

# HERB CAEN

## It's News to Me

### I Wonder, I Wonder:

If the Police Commission and the Chief would have appreciated the almost movie-like scene that was staged in the Barbizon Room a couple of midnights ago. The place was jam-packed—not an empty table—when suddenly a beefy, red-faced, crinkly-haired character and two equally big buddies, strode hunkily through the door. For a second there was consternation among the head-waiters. Then a table was rustled up from somewhere or other, and a waiter hoisted it through the mob to place it in the gilt-edge, super-ringside position on the dance floor. "All ready, sir," bowed Bill, the maitre o'hotel—whereupon, with great dignity, Mr. Elmer "Bones" Remmer, undisputed titan of the tenderloin, and the two police officers who were his guests, sat down.

When H'wood is gonna get on the ball and make an epicure based on "Rialston's Ring," the oldish, highly dramatic book about one of San Francisco's most colorful characters? Rialston even ended his life as though he had Hollywood in mind—the broken tycoon, splashing out into the dark waters of the bay and swimming to his death. A perfect role for Fredric March, who, if memory serves, gave his finest movie performance in "A Star Is Born," which ended, oddly enough, with the broken hero swimming out into the Pacific to his death.

Whatever happened to that Oakland copper (in uniform) who started into the Gay Club on Lake Park ave. last season? The miles let our ruckus? For no reason, he began frisking a couple of customers standing at the bar—and when they objected, he pulled a gun on 'em. Bartender Doug Semple finally got the gat away from him and called the cops, who quickly whisked their frisky brother officer out of the joint. Then—iron curtains.

If Zillionaire Edmond Herrscher knows (or cares) that the he-cats in the Pacific-Union Club refer to his miniature mansion—just across Calif. St.—as "The House That Somebody Else's Jack Built?"

Why is it that the propaganda of the fashion czarinas is so damnably effective? Just a few weeks ago they began huse-top-shouting from their sleek ads that skirts are the longest this season. The miles let our ruckus and the gals with glamor gams thumbed their dimpled knees at the whole idea. So now a short skirt looks as outmoded as a boyish bob, and even housewives with no place to go but the corner grocery are letting down their heads. I shudder to think what would happen should Hattie Carnegie ever become Secretary of State.

Whatever became of that false arrest suit S. F.'s Earl Shelton filed against that kidnaped Lodi girl? And I'll bet YOU don't remember her name, either. Wait a minute—Alice Deane Devine! . . . How many people know that Joe Vansell is merely the nom de minestrone of that veteran No. Beach restaurateur? His real monicker is Silvio Zappi, which is Leo's spelled backwards, which reminds me—a Pittsburgher named Leon Noel checked in at the St. F. the other day. Would have made a great item if he had come here to buy the Yreka Bakery, but nope!

Whether those so-called patrons of the arts who seem to be worried about a possible S. F. Symphony deficit facet the Nation-wide market aren't being just as shortsighted as those who want to dump the cable cars because they lose money? The mere fact that the tour raises the cultural prestige of S. F. to a new high more than balances the red ink that might soil the ledger. Anyway, the important thing is to have a Symphony that plays well, not pays well.

If you've ever looked at S. F.'s Municipal Code? Fascinating book. It contains all the ordinances now in effect—846 pages of small print, about 750,000 words, and then an index of 251 pages. The 846 pages are numbered—but the index doesn't list any of the pages where the indexed matter may be found!

How come so many apparently down-and-out Skid Rowers have their faces that invariably look sleek and well-fed? (Or do the Skid kids figure that what has happened to them shouldn't happen to a dog?) . . . Why Screen-tar Peggy Cummins, who came to the Bay Area for the opening of "The Late George Arley" made her personal appearance in Oakland—and not here? (Even Peggy didn't know the answer to that one) . . . If those of you who read Milla Lokers' new book, "Bring Along Laughter" (about a Serbian family here) recognize that the father in the story is the late Sam Zenovich, who founded Sam's Grill? He was Milla's father . . .

