DAILY RECORD-UNION

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UPTOWN BRANCH OFFICES.

At Thomas W. McAuliffe & Co.'s Drug Store, southeast corner of Tenth and J streets.

OAK PARK AGENCY—Carter's Blacksmith shop, corner Thirty-fourth street and Sacramento avenue.

Weather Forecast.

Northern California: Fair Wednesday; light northerly winds in the interior; westerly winds on the coast, with fog.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CLOUD.

It is announced that the Orange Free State has resolved in case of war in South Africa, to cast its fortunes with the Transvaal State. As the matter is put by the smaller nation, if it does not join with the Boers and the latter are defeated, the English will next absorb the lesser State the time being postponed only until there is discovery of rich mineral deposits and a flocking in of Uitlanders. Therefore, it is argued, the right thing to do is to make common cause with the Boers now against the aggressions of England.

If the Orange Free State joins with the Transvaal the two can put into the field about 40,000 men, every one of whom is a sharpshooter and trained to fight on his own account. England can, of course, place double that number of soldiers. She has the advantage of having full possession of the coast line, has unlimited supplies and can recruit her forces constantly. On the other hand, the South Africans could not much refresh their armies under two years, when youths come on able to bear arms, while the end of their resources for maintenance of an army they have already in view.

They know that they could not maintain the conflict beyond a couple of years at most, and that at the end of that time, the fields untilled, stock uncared for and the best manhood of the country exhausted, they must yield. But in the meantime they will give the English such battle as they most dread. It will be bloody from the beginning. The Boer is to fight upon his own soil. He is familiar with every foot of the territory and will not be much impeded in his movements by topographical obstacles. His army can be scattered in the hills at a single blast of the bugle and reassembled almost as quickly.

There is a possibility that the Dutch in Cape Colony may be drawn into the trouble and join forces with the Boers. In that case some 10,000 more men will be found in resistance to England. But if the Afrikanders of the Cape Colony take that position they will be a great sufferer. Their position is not inland and is far more open to assault than the people of the Orange Free State or of the Transvaal.

If war is declared it will be a bloody struggle and a long one. We do not look upon the outcome as doubtful. England, by reason of her superior strength and inexhaustable military resources, will probably crown her banners with victory. But it will be a victory bearing resemblance to that which cost Napoleon nearly two years of hard fighting to achieve in the Tyrol over the determined men represented by Hofer and his devoted patriots.

If war breaks out it will be found that the English tactics will be of the rush order. Their aim will be to make short work of it, to go in with a force and a vigor that will carry the advance guards well into the enemy's country, and thus at the very outset depress him. English Generals will do all that men may do to make the war short, swift and decisive. A prolonged campaign will of all things else be avoided by them if possible. Concentration and a rush toward the center of the Transvaal will be the order that the conflict may be wound up before the friendly States can be roused to that extreme hight of sympathy that will carry their entire populations in a wave over to the side of the Boers.

Hope is still to be entertained that war may be averted. England is by no means a unit for it. There are many statesmen and many interested in Great Britain opposed to a conflict, holding that a peaceful adjustment with honor may be achieved. These influences are, of course, in the minority, but it is a courageous one. There is one possible outcome of the war if it opens, namely that the Boers and their allies may make such a stubborn resistance and such expressive movement and so hold the English off, that the latter may find it discreet and in consonance with the best thought of the country to renew overtures for a settlement. In that event peace will be easily accomplished, but it will then be with far greater advantage to the Pretoria government.

Admiral Dewey's home coming was accomplished ahead of program time. The Admiral surprised his waiting countrymen by dropping in among them two days ahead of time. But he is a man of surprises. He surprised Montejo in Manila Bay when that gallant Admiral of the Spanish navy with a superior force supported by land batteries waited to surprise the Yankee and crush his light walls. It is said that so confident was the Spaniard of doing just that thing, that he had land cells all ready for the reception of the prisoners he was to take. Dewey surprised the naval men of the world when he quit fighting in the midst of battle, and drew off to take account of ammunition and ascertain why his shot was not so effective as he desired it to be. He surprised the civilized world by holding his position alone and unaided 7,000 miles from a base, with all ports closed against him. He surprised his own people when he so managed affairs as to hold the impetuous insurgents in check for months, kept the Spanish at arm's length, and the envious naval ships of other powers upon good behavior. He has surprised his countrymen by ability to keep his mouth shut, and when compelled to speak, by speaking to the point, with notable wisdom and with such direct logic and clear reasoning, as to carry public thought almost tumultuously along with him.

