


HERB CAEN It's News to Me

I Hereby Resolve:

During 1947, to find out by what mysterious method the Bay Bridge toll collectors know how much you have in your hand—before you get to their window . . . To dig deep into Wm. Howard Taft's old papers to see whether HE left the answer to the unfinished sentence he coined: "San Francisco is the City that knows how" . . . To suggest that the second Bay Bridge be named after Emperor Norton who, after all, was the first "crackpot" to come up with the idea . . . To inquire around casually and discover how come thousands of our shopgirls can dress like a million on 40 bucks a week (after all, you still have to have coupons for sugar daddies) . . . To sneak over to Berkeley some dark night and hang a sign on the U.C. cyclotron building, reading: "Uncle Atom's Cabin!"

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"I thought you told me you had a spray outfit."

It is likewise my dishonorable intention to put on my glasses and see for myself whether that gimmick on the cable cars really has a gismo on the end that grabs the dingbat in the slot and makes the car move . . . To merely clobber the guy who chortles loudly in a public place about that Wickhorst—he sure was a Bear for punishment! . . . To answer the question I keep asking myself on quiet nights: "Why is the panhandle at Golden Gate Park when all the panhandling goes on along Third street, huh? . . . To travel out to Redlick-Newman's in the Mission, track down the boss and demand: "O.K., bub. What ARE the 17 reasons why?"

I am also determined to ask Lyle Brown how come Sally Stanford is listed twice in the phone book, when some of our Best People could tell you that once is enough, . . . To repeat the works of Igor Stravinsky. When the Monte Carlo was here a few months ago, it gave us a sort of Stravinsky festival. Yesterday afternoon and evening the Ballet Theatre took its turn at presenting works of the great Russian composer. . . . The two works it performed afforded an interesting contrast. The romantic, folk-like, richly orchestrated and opulently staged "Petrouchka" represents one extreme of Stravinsky's style. . . . The other, "Apollo," the other today Stravinsky calls works of the "Petrouchka" type, but that does not prevent his conducting this very score whenever he gets a chance. . . . "Petrouchka" had one of the very finest performances it has ever been given on the Opera House stage. . . . This was particularly true of the contribution made by the corps de ballet, which is without question the best any large company has brought to the stage in the history of the big crowd scenes. . . . Instead of drifting listlessly while the music pounds away at dancing, really danced a little, too. The whole thing has been freshened up with interesting little passages and devices, moves and scenes as never before. . . . It is worth observing, also, that the orchestra throughout the afternoon performance hit a new high for ballet in San Francisco. . . . The Municipal Railway operated at a net loss of \$53,077 for the five-month period ended November 30, according to a financial statement issued yesterday by James H. Turner, manager of city utilities. . . . Total income for the period was \$8,025,439, as compared to \$7,315,131 for the five months of 1946. Operating expenses amounted to \$8,754,517, but the profit was deleted by making provision for accident claims and the wage increase for operating personnel voted by the people last month. . . . Stravinsky, composer and ideaman, was banished in both programs by Antony Tudor, choreographer and ideaman. Tudor's main idea seems to be that ballet is a mature and adult medium capable of dealing with every phase of human experience and feeling. . . . In "Lilac Garden," on the afternoon program, everything is played in terms of the most delicately interwoven shades of irony. While the orchestra plays the "Poem" of Chausson in the pit, the dancers enact a kind of poem by Baudelaire on the stage. . . . Everything glides and floats and hides its meanings, or

pretends to; but the real meanings get home by understatement and implication. . . . EXALTING SOLUTION Tudor's "Pillar of Fire," on the other hand, remains one of the great studies of the human heart in its most disturbed and confused and pathetic aspects, and, with the help of Schoenberg's music, reaches one of the most magnificent, not to say exalting solutions which the theater has ever offered for the common ailments of that tender organ. This is especially true when Nora Kaye dances the principal role, and when the ensemble is as perfectly done as it was last night. . . . Another important contribution of the day was Agnes de Mille's Watteau-like satire, "Tally Ho," which is infinitely satisfying in its comedy, its characterizations, and its zesty movement which, for all its speed, and satiric implication, is never forced beyond the framework of the Gluck dances to which it is set. Shirley Eckl, Dimitri Romanoff, John Kriza, Lucia Chase, and Muriel Bentley shared equal honors in the great success of this performance. . . . Tonight the company presents Tudor's "Romeo and Juliet," repeats "Tally Ho" and Jerome Robbins' "Facsimile," and one of the several "Pas de Deux" which its repertoire contains. . . . An autopsy has been ordered. De Rome had been a fire captain since February, 1933. . . . Eighteen Berkeley firemen were put under observation yesterday after Assistant Fire Chief George E. LeStrange died in a chemical fire in the freshman laboratory at University of California. . . . Doctors believed LeStrange might have died of phosgene gas generated by chemical fire extinguishers on hot metal. An autopsy yesterday showed no conclusive evidence of this. . . . LeStrange was 46 and had been with the department for 27 years. He leaves his wife, Merle, a sister, Mrs. Evelyn Carboni, riding on the Pasadena boys membership of the Pasadena nine club. Funeral services will be held tomorrow (Friday) at 9 a. m. at Ellis-Olson Mortuary, 727 San Pablo avenue, Albany. There will be a requiem mass at 8:30 a. m. at St. Ambrose Church in Berkeley.