Why the name of Emperor Norton, that unforgettable character, has been allowed to fade so completely from the San Francisco scene? Of course, there's a theatrical group called the Emperor Players, but that's only half a nod in Norton's direction. The name, "Emperor Norton Cafe," has been registered at Sacramento, but where's the cafe? And if that second Bay Bridge is ever built, why shouldn't it be called

## Council Sees Low-Level Crossing Site

Members of the nine-county Transportation and Traffic Committee of the San Francisco Bay Area Council yesterday inspected the site of the low-level bay crossing proposed by the joint Army-Navy board. They were accompanied by Paul Vredenburg, chief consulting engineer for the joint board, representing Brigadier General Garrison Davidson.

The group visited the Army and Potrero and Third and Army terminus points, studying in particular the joint board's proposals for cloverleaf approaches to the Bayshore boulevard.

In Alameda they inspected the proposed site for double tubes under the estuary at Fifth street between Clay and Washington.

The committee agreed present streets and highways could absorb only a part of bridge traffic. The military board believes distributional factors to amply meet the future approaches and access highways will represent 25 per cent of total cost for the bridge.

The committee is pushing plans for public hearings to be held May 19 at the Leamington Hotel in Oakland, and May 21 at the Western Merchandise Mart in San Francisco at 7:30 p. m. on each date.

Interested organizations are urged to address written presentations of plans and recommendations to the Bay Area Council, 315 Montgomery street, San Francisco, prior to the hearings.

### McNutt Returns

WASHINGTON, April 28 (AP)—Paul V. McNutt, Ambassador to the Philippines, arrived today from Manila. He came via Europe and was accompanied by Mrs. McNutt and their daughter, Louise.



### Trip at Stake

Ted Finman, 16-year-old Lowell High School debater and State champion extemporaneous speaker, probably will miss the national speaking contest at St. Louis this week unless funds are forthcoming immediately to finance the trip east for himself and his coach, George C. Lorbeer, forensics director at Lowell.

In past years when Lowell had a champion speaker, the Junior Chamber of Commerce paid his way to the nationals. But this year the Junior Chamber hasn't any funds.

All this puts Lorbeer on the spot. Few high school teachers can finance such a trip themselves, and he hates to call on any of his old pupils, even though he estimates he has taught the first rules of public speaking and argument to a good share of San Francisco's lawyers.

## Bus Service As Usual on Third and Kearny

Municipal Railway bus service on Third and Kearny streets returned to normal yesterday following completion of track repair and removal work at the Third and Market streets intersection.

Utilities Manager James H. Turner said the work was completed one week ahead of schedule. While repairs were in progress, buses were rerouted.

## SPORTSMAN MARCHBANK, 78, MARRIES SECRETARY, 48

John William Marchbank, former squire of Tanforan and one of the State's leading horse racing figures, was married yesterday to his secretary of many years, Bernadette Loretta Jones.

In applying for their marriage license, Marchbank gave his age as 78 and Miss Jones, as 48. Both listed their residence as Heather Farm, Walnut Creek.

The ceremony was performed at 3 p. m. in the parish house of St. Mary's Church in Walnut Creek with the Rev. Louis Miller officiating.

Immediately after the ceremony the couple left for a honeymoon at some undisclosed spot.

Earlier in the day Marchbank and Miss Jones drove to San Francisco City Hall and did not leave their automobile for issuance of the marriage license. The document was brought to them by Acting County Clerk Robert Munson. The application forms were signed in the Marchbank car.

A native of Canada, Marchbank came to the United States from Dawson in 1902. He reportedly made a fortune in the Klondike.

One of the dominant figures in the racing world for many years, he sold his interest in the Tanforan

## Metropolis

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### San Francisco Chronicle

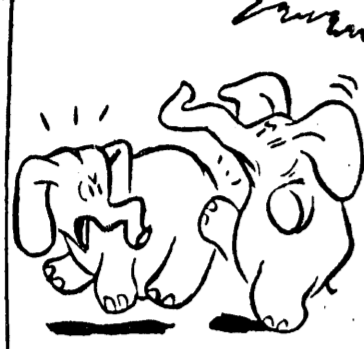
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track early last year and retired to his ranch in Walnut Creek where he breeds race horses. He underwent a leg amputation many years ago.

He and his first wife, Mrs. Ella P. Marchbank were estranged for many years prior to her death.

## Animal Crackers

By Warren Goodrich



Chicago Sun Syndicate

"Okay, that does it! You kicked me once before . . . October 6, 1910."

