

THOUSANDS HAVE SIGNED THE PETITIONS.

Municipal Ownership of Water Works Asked For. MORE BLANKS WANTED. A Fourteenth-Street Well That Can Furnish Plenty of Water.

FIVE CENTS PER THOUSAND. Half a Million Gallons Could Be Pumped Every Twenty-Four Hours.

The petitions of the Union for Practical Progress, asking the Board of Supervisors to call a special election to give the people a chance to vote for or against the municipal ownership of water works, were placed about town yesterday, and within a few hours thousands of names of voters were signed.

Several of those to whom copies were given went out at once to get signatures, and one man—L. Lowenstein, with P. Greenberg & Co.—filled two blanks within a couple of hours and came back for more forms.

To-day several hundred more of the petition blanks will be placed about the city and within a week the Union for Practical Progress hopes to have the names of a majority of the voters of San Francisco signed to the document.

Those who have agreed to push the petition are: W. D. O'Farrell, cigar-store, 777 Market street; M. McGlynn, Farmer, inventor, 220 Market street; L. Wandell, barber-shop, 23 Ninth street; Thane Bros., cigar-store, 10 Seventh street; Labor Bureau Association, 115 Turk street; Dr. George W. Davis, 633 Sutter street; A. W. Rider, insurance, 19 Montgomery street; M. Harris, with Scott & Van Arsdale Lumber Company, Fifth and Brannan streets; J. G. Clem, furniture manufacturer, 518 Fifth street; H. Euler, 318 Fifth street; George Ames, 812 O'Farrell street; L. F. Haskell, with Sterling Furniture Company, 1041 Market street; L. Lowenstein, with P. Greenberg & Co., Flood building; E. S. Barney, inventor, 220 Market street; B. P. Ober, accountant, 220 Montgomery street; M. Holm, notion-store, 1156 Howard street; T. E. Zant, carpenter, 963 1/2 Market street; Raschen & Co., grocers, Laguna and Ellis streets; P. McColligan, 445 Bryant street; Rev. J. E. Scott, 727 Geary street; A. B. Kenny, inspector, 627 Jersey street; F. Zohn, 1139 Mission street; Oliver Everett, 128 Kearny street; P. Healy, boot store, 203 Powell street; T. W. Potter, machinist, 114 First street.

A number of those who signed the petition having expressed a doubt as to the feasibility of the election owing to a lack of funds, John M. Reynolds, chairman of the election committee of the union, called on Auditor Broderick yesterday and found that no apprehension need exist on that score.

The Auditor informed Mr. Reynolds that the law provides that expenses for special elections are preferred claims against the general fund and can be drawn for before anything else is taken out. Mr. Broderick also stated that within a short period the collections of the Tax Collector

in use, might be, owing to the high price of fuel, a somewhat expensive operation, thereby adding to the cost to the consumer. It is not well, therefore, to look around for some more economical and equally practicable method? Electrical power is cheaper by far than that of steam, particularly in those towns adjacent to water-power, as Sacramento and Stockton, and many well-informed persons believe that we have that water-power close at hand, and point to the bay, with its swiftly flowing tides, as the solution of the problem. Efforts have frequently been made to utilize this tidal power, but so far without success, but that in no way we should stop trying, and it may be in the end that necessity will produce the success.

A well-known engineer of this city has sketched a plan to harness the waves, which he



THE UNUSED ARTESIAN WELL THAT COULD FURNISH 500,000 GALLONS OF WATER A DAY.

would place over \$2,000,000 in the general fund. One of the main obstacles being taken out of their path gives the officers of the union renewed hope of a successful crusade.

Those interested in the problem of whether the city can easily obtain water enough for its wants yesterday examined the Mitchell artesian well on Fourteenth street, between Mission and Howard, and were astonished at its capacity. The present owner of the water supply stated that he could put 300,000 gallons of pure water into the mains every twenty-four hours and would be glad to make contracts at 5 cents per 1000 feet supplied.

He stated that the wells, two in number, were bored in 1876, one being four and the other six inches in diameter. At one time the original owner had mains extending on Guerrero, Valencia, Mission, Howard and Folsom streets and reaching from Eleventh to Sixteenth street.