APPROVING LAWLESSNESS.

No better evidence is needed of the obstructive character of the Democratic organization than the declaration of the Massachusetts Democratic State Convention. That body placed in its recent platform a plank denouncing the military authorities of the United States for interfering in the Coeur d'Alene matter. Thereby they declare against law, order and the supremacy of organized society.

The military responded to a lawful demand of the Governor of the State, on his official declaration that the State could not maintain order, enforce the laws and protect life and property. The troops were used strictly for those purposes and no other. To have refused the aid demanded would have been to deny to a State a right constitutionally guaranteed to it. It would have left at the mercy of a mob of gigantic proportions life, property and all human rights in the disordered section.

Even as it is order does not yet reign except under the threat of arms. The courts were powerless under the conditions prevailing prior to the call for troops. Since then some of the guilty offenders against order, law and the rights of life and property have been brought to trial, convicted by juries of the country and sent to punishment, thus confirming the justice of the call for interference that the law might have its way free from the interference by mob force. By denouncing the military assertion the Democrats of Massachusetts have distinctly arrayed themselves against law, order and the peaceful conduct of a State.

Mr. Atkinson is out with another issue of his "anti-imperialist" magazine and documents. This time he defies the Postmaster General. He notifies him that he will send his documents and magazine to all soldiers, sailors and officers of the Government, and that if the Postal Department interferes he will present the Postmaster General for indictment. Perhaps the better plan is to permit Atkinson and his confreres to have their way. Their extravagance will work its own destruction.

Liebig held that alcohol is a food. In that he was supported by the earlier scientific savants. Since that day, however, scientific belief has undergone modification in that matter. There is now a broad division of opinion and the school of science is divided into two classes, the greatly larger holding that alcohol has no food value, is a stimulant and nothing more. However, there are some who occupy a middle ground, maintaining that it has food qualities to some extent, that it yields energy but does not form tissue. Professor Atwater of this country is the chief proponent of that doctrine. He holds that alcohol is as much a food as is starch, sugar or fat. It is quite important that the scientists should come to some common ground of agreement on the question, because that would form the basis for all, after use of alcohol by the medical schools. Professor Atwater's experiments as described in the "Scientific American," were conducted with the aid of his respirator calorimeter. He was aided in the work by the supervision of a committee of fifty engaged in studying the drink problem. The purpose was to discover the nutritive value of alcohol. Pure alcohol was administered with water or coffee, sometimes in the form of brandy, whisky, wine or beer. The amount consumed through one or more of these vehicles was about 2½ ounces of pure alcohol. It was found that the alcohol was oxidized as completely as bread, meat or any other form of food; that the potential agency of the spirits was transformed into animal heat and muscular work, which is to say that the same use was made of alcohol as of ordinary food material, and it protected the material of the body from undue consumption, just as effectively as a corresponding amount of sugar and starch. Thus, it is claimed, the tests prove that alcohol is fuel for the system, yielding energy but not making tissue. Professor Atwater wishes it to be understood that he does not claim as the logic of his researches that alcohol is to be advised for use as food, nor does he hold that his discovery justifies its use save as a medicine in certain situations. But he declares that his experiments do establish that it is not a poison but is food with some, but not great value as such.

The Emporia "Gazette" (Kans.) says: "If a man has a good wife he does not try to account for her goodness." Certainly not, he is satisfied to know it. So in Kansas she has good times and is content with the fact. The "Gazette" says "if one goes into a group of either party or both parties," in that State "and attempts to start a discussion on politics on any side the crowd scatters. No one cares for silver, no one gives a tinkers damn for gold. No one talks ad valorem. No one knows what 412 fine means. No one is interested in the endless chain of the treasury. From the bright lexicon of Kansas the words per capita have been expunged. Why is this? Simply because the people have no grudge against the times and are not trying to explain them." If this is true, and it corresponds with what all the leading Kansas papers report, Mr. Bryan is very wise in making no dates to speak in Kansas. Where once he based his broadest and brightest hopes he cannot now find grounding for even a stern anchor.

MORE ABOUT WATER SUPPLY

ENGINEER SCHUSSLER GIVES HIS VIEWS.

He Thinks the East Side Well Supply Comes From the American River.

H. F. A. Schussler, Chief Engineer of the Spring Valley Water Company of San Francisco, was in this city yesterday, the guest of the Citizens' Water Committee.

