

DAILY RECORD-UNION

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THE DAILY RECORD-UNION For one year, \$6 00 For six months, \$3 00 For three months, \$1 50

THE WEEKLY UNION Is the cheapest and most desirable Home, News and Literary Journal published on the Pacific Coast.

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Special Agencies. This paper is for sale at the following places: L. P. Fisher, room 21, Merchants Exchange, California street; the Principal News Stands and Hotels, and at the Market-street Ferry, Los Angeles.

SAN DIEGO.—Emmal & Co., 860 Fifth street. CORONADO.—Hopkins & Cox, Coronado Hotel. SAN FRANCISCO.—Electric Book Store, corner Second and Main streets.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Emmal & Co., 860 Fifth street. CORONADO.—Hopkins & Cox, Coronado Hotel. SANTA BARBARA.—Hassinger's News Depot, Fresno—C. T. Cearley, 1111 J street.

SANTA CRUZ.—Cooper Bros. News Depot. Also, for sale on all Trains leaving and coming into Sacramento.

Eastern Business Offices. 48 Tribune Building, New York. 509 "The Hookery," Chicago. S. C. Beck with sole agent for advertising.

The RECORD-UNION and WEEKLY UNION are the only papers on the Coast, outside of San Francisco, that receive the full Associated Press Dispatches from all parts of the world.

Weather Forecasts. Official forecast for the twenty-four hours ending at midnight October 24th: Northern California—Fair weather, slightly warmer Tuesday; northerly winds.

THE WATER COLLECTIONS. The report of the expert on the water collections is not pleasant reading. With the treasury lean, it is amazing that so large an amount as \$16,000 should be allowed to run delinquent from water-takers.

In this extremity it is suggested that the fighting combination go to Mexico, but word comes that the President of the sister republic does not smile upon the proposition. Next it is advised that the fight take place in London, but the reply is that the purse will not be large there; nor the gate money so much, for John Bull is not so glib as Brother Jonathan in these matters.

Here, we are told by the expert, was a merchant in prosperous business, who was allowed to use the city's money for nearly two years, having a delinquency of some \$240, and yet using water right along. Does not that merchant in good conscience, if not in law, owe the city the interest on her money of which he has had the use so long? The expert tells us that there are many of these amounts due from people who own property and collect rents, and are amply able to pay.

It is a badly executed system under which it is possible for such things to take place as are reported by the water expert. Collectors should be independent men, having neither political axes to grind nor favors to curry, and then there will be sharp shutting off of the taps when a rate runs delinquent a month or so. When the collectors are of the class who dabble in politics and assume proprietorship over local municipal patronage, there is very naturally lack of courage to do duty.

It is bad that people should be compelled to pay for the use of the element water; it ought to be as free as that other element, air. But so long as we build cities and it costs money to bring in water supplies for them, it will be necessary for some one to foot the bills. As long as that is essential, let the law be enforced. That past administrations have failed to do so is not at all creditable to the city. Especially is it discreditable that the largest delinquent sums are due from men best able to pay promptly.

A CRITICAL MOMENT. It is perfectly evident to whoever is at all informed upon the local political situation that the real contest in the approaching election is to center upon the composition of the new Board of Trustees. It would be worth a pretty fortune for anyone, or to any ring, to be able to name the next board, or to name six of them, even to have the privilege of specifying what five of the men are to serve upon the body.

It is conceded that the most difficult of all government is that of a municipality; that the opportunities for corruption and fraud are infinitely greater in municipal than in either State or National Government. The temptations are more and greater and covering of wrong doing is easier. It follows that to own a city government is better than to own a gold mine; to be able to boss it over a Board of Trustees is better than to be Governor of a State or ruler over many people.

It is no wonder, then, that the cunning element in the political crowd struggles for a majority in the coming board, and, if possible, for six votes out of the nine, that the veto of a stubborn Mayor may be overridden when that individual dares to plant himself between the people and those who have ambition to lead the municipal beiter that their underlings pro-

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THE SIMPLE-MINDED HOOSIER

Ho Wanted Indiana Money and Wasn't Such a Fool as He Looked. In the course of a conversation touching upon the proposed reauthorization of currency banks, a "wildcat" bank President a few days ago told a Herald man the following story of a clever swindle made possible by that form of currency many years ago.

It was in the west of "wildcat" and "red-dog" currency days," he remarked, "that a simple Indiana trader arrived in New Orleans with a large load of wheat. The grain was stowed in the hold of the barge, flush up to the deck covering. The innocent Hoosier reached the Crescent City at an opportune moment. When he got to the dock, the prices were high, and he scarcely had the barge moored alongside the levee than a swarm of commission merchants and speculators were upon him, offering to buy the grain at a price per bushel was proposed and accepted, but when it came to the terms of the sale the would-be buyer found himself confronted with a difficulty upon which he had not reckoned. The honest Indiana first insisted that his entire cargo should be measured to the hooper six inches, his estimate in bulk, and then he expressed himself as afraid of assorted State bank currency. "My wife," said he, "told me as how I'd be swindled on this wheat before I got back to Indiana. I don't want no drafts or exchange in payment, and I don't want no bills on busted banks. I'm sure of Indiana. Their money's good. You must pay me in Indiana bills."

