FIGURA EL PRIMER ACTOR

Pablo Podestà

Sabado, Octubre, 24.

D.R. Rosario

La Estirpe

PRECIOS POPULARES

NEW CASINO THEATRE

CALLES ANDES & COLONIA

GRAND INTERNATIONAL COMPANY OF VARIETY ARTISTS.

CONSTANT CHANGE OF PROGRAM.

Performance nightly at 9 p. m.

and on Sundays and holidays at 8 p. m.

ADVERTISEMENTS

GOOD ROOM TO LET, cheap, in centre near banks and business houses. Particulars, 25 de Mayo 324.

Oct. 30.

WANTED, Young Englishwoman who understands Spanish, to take care of small children. Salary £5 per month. Apply Calle 18 de Julio 655, from 11 to 12 a.m.

Oct. 30.

POQUITOS.—Two or three rooms to let in native family close to the sea. Bachelors preferred. Highly recommended by Englishmen. Calle Pereira 48.

Oct. 30.

ENGLISH CLUB, NOTICE.

The members of the Club are advised that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Club Rooms at 8.30 p. m. on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, for the presentation of Report and Accounts, Election of new Committee, &c.

By Order.

NOTE.—The Annual Auction of Papers, Magazines, etc., will be held the same evening.

Pianos Tuned AND REPAIRED.

Old pianos bought or taken in exchange for new.

First-class work guaranteed by 25 years' experience in Germany and Paris.

All parts of the Republic visited on request.

Antonio Kappenberg

Calle Reconquista 147.

Ask for BUCHANAN'S

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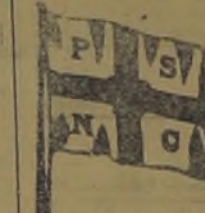
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Firmado: Prof. Dr. R. Baldassini

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Densidad a 15° 1033.2
Materia, por ciento 12.91
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Materia albuminosa 2.91
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Materia, por ciento de extracto 29.74
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Montevideo, Oct. 19 de 1908.

Firmado: Prof. J. Guglielmini

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SHORT STORY

The McDougal

Street Dynamite Outrages.

(Continued).

Valeska glided in. «McGraw has come with Antonio,» she whispered, «and has been waiting half an hour; but I wouldn't interrupt until you had finished your calculations. Shall I let them in now?»
Astro yawned again luxuriously. «You're too indulgent of me, my dear girl, I'm very much afraid the delay may cost Signor Gallino two hundred pounds, possibly his life. Do you happen to remember what date this is? But, there, it's really none of our business, I suppose? Yes, you may show them in.»

In another moment the officer appeared, leading by the sleeve a very badly frightened Italian. The moment the latter perceived the gorgeously picturesque figure of the palmist he rushed across the room and sank on the floor, clutching Astro by the knees.

«I no trow-a da bomb!» he screamed. «I no trow-a da bomb, Sacramento! I spik-a da trut! I no trow-a da bomb! signor! Gallino he g've-a me da bounce, all I shake-a da fist in da face, but I no trow-a da bomb! At that the tears streamed from his wild eyes.

Astro waved his hand impatiently, took up the Italian's palm, and began reading it, only to let it drop in a few moments.

«This young lady who lodged next to you,» he said gently—«you liked her, Antonio?»

The accused's eyes beamed. «Ah, si signor, she the fine-a nice-a girl. She spik to me often.»

«Very often?»
«Ah, no, signor, she lock herself in da room all-a da time. Some eve she came-a in, get-a da match; da's all. Read-a da paper, maybe, sometime.»

Astro cast a quick significant look at Valeska under his dark brows. «When did she come in and tear out a page from The Era, Tony?»

Antonio scratched his head, labouring to remember. «Sometime dees-a last-a week, early; si. One night she come in, she say, «Tony, I like-a get-a da poeish. You lemme take-a da paper; I bring'er back. I say no, I want-a da paper for read-a to night. She say, «All-a right; I tear-a off da one-a piece.»

Astro turned to McGraw. «You'd better turn this poor fellow loose. I think he's innocent enough. I know what I want to know now.»

«What do you know?» said the detective peevishly. «Seems to me it's time I was told some of this game, ain't it?»

«I'll tell you in ten minutes, if you'll telephone a question to headquarters, or to the proper quarter, and find out if there has been any complaint made of the loss of a pocketbook containing a five-pound note, some silver, and a horn-handled shoe-butler. If there has, you'll want your friend Bull O'Kennery for that piece of work, too.»

McGraw rose, wondering, and went to the telephone.

Astro called after him. «Tell them that if anyone does appear with that complaint to arrest him or her immediately—and disarm him or her carefully.»

Valeska waited till the detective had gone into the hall. «It was the girl, then, I feel,» she cried. «But how in the world did she ever expect to collect the money without being caught?»

«That's the cleverest part of it,» answered the recer meditatively. You remember that she sent word to him the last time to have two hundred pounds with night and day, and she'd let him know how to transfer the money?»

«Yes; but she hasn't let him know so far.»

«But she will to-night. You forget that to-morrow is the twelfth, the last day.»

Valeska, extremely puzzled even yet as to how a lone girl was to accomplish her design, sat studying the matter over. Before she could reply, however, McGraw came back with an astonished look on his face.

«A girl called at the Mulberry Station yesterday and reported that her pocket had been picked. She described the

money and the buttonhook all right; and, if you say so, it must be one of Bull's jobs; but it's too late to catch her, I'm afraid.»

«What did she look like?» asked Astro. «Why, that's funny! This Gallino happened to be there, talking to the sergeant about his place being blown up, and he recognised her as a girl that used to work in the corner shop near him. She spoke to him a few minutes, and then left, an' Gallino told the sergeant about it.»

Astro clapped his hand. «Selah!» he exclaimed. «Too other waves have met at last. Wait five minutes; I must consult my crystal!»

(To be concluded in our next.)

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