In the evening the committee met in Mayor Land's office, and for over three hours listened to Mr. Schussler explain matters pertaining to water supplies for cities. He, by the way, has been engineering head of the Spring Valley Water Company for thirty years and spoke from practical experience.

Mr. Schussler said to start with, that he did not believe a system of rapid filtration would bring the best results from the water of the Sacramento or American Rivers, for the reason that the sediment would soon fill the pores and constant scouring and cleaning would be necessary. The sediment of the rivers, he said, differed materially from that of most rivers, being of a much finer character and capable of being suspended in the water for a longer period of time.

Mr. Schussler was informed that river water if allowed to stand would leave a layer of silt on the bottom of a tube in twenty-four hours. He reasoned that the heavier silt would settle first, and that the process would continue until the water was practically clear.

He thought that 5,000,000 gallons daily ought to be sufficient for local consumption, and he thought that if filtration and settling was adopted two tanks should be built for the latter purpose, the supply to be taken from one, while the silt in the water in the other was settling. As specific gravity would insist upon the clearest water being nearest the surface, he advised skimming the water from the surface, using floating barges for the pumps.

Mr. Schussler said he knew nothing of the purity of the water of the Sacramento or the American Rivers, but if the plan of filtration was adopted, he would advise running a T-pipe to the American River, so as to get the supply from that source in case the drainage from the tules at certain seasons of the year, gave the water from the Sacramento a tainted taste.

He explained the process of exposing the water to the air after settling and before filtering, and said that process alone would do away with at least 50 per cent. of germs, or bacteria.

Dr. Power informed Mr. Schussler that several chemical tests had shown the water from the Sacramento to be remarkably pure, aside from the question of silt, and the latter said the city was to be congratulated because of the fact.

Mr. Schussler spoke of the water supply of Hamburg, Germany, and said the supply was pumped from the river into settling vats. He had looked into those vats and they resembled wonderful aquariums, being alive with vermin and animal life. The water went through the process of sand filtration, the sand being only scoured once in thirty days. Such a process would not work with Sacramento or American River water, because the silt would fill up the pores. The straining process, such as he had used in San Francisco, would do better. He looked upon rapid filtration as poor filtration, at the same time saying he wished to say nothing in opposition to the filter companies. He said that in Hamburg the Germans had not made a chemical analysis of the water they used in ten years, one of their experts having told him that they would not dare to do so. Some of the people in Hamburg, he said, drink water and with no bad effect.

In the matter of sewage which flows into the river from Red Bluff, Marysville and other cities above Sacramento, Mr. Schussler said it amounted to practically nothing, as all the water in the stream would be exposed to the air over and over again before reaching this point, and by skimming the water from the surface, which would be child's play, a remarkably pure supply ought to be had, particularly if placed in settling vats and passed through the straining process.

Being questioned concerning water mains, Mr. Schussler advised laying large mains, five, six or seven blocks apart, and parallel, and then to get an equable pressure, place pipes connecting the mains proper at intervals of four or five blocks. Such a system, he explained, would allow a pressure in any direction, and would give a generous supply to any section of the city. He suggested beginning with one or two big mains laid on parallel streets four or five blocks apart, and connecting them with cross pipes; then, as the expense might be stood, similar mains could be laid on other parallel streets, and in the course of a few years ample mains and an equal pressure at every point in the city. He advised large mains being run to the eastern end of the city, so as to give the desired service. He advised allowing the mains now in to remain in use until the new system might be completed. Instead of one 40-inch main, he advised two 20-inch, parallel and four or five blocks apart, connected by 12-inch pipes every six blocks.

Mr. Schussler said for city purposes he preferred cast-iron pipes for many reasons, one of which was that such a pipe could be tapped at any point, while the wrought-iron pipe could only be tapped by first banding it. Again, the iron pipe, if properly treated in the mills, would resist rust much better than steel, and iron pipes laid by him thirty-five years ago were still serviceable, while all that was left of the steel pipes was a string of rust. Wrought-iron pipes, he thought, were better for country purposes than cast-iron, but not for city purposes.

Mr. Schussler said that the system of mains he spoke of could be used equally well with water brought from wells or from the mountains, so that there could be no loss to the city.

In relation to water from wells, Mr. Schussler advised first knowing the source of the supply. Water, he said, would not run up hill. He had ridden east of town during the day, and had pointed out what he believed to be an old back channel of the American River, which a thousand or more years ago cut across east of and entered the Sacramento at a point below this city. Since that day the land on which the city stands had been filled in.