Muni Railway Loses \$53,077 In Five Months

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Resolved!

We Shall Not Miss

Ballet Theatre

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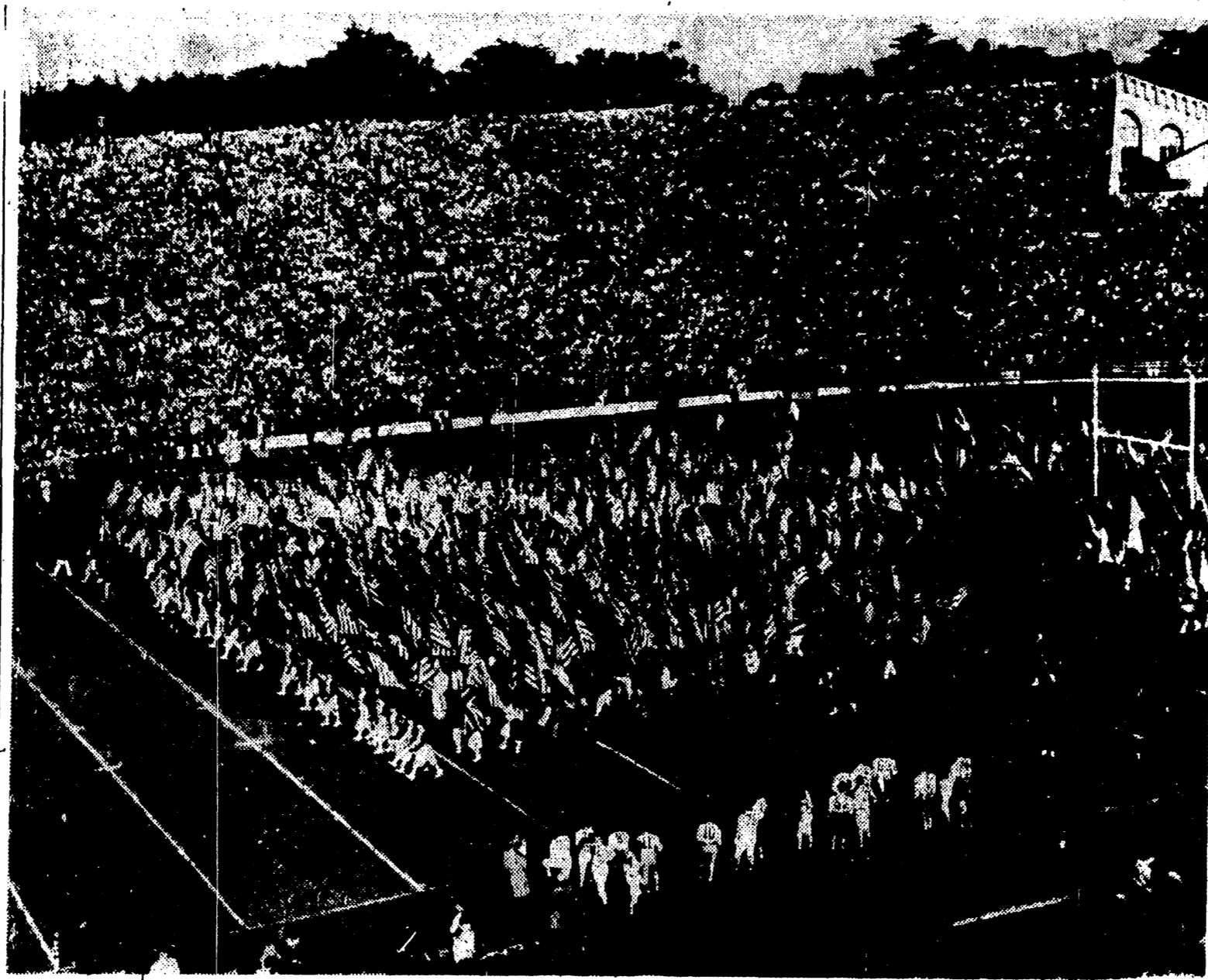
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During the halftime at the Shrine game, at the conclusion of the pageantry, the colors are massed, and in a gigantic front they stream the length of the field. The East team watches in the foreground. See story on Page 1.

