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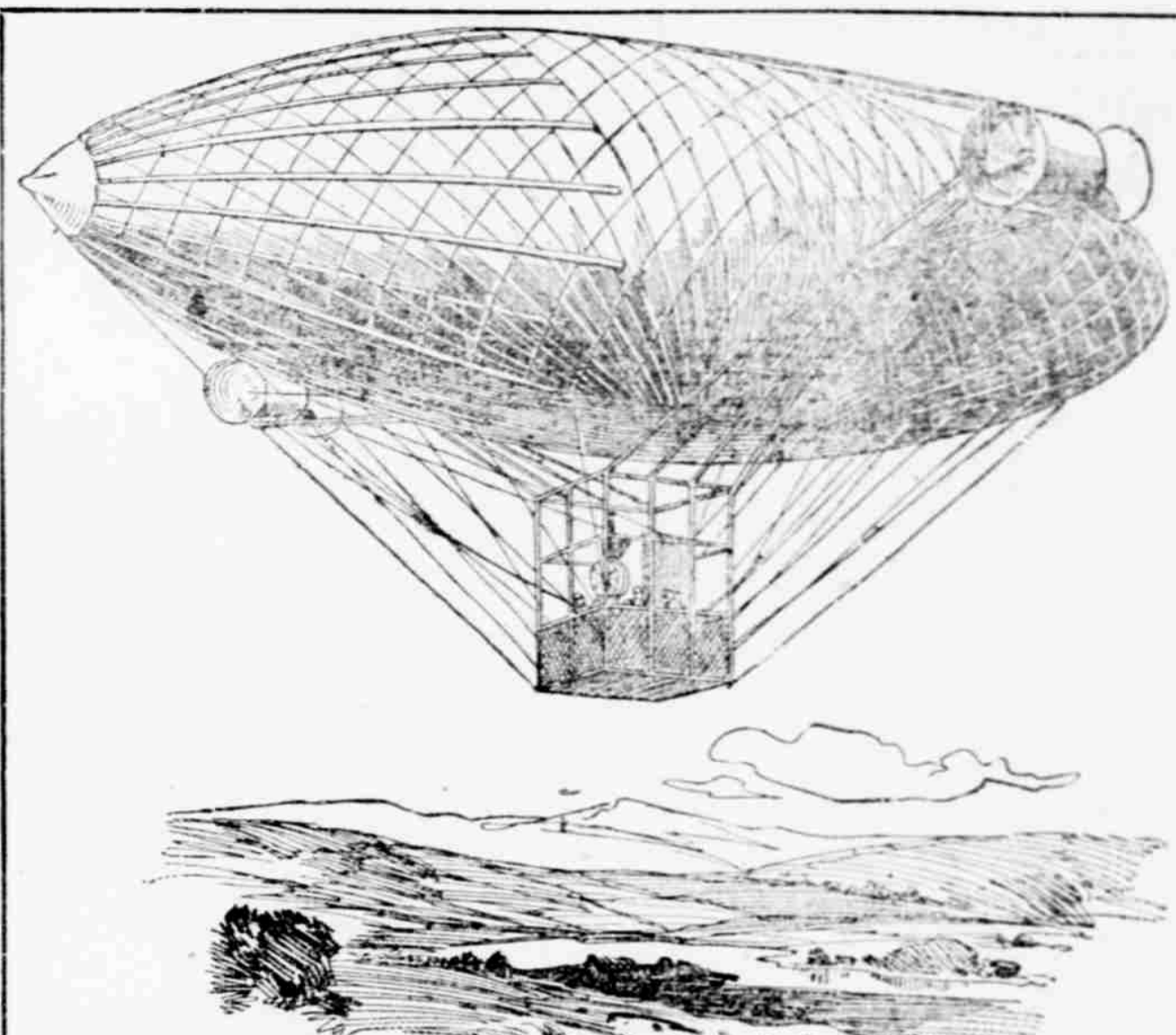
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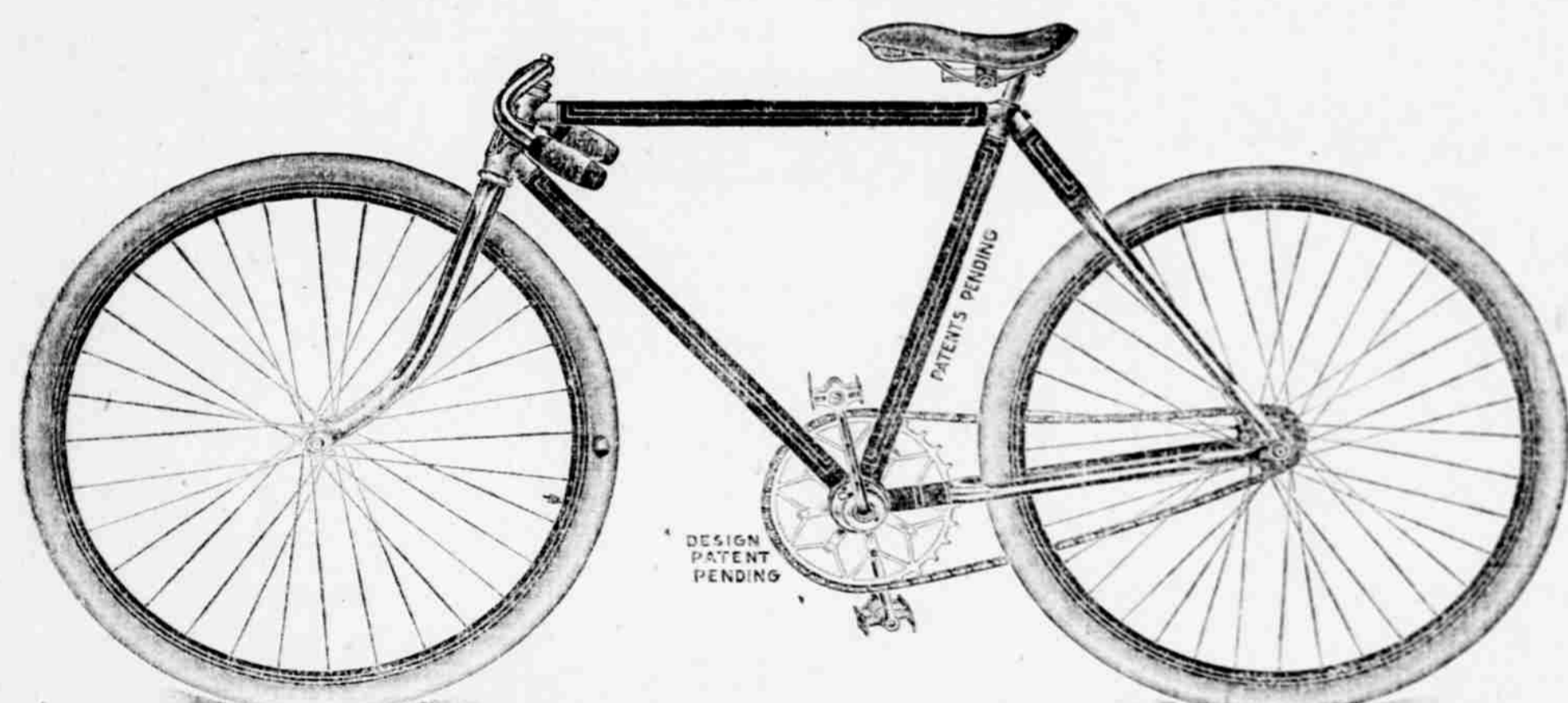
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AS OTHERS SEE US