He inquired as to whether cobbles had been found at a depth in the vicinity of the Chamber of Commerce wells, and on being informed that there were, was confirmed in his belief that an old channel existed.

When told that the level of the water in the wells had never been compared with the water in the American River, he thought a string of wells, a thousand feet apart, should have been bored toward the probable source. He said if the source of supply was the American River the water would stand higher as the stream was approached, and by that means the source could be definitely determined.

Dr. Power informed Mr. Schussler that the water from the wells was harder than that in the river, and that that from different wells varied, and the latter said that water would naturally get harder as it went away from its source. He said if there was an unlimited amount of water in the wells the question would resolve itself into a question of quality, but if the supply was limited it would necessitate securing the territory back to the source of supply. A system of wells, he said, would demonstrate whether all were supplied from a common source, as pumping from one to the standing level would bring its neighbors to the same level, provided they were connected and came from a common source. If it was ascertained that they were supplied from a local source care should be taken that it was ample.

In relation to the proposition of bringing water from the mountains, Mr Schussler said that people as a rule objected to drinking ditch water. He thought, however, that it would be well to consider the mountain supply proposition.

In answer to a direct question Mr. Schussler said he would advise thoroughly investigating the river supply before going deeply into either other proposition. Even, he said, if the river supply was adopted, there would be nothing to prevent the city at a future date to take an auxiliary supply from wells.

The proposition submitted by the North Fork Ditch Company was explained to Mr. Schussler. He advised if it was adopted, he thought the contract should bind the company to place a specified amount of water into the city each day — that the company should take care of the plant.

In answer to a question by Dr. Henderson as to the cost of properly experimenting with wells east of the city, could give no definite answer, but thought the wells and pumps ought not to cost over $2,000 or $3,000, and the running and analyses to follow would cost more. He said that to thoroughly test the wells used by the Spring Valley Company, had cost $34,000.

Captain Hall inquired as to the cost of mechanical filteration, when the water first had to be lifted into the settling tanks, then lifted so as to aerate it, then dropped into the filtering basin and a large quantity of alum put in for coagulation purposes, and finally, after passing through the filters, being put under pressure and injected into the mains.

Mr. Schussler inquired what the doctors thought about settling the water by means of alum.

Captain Hall explained that with rapid filteration $2 worth of alum was required for every million gallons of water.

Mr. Schussler did not make an estimate of the cost.

Mr. Schussler said settling tanks should be about 7 feet deep, and to hold 5,000,000 gallons would have to be about 500 feet long and 200 feet wide. He advised having plenty of room and get plenty of land on which to locate the plant, somewhere outside of the city, where the land could be had for the asking. He again referred to a stationery suction pipe and said that as the muddy water would naturally seek the bottom and the clearer the top, to place a stationary pipe four or five feet below low water, would put it twenty feet below the surface at high-water mark — in other words, the city would be getting the very muddiest water in the city, while the clearer water would go on down the stream.

In answer to a question Mr. Schussler said if he were the city, he would first of all make an accurate survey of the rivers and of the surrounding country, locate the best place to lift the water from the river; which side of the river to take the water from; how to get the water into the city if taken out above the mouth of the American, and hundreds of other matters which could only be done by a careful and experienced engineer.

In answer to a question as to what kind of talent would be necessary for successfully constructing such a plant, Mr. Schussler said that there was no need to go out of the city for chemical experts. He thought reliable local engineers could be found to make necessary preliminary surveys, and after all that had been done a practical constructing engineer would have to be employed. There were many men in the State, he said, who claimed to be able to superintend such work, but whether they could do it or not remained to be seen.

Asked a direct question, he said he should first take preliminary steps for surveys for the river proposition, and if before that was completed a more feasible proposition appeared it could be adopted. He said that in 1870 or 1871 he had been employed by the Trustees of this city and the first thing he had advised was that they construct a settling plant. He knew of no city similarly situated which had not such a plant.

At the conclusion of the conference a vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Schussler.

AMUSEMENTS.

The box office of the Clunie Opera-house opens at 9 o'clock this morning for reservation of seats for the Ben Hendricks engagement of three nights, beginning to-morrow evening. Mr. Hendricks is the foremost comedian on the American stage in Swedish dialect parts. He has always played successful engagements here. This time he brings a new play entitled a "Yenuine Yentleman." It is a spirited comedy, full of broad, clean humor and sparkles with wit, given a zest by the peculiarities and dry sayings of the Swedish mining engineer, personated by Mr. Hendricks. The Salt Lake "Tribune," where the company played nearly all last week, said of the second night that the house was crowded and 200 people were turned away unable to get seats, and that standing room was at a premium before the curtain went up; and Salt Lake City is considered a very exacting community in the matter of theatrical entertainments.