Metropolis

Book One Part Two

San Francisco Chronicle

CCCCAAA PAGE 9
THURSDAY, JAN. 2, 1947

Police Check On Killing of Fire Captain

Oakland police yesterday were seeking to determine whether the New Year's day death of Fire Captain Charles De Rome, 46, was caused by slugging or accidental injury. . . . Before he died De Rome told police he was slugged by a stranger as he left a tavern at 6041 San Pablo avenue, Oakland, shortly after midnight. . . . Police were investigating reports he had tripped and fallen to the sidewalk, hurting his head. After the accident, De Rome had gone to his home at 5219 Herzog street, where he became ill. He was removed to a hospital and died at 7:30 a. m. . . . An autopsy has been ordered. De Rome had been a fire captain since February, 1933. . . . Eighteen Berkeley firemen were put under observation yesterday after Assistant Fire Chief George E. LeStrange died in a chemical fire in the freshman laboratory at University of California. . . . Doctors believed LeStrange might have died of phosgene gas generated by chemical fire extinguishers on hot metal. An autopsy yesterday showed no conclusive evidence of this. . . . LeStrange was 46 and had been with the department for 27 years. He leaves his wife, Merle, a sister, Mrs. Evelyn Carboni, riding on the Pasadena boys membership of the Pasadena nine club. Funeral services will be held tomorrow (Friday) at 9 a. m. at Ellis-Olson Mortuary, 727 San Pablo avenue, Albany. There will be a requiem mass at 8:30 a. m. at St. Ambrose Church in Berkeley.

Phosgene Gas Angle Studied in U. C. Fire

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New Bridge Engine: For Western Pacific

Appointment of Arthur W. Carlson of Burlingame as bridge engineer of the Western Pacific Railroad was announced yesterday. He succeeds Colonel H. H. Smitten, retired. . . . Carlson started with the railroad as a draftsman in 1937, was promoted to structural draftsman in 1941 and assistant bridge engineer in 1944.

Resolved!

We Shall Not Miss

Ballet Theatre

"BALLET THEATRE" is the most beautifully integrated ballet company this town has ever seen."
Alfred Frankenstein
San Francisco Chronicle
Dec. 28th, 1946.

"BALLET THEATRE" is not only the best company but also the best looking within memory."
John Markin
New York Times
October 5th, 1946.

"BALLET THEATRE" dancers are alive and loving it! To watch them is a stimulating experience."
London Evening Standard
July 5th, 1946.

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1,500,000 See Glendale Float Win Rose Parade

PASADENA, Jan. 1 (U.P.)—Glendale's entry depicting George Washington kneeling bareheaded in prayer at Valley Forge today won the sweepstakes prize in the colorful Tournament of Roses parade viewed by 1,500,000. . . . For five miles, spectators jammed Colorado street to see 52 floats, with an average value of \$6500 and 19 bidders move slowly in the two-hour parade. . . . Chief of Police Clarence Morris drifted over the parade route in a blimp, directing the work of traffic officers with a two-way radio. . . . Comedian Bob Hope was grand marshal of the parade. With his wife he rode in an open auto covered with flowers. . . . New Year's day death of Fire Captain Charles De Rome, 46, was caused by slugging or accidental injury. . . . Before he died De Rome told police he was slugged by a stranger as he left a tavern at 6041 San Pablo avenue, Oakland, shortly after midnight. . . . Police were investigating reports he had tripped and fallen to the sidewalk, hurting his head. After the accident, De Rome had gone to his home at 5219 Herzog street, where he became ill. He was removed to a hospital and died at 7:30 a. m. . . . An autopsy has been ordered. De Rome had been a fire captain since February, 1933. . . . Eighteen Berkeley firemen were put under observation yesterday after Assistant Fire Chief George E. LeStrange died in a chemical fire in the freshman laboratory at University of California. . . . Doctors believed LeStrange might have died of phosgene gas generated by chemical fire extinguishers on hot metal. An autopsy yesterday showed no conclusive evidence of this. . . . LeStrange was 46 and had been with the department for 27 years. He leaves his wife, Merle, a sister, Mrs. Evelyn Carboni, riding on the Pasadena boys membership of the Pasadena nine club. Funeral services will be held tomorrow (Friday) at 9 a. m. at Ellis-Olson Mortuary, 727 San Pablo avenue, Albany. There will be a requiem mass at 8:30 a. m. at St. Ambrose Church in Berkeley.