San Francisco Opinion on Labor Question.

The Labor Council Goes Further Than the Facts Warrant - Duty of Congress Not Performed.

The San Francisco Labor Council has sent a circular letter to the Pope and the authorities and trades union leaders of Italy, warning them against the scheme of the Hawaiian planters to secure contract labor from that country. The circular says that the contract system in Hawaii is a form of slavery enforced by greed and cruelty and protected by both island law and the laws of the United States. The picture is drawn of overseers, with whip in hand, urging on the toilers in the cane fields to harder labor, and the promises of the planters' agents are bluntly described as lies. The radical members of the Italian Parliament are especially importuned to use their influence in common with trades union men to prevent any contracts being made.

In its zeal to prevent a wrong the San Francisco Labor Council goes further than the facts warrant, though there remain sufficient grounds for objection to the contract system as it stands. The "Chronicle" has more than once been represented by staff correspondents in Hawaii, part of whose duty it was to investigate the life of the cane fields and report its conditions. Though opposed to the system of labor we are bound to say that the overseer with the whip is a freak of the perturbed imagination and never a real presence. The usual attitude of the luna, or overseer, in a Hawaiian cane field is that of an honest foreman on a San Francisco job of street paving. He sees that so much work is done for so much pay. The difference is that, instead of discharging a mutinous laborer the luna reports him to the civil authorities, and if the case is aggravated enough the man goes to jail. If of minor consequence the remedy is a fine. We have never known of any cruelty practiced on these plantations. From anything of that kind the foreign contract laborer is protected by his Consul. For the rest he has good shelter, good food and, so far as the "Chronicle's" various investigations have shown, a better time than he usually enjoys at home. But the fact remains that the importation of foreign contract labor is un-American and ought not to be permitted on United States soil. It is also unlawful, despite the contrary impression which the labor circular rather disingenuously undertakes to convey. But for the failure of the last Congress to pass the bill extending the labor laws of this country to Hawaii the importation of contract field hands would now be impossible, either from Italy, China, Japan or any other foreign country. Congress neglected its duty in that respect, but will doubtless perform it next winter, as the claim of the planters that free labor would ruin the island industry cannot be substantiated. The plantations could pay double the price for labor now ruling on American farms and at the same time declare larger dividends on the capital invested than any other legitimate business of which we have any knowledge. When dividends go up from 40 to 60 and 80 and then 120 per cent, and beyond, and when plantations like the Ewa make so much that they present each stockholder with an amount in shares equal to his original holding so as to reduce the preposterous ratio of his interest, it is idle to talk of the stern necessity of cheap labor. Such an industry as that of island sugar could be compelled to employ free and dear labor from the United States without doing it the slightest injustice.—S. F. Chronicle July 19.

IS IT RIGHT

For An Editor to Recommend Patent Medicines?

From Sylvan Valley News, Brevard, N. C.

It may be a question whether the editor of a newspaper has the right to publicly recommend any of the various proprietary medicines which flood the market, yet as a preventive of suffering we feel it a duty to say a good word for Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. We have known and used this medicine in our family for twenty years and have always found it reliable. In many cases a dose of this remedy would save hours of suffering while a physician is awaited. We do not believe in depending implicitly on any medicine for a cure, but we do believe that if a bottle of Chamberlain's Diarrhoea Remedy were kept on hand and administered at the inception of an attack much suffering might be avoided and in very many cases the presence of a physician would not be required. At least this has been our experience during the past twenty years. For sale by all dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for H. I.

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