UNMULLED MUSE TAKES FRESH FFLING AT CHRONICLE CONTEST

Peace Poems Also Assume More Robust Proportions and Full Grown Epic Makes Appearance

EVEN the muses of poetry began to breathe more freely when the masks were removed. No sooner had the air cleared and the Mayor made a speech than the poets set to work more busily than ever. So did a greater number of the peace poems come pouring into the Chronicle competition, but there was not a marked increase in their success.

Compleats were no less numerous than quintains, sonnets less frequent than sonnets, sonnets less plentiful than ballads, while for the first time in the contest a full-grown epic made its appearance.

THE NO INSPIRATION IN FAULSE

If there was no on Olympus when the Chronicle offered three prizes—$25, $25 and $25—for the best poems of the peace there was lyric rapture when it became known that masks could be removed. As one bard of the Sunset district remarked, 'Whoever heard of an immortal masterpiece of poems having been written with a muzzle? Heaven's song has come from poets in exile, and even from poets in prison, but never yet had could breathe Exilian ha
d through the grizzly folds of a muslin term collector.'

The office Büttig machine has been kept busy casting up the totals of each day's contributions ever since the competition started, and an extra machine may be required when the contest closes on December 31. They are coming in all forms and from all parts of the country. Not a state west of the Mississippi but is already represented, but the Eastern delusion is yet to come. Particularly heart-rending returns are expected from Chicago, the Park of the Middle West, and California's most serious rival in poetic output.

VARIETY NO END

In the matter of form, there never was such variety of verse in any previous contest of which there is record. The competition has gone below the capital limit and submitted no more than a single line, and a wonderfully good line at that. Short distance runners, poetical sprinters as one might say, are unusually common for a mere a theme. Thus far the sonneteers are in the lead so far as the number of contributions is concerned, but the ballad writers make a close second.

The sonneteers are not quite so numerous, but they are well represented, while the humorous jinglers are here in plenty. Several competitors are on the way with little and thereby set about a very interesting controversy as to what constitutes a hymn.

SOME SET TO MUSIC

Quite a number have given a strict literal rending to the line, 'Send in Your Song,' and have furnished music as well as words, but the music will not detract the poems from the competition. A few aspirants for the laurel wreath have submitted previously written poems, but if they were not compensated, then they will not be in this competition. Only the prize winning verses will be paid for and those only by means of the prizes. If the unsuccessful poets do not want their lines to appear among those honorably mentioned, they should send a notification to that effect, together with stamps for the return of manuscripts.

NO LIMIT TO NUMBER

Any number of poems may be sent in and, as a matter of record more than half the competitors have submitted more than one contribution. One man has already sent in three separate renderings, and it is possible he may submit others before the contest closes. Each will be considered as a distinct poem.

Naturally most of the contributions are from cardem living within sight of the Golden Gate in the broad and welcoming open expanse of which many of them have been the perfect symbol of that international friendship which is the foundation of world peace.