Sailor Killed

BAKERSFIELD, Jan. 1 (U.P.)—S. P. Cook, 19, a navy sailor from Vallejo, was killed shortly after midnight when his automobile overturned two miles east of Tehachapi. He was alone at the time.

Extra Help to Aid In Tax Returns

San Francisco's Bureau of Internal Revenue, 100 McAllister street, has been assigned additional help to assist taxpayers prepare 1946 income returns. . . . Office hours will be from 8 a. m. to 4:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

One-Man Show

Then at the Open Air Art Show Jeanne Bietry-Salinger, art patron and dealer, stepped from the admiring crowd and offered him his first day.

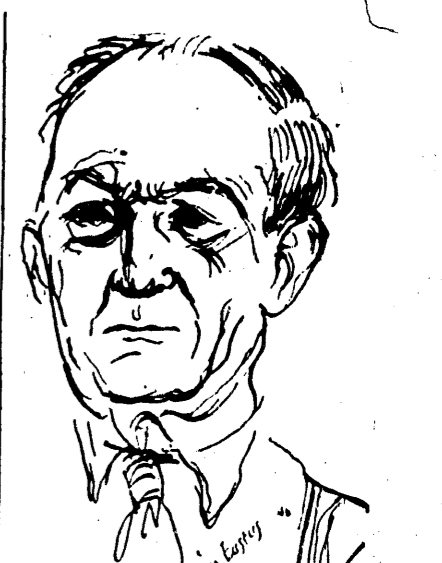
Pure Primitive

A Housepainter Turned Artist Still Sees With a 9-Year-Old's Eyes

Amber Eustus, 24-year-old Chronicle copy girl, understands the psychology of the artist. Within the last few months, she herself has won national recognition for her vivid and exciting water colors, painted during her hours of leisure. Here she undertakes to sketch the personality of 66-year-old Louis Klein, a modern "primitive," whose paintings are on display at the Labaudt Gallery, 1407 Gough street. For her sketch, the versatile Amber uses both words and line drawing.

By AMBER EUSTUS

The second thing Louis Klein ever said to me was, "I will teach you how to paint." He had just asked if I ever painted oils. (I am strictly a watercolorist, myself). . . . "Come over some evening and I will show you how," he offered. (Now I do my best work in the blazing sun, sitting on a curbstone.) . . . Klein is a pure "primitive," which is art jargon for a self-taught painter. He taught himself while earning a living painting houses. Perhaps that is why his work is as flat as a wall. . . . The "primitive" in Klein goes deeper than that. At sixty-six he still sees with a nine-year-old's eyes. His leafy trees are green, all the way around. While the rest of us are daubing reds and blues and browns into a shadow, Klein just mixes a little greener green. The result is pure surface, like a cutout. . . . NIGHT PAINTER "I paint fruit just like some people read a newspaper. I don't have to look at fruit to do it," he said. . . . Klein's studio is a bedroom of his self-designed home at 50 Rotteck street in the Mission district, set in a basement corner beyond the laundry tubs. An easel littered with his name stands about three feet from the bed. . . . "I do all my painting at night," he said. "When I get an idea in the middle of the night, I get up and put it down. The hardest part of painting is getting ideas." . . . On the wall are photographs of Roosevelt, MacArthur, Eisenhower, President Truman's likeness was removed because he, the President, failed to act on Klein's suggestion for settlement of the rail strike. . . . Klein has sent portraits, done from newspaper likenesses, to the great. His proudest possessions are their "thank you" letters, particularly one from the late President Roosevelt. . . . Because he wants people to enjoy his pictures, Klein has repeatedly submitted work for exhibition. Just twice it has been accepted. . . . ONE-MAN SHOW Then at the Open Air Art Show Jeanne Bietry-Salinger, art patron and dealer, stepped from the admiring crowd and offered him his first day.



LOUIS KLEIN
"I don't have to look"

one-man art show, January 1 to 4, at the Lucien Labaudt Art Gallery. . . . Klein's painting had its barefoot beginnings in Hungary when he pulled horsehair through a goose quill to make a brush. He had been apprenticed to a housepainter. And even then he knew he had to paint, so he chose a master of house-painting who could give him the materials. He created by moonlight in the rear yard of the shop where he slept. . . . Since he came to America in 1900, Klein has lived a quiet life, married, reared three sons, and at last retired from the house-painting trade. . . . His days are free now, but he still paints at night.

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