It was a difficult matter for the buyer to collect a sufficient quantity of bills on Indiana State banks, but finally, after visiting nearly every bank in New Orleans, he secured the necessary amount. Then he came to the barge, showed the money to the hooper six inches, his estimate in bulk, and then he expressed himself as afraid of assorted State bank currency. "My wife," said he, "told me as how I'd be swindled on this wheat before I got back to Indiana. I don't want no drafts or exchange in payment, and I don't want no bills on busted banks. I'm sure of Indiana. Their money's good. You must pay me in Indiana bills."

The colored man worked slowly and the buyer chafed at the delay. He appealed to the Indian to let the cargo be estimated in the usual manner. For a time the hoosier protested, and referred to his hooper six inches, his estimate in bulk, and then he expressed himself as afraid of assorted State bank currency. "My wife," said he, "told me as how I'd be swindled on this wheat before I got back to Indiana. I don't want no drafts or exchange in payment, and I don't want no bills on busted banks. I'm sure of Indiana. Their money's good. You must pay me in Indiana bills."

The club scheme lasted a little over a year, and then officials awoke to the fact that the people expected them to enforce the laws against prize-fighting, no matter how cunningly disguised, and so the clubs went into gloom. Without these organizations the bruisers could not command money sufficient as the result of their matches to justify mashing each other's faces. The recoil from the slogging mania has now such momentum that even the "Champion" cannot find a spot in all the United States in which he will be allowed to beat the other fellow to a jelly.

In this extremity it is suggested that the fighting combination go to Mexico, but word comes that the President of the sister republic does not smile upon the proposition. Next it is advised that the fight take place in London, but the reply is that the purse will not be large there; nor the gate money so much, for John Bull is not so glib as Brother Jonathan in these matters. Really the sloggers are in desperate straits. The hard-line cyclone has evidently struck and wrecked the outfit, and a wave of law-abiding has swept over the executives of the States and municipalities of the country. If this order of things continues much longer the sloggers may be reduced to the extremity of going to work like other people in order to earn a living.

We should much like to believe at once the story of the Treasurer of the town of Headsburg regarding the robbery of his vault. But without better evidence than he thus far presents, he cannot blame the public if it regards the whole yarn with grave doubt. It may be a harsh thing to suspect the custodian of public funds, when he asserts that he was taken by force and compelled to yield up the keys of his vault and was then taken into a grove and chained to a tree with handcuffs; but the Treasurer and his friends cannot expect the public to accept the story with no corroborating testimony. We trust that the Treasurer may establish the truth of his recital. Certainly it behooves him to do so, and to present so clear a case as to remove all doubt.

The prize beauty at the World's Fair is to marry a Chicago man. And was it for this that Denmark sent her handsomest woman? What will be the inducement hereafter for any European fair one to visit us, with the fate of the beautiful Dane before her?

ROYSER LIBEL SUIT. Opening of the \$20,000 Damage Case Against the "Bee." The trial of the case of George P. Royser against V. S. and C. K. McClatchy for \$20,000 damages, alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff in consequence of certain statements published in the Bee a year ago reflecting on Royser's honesty and integrity as a deputy in the County Clerk's office, was commenced in Judge Cain's court yesterday.

The plaintiff is represented by Clinton L. White, as counsel, and the defendants by C. T. Jones and A. J. and Elwood Bruner. The following named jurors were selected to try the case: P. Cady, building contractor; P. Flannigan, employe railroad shops; W. Connswan, farmer east of city; J. L. Jackson, farmer, Elk Grove; Edward Carter, blacksmith, Sutterville; E. M. Leitch, truckman; John Hanb, ex-restaurant-keeper; O. H. Wing, employe railroad shops; Allen Sherfy, farmer, Michigan Bar; John Riley, grocer; John Hanson, farmer, Franklin; John D. Cox, farmer, Brighton road.

The prosecution put in all its testimony before the court adjourned, and this morning the defense will begin.

MARY CONDREY FOUND. She Left Home on Account of Her Stepmother's Treatment. Mary E. Condrey, the 15-year-old girl whose mysterious disappearance was spoken of in this paper yesterday, was found at 1217 J street yesterday by Officer Franks, where she was employed as a domestic. She states that the treatment received from her stepmother determined her to leave her home, and she does not want to go back there to live.

A Brakeman Insolvent. Judge Catlin has made an order declaring Leroy Smith an insolvent debtor, and citing his creditors to appear on December 1st, prove their debts and select an assignee. In the meantime T. W. O'Neil will act as receiver. The petitioner is a railroad brakeman, and his liabilities amount to \$383.93. He has no assets subject to execution.

"My Daughter