Chief Dwyer's Funeral.

The funeral of the late Chief of Police Thomas Dwyer will take place at 2 p. m. to-day from Elks' Hall at Ninth and J streets. It will be under the auspices of that order.

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SCHOOL AT POINT PLEASANT

THE TROUBLE BETWEEN TRUSTEES AND TEACHER.

Said to Have Culminated in the Former Ordering the School Closed.

For some time there has been friction in Point Pleasant school district between the teacher, Frank Benedix, and two of the Board of Trustees, Wood and Buscher, the third Trustee being Benedix' father.

Benedix was engaged by the Board to teach the school, but afterwards the two Trustees objected to his teaching it, on the ground that he, being a married man, had concealed the fact and had gone with young ladies in the district who were ignorant of the fact.

Benedix claims that he had a perfect right to keep his marriage a secret, having good reasons for so doing, and that he did not pay any attentions to the young ladies that he could not have paid them if they had known he was married, and that, having been engaged to teach the school, they have no right to withhold his salary, which they have done.

When they refused to sign his order for salary upon County Superintendent Howard, he appealed to the State Superintendent, Kirk, and the latter, after hearing both sides, gave his opinion that as long as Benedix was teaching the school the Trustees could not refuse to pay his salary, and recommended that Superintendent Howard give him a warrant on the County Auditor for his salary.

The two Trustees wished to bring verbal charges of unprofessional conduct against Benedix before the County Board of Education, but were informed that they would have to be in regular form, written and by affidavit, and they have not yet been filed.

Meantime, it is stated that the two Trustees have notified Benedix to close the school, giving as their reason that they do not consider him a fit man to teach the children, and that he has refused to give up the keys. Each side claims to have the sentiment of the district in its favor and the matter will probably be referred to the courts for final settlement, as the engagement of Benedix was for the teaching of the school for the school year, and the right of the Trustees to take such action will have to be determined.

Articles of Incorporation.

The following articles of incorporation have been filed at the office of the Secretary of State:

Vesta Medical Company. Formed for the manufacture and preparation of certain drugs. Principal place of business, San Francisco. Directors—George W. Hawkins, Mrs. Mary Murray, Mrs. Caroline E. Hawkins, Walter A. Coffee, Ernest H. Coffee, D. B. Walker and C. P. Herrmann, all of San Francisco. Capital stock, $30,000; subscribed, $10,500.

Hanford-Cholame Oil Company. Principal place of business, Hanford. Directors—N. Weisbaum, R. Mills, J. Manasse, Hanford; J. W. Fisher, Parkfield, and Julius Levy of Visalia. Capital stock, $250,000; subscribed, $100,000.

Independent Orange-Growers' Association. Principal place of business, Orange. Directors—J. F. Spotts, A. N. Brunner, George Pierker, S. K. Hemphill, Orange, and J. H. Peardorff, Santa Ana. Capital stock, $20,000; subscribed, $150.

Keystone Mining Company. Principal place of business, Grass Valley. Directors—H. A. Fairbanks, J. M. Thomas, John J. Hoskins, W. D. Harris, Grass Valley, and J. H. English, Nevada City. Capital stock, $25,000; subscribed, $15,000.

Jose Copper Mining Company. Principal place of business, Hollister. Directors—G. W. McConnell, R. Jose, Joseph Cofney, A. Johnson and N. C. Briggs, all of Hollister. Capital stock, $40,000; all subscribed.

Star Oil Company. Principal place of business, Bakersfield. Directors—R. S. Elwood, John M. Keith, J. J. Mack, Curtis Wible and G. G. Carter, all of Bakersfield. Capital stock, $500,000, all subscribed.

Art Publishing Company. Formed to reproduce pictures, drawings, etc. Principal place of business, San Francisco. Directors—E. H. Mitchell, W. E. Wood, L. W. Webb, A. G. Wright, San Francisco, and F. G. Cook, Buffalo, N. Y. Capital stock, $8,100, all subscribed.

The Randsburg Water Company. Principal place of business, Johannesburg. Directors—H. A. Darling, A. E. Snow, L. L. Cory, H. D. Colson and G. H. Curtis. Capital stock, $100,000; subscribed, $6.

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