# COMPLIMENTARY BANQUET GIVEN TO CARL EWALD GRUNSKY

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Complimentary Banquet Given to Carl Ewald Grunsky by Various

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# **VARIOUS**

# COMPLIMENTARY BANQUET GIVEN TO CARL EWALD GRUNSKY



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### COMPLIMENTARY BANQUET

GIVEN TO

## CARL EWALD GRUNSKY

By the Citizens of San Francisco on the eve of his departure to assume the duties of . . . . . .

### ISTHMIAN CANAL COMMISSIONER

PURSUANT TO APPOINTMENT BY THE

### PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Palace Hotel: March 15, 1904.

SAN FRANCISCO: CUBRRY AND COMPANY, BOOK AND JOB PRIFTERS, No. 587 MISSION STREET 1904

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## List of Speakers.

Chairman James D. Phetan
The President CHIEF JUSTICE BEATT
Our Isthmian Canal Commissioner MARSDEN MANSO
Response C. E. GRUNSE
Science coupled with the name of the Academy of Sciences, and Applied Science coupled with the name of the Technical Society - Grorge W. Diger
San Francisco Franklin K. Lan
Civic Progress FRANK J. SYMME President Merchants' Association
The Panama Canal W. H. MILL
The Commerce of the Pacific - W. J. Durro Chairman Executive Committee, Merchants' Exchange
The German Benevolent Society - Hener Epster Vice-President
The Native Sons Dr. Washington Dodg
California FRANK D. SHOR

Complimentary Banquet Given to Carl Ewald Grunsky, by the Citizens of San Francisco on the eve of his Departure to Assume the Duties of Isthmian Canal Commissioner, pursuant to Appointment by the President of the United States, Palace Hotel, March 15, 1904.

[Stenograbically reported by Stephen Potter.]

Mr. Phelan-Gentlemen, this very large outpouring of our fellow citizens here tonight must have some significance. A notice was sent out by a committee, duly authorized, inviting a number of our citizens to participate in a banquet to be given in honor of our City Engineer, who has been called to higher office, and the responses have been so numerous that we were obliged to move from one room into another; and now we are assembled, I am sure, with one accord and purpose, to do honor in this manner to Mr. Grunsky (applause)-for no other reason-and this should be impressed upon the minds of all of us, as well as upon his mind-than that we believe him worthy of the honor, (Applause.) It seems to be offered as a spontaneous testimonial, and I don't believe that a man, after laboring faithfully and disinterestedly for the welfare of his city and State, could receive a testimonial more gratifying than this simple gathering of men bound together by a common purpose to honor one for what he has done and to rejoice in his advancement—one who is at once so modest and so worthy. (Applause.)

There is another reason which brings us here, secondary in importance, but none the less sincere, and that is to express also our thanks to the President (applause) for having conferred what we may also call a great honor upon the city of San Francisco and the State of California in selecting one of our citizens to represent the Pacific Seaboard on a commission charged with probably what is the most important public work undertaken by any at any time, a work whose importance is not to be measured alone by its cost, nor by the engineering difficulties which must be overcome, but by the influence which it will have upon the trade and the commerce and the destinies and the fortunes of the nations of the world. It is an office so high that it has been taken out of the realms of patronage and reserved exclusively for the great and wise discreation of the President. (Applause.)

I have said that Mr. Grunsky—and it is always a matter of embarrassment to speak in the presence of the recipient of one's testimonial—is modest, but it has been said by somebody who is very wise that "modesty is the chastity of merit;" and there is, I am sure, pervading this company to-night, apart from these other considerations, a certain gratification that a man, modest though he be, for no other reason than his merit should have been promoted to this exalted position. Every man must feel if interested in the fact that that man who day by day does the work faithfully and well which is at his hand, though he

goes on in silence, yet accomplishes much, shall not be forgotten; that if he is faithful in small things he shall thereafter be put over great things. That condition once established in a country like ours has an enormous moral effect upon every man who works, no matter in what field, be he engineer or mechanic, in stiffening the fibre of industry, in sharpening the tools of skill, because let it be known, the guerdon will come to the man who deserves or earns it without regard to the political and other considerations that work to advance individuals in life. Our President has picked out one of our fellow citizens without any influences of that kind working for his preferment, and I say it is a matter of gratification to us all to-night, for which we should be thankful to the President, that he who bears the palm merits it. (Applause.)

I am here as toastmaster because I have been associated with Mr. Grunsky in some of his work, and the committee that met to call you together asked me to participate in this capacity, and it was indeed a matter of great satisfaction to me to consent, because when we went into the business of municipal government here under the new charter not long ago, Mr. Grunsky, and his good friends, Mr. Manson and the late Colonel Mendell, all were enthusiastic about doing something for their city, willing to give their great professional skill, not for any compensation the city might offer them, because their private practice was far more remunerative, but they were zealous citizens in the cause of good government, and we thought we had much money to spend, and we of the