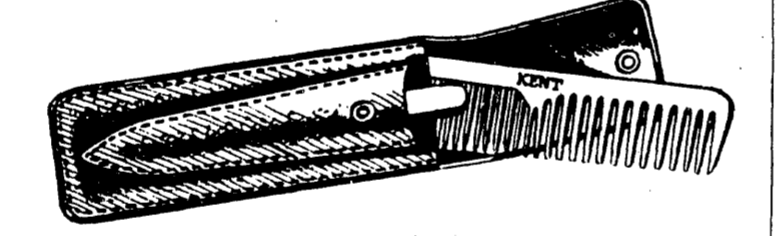
## The ROBERT KIRK, Ltd. MEN'S SHOP

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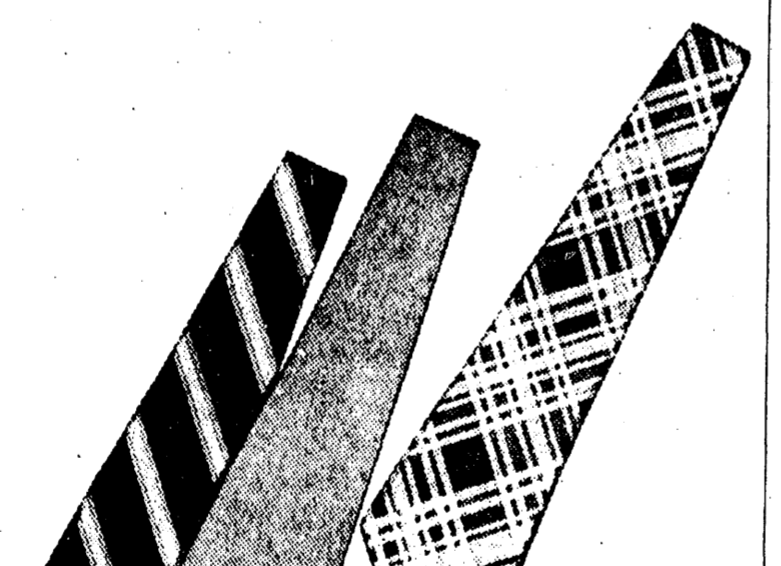
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It's beginning to look like Pre-War Days at Kirk's.

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- Novelty rayons and spun rayon fabrics, stripes and prints, 1/2 off.
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### FROM THE LINEN, BEDDING AND DOMESTICS DEPARTMENTS, SECOND FLOOR A

- Imported linen luncheon sets in woven check and block plaid designs and solid color novelty weave dinner sets, cloth 52x68 to 2x2 1/2 yds. and 8 napkins, formerly from 17.95 to 35.95, all 1/2 off
- Embroidered, applied and printed guest towels, formerly 1.95.....now 95c
- Embroidered guest towels, sets of 2, boxed, for merly 1.00 set !.....now 50c set.
- Applied linen finger towels, formerly 79c.....now 39c
- Printed luncheon sets in fast colors, 52x52, and 6 napkins, formerly 7.95.....now 3.95 set
- Printed luncheon sets in fast colors, 52x70, with 6 napkins, formerly 9.50.....now 4.95 set
- Printed kitchen toweling in gay colors and designs, formerly 49c.....now 29c yd.
- Handkerchief linen luncheon sets in white or soft pastel shades, embroidered and applied, in contrasting colors, 52x52, and 6 napkins, formerly 23.25 .....now 15.50 set
- Embroidered dresser scarfs and vanity sets, formerly 3.95 .....now 1.95
- Quilted spun rayon bedspreads in ivory with piping in blue or red, double bed size, formerly 19.95, now 9.95
- Printed rayon bedspreads in attractive floral designs, assorted colors, twin or double bed size, formerly 12.95, now 7.95
- Lanafur comforters, rayon satin on one side and printed glazed chintz on the other, formerly 31.50, now 17.95
- Printed quilts, very attractive and serviceable, closely stitched, size 80x84, formerly 10.50, now 6.95
- 100% wool blankets, soft, fleecy, high-grade wool in solid colors or white with multicolor borders, formerly 14.95.....now 11.95
- Unbleached muslin, medium weight, 36" width, formerly 39c .....now 29c yd.

Other outstanding clearance values throughout the store, including Ready-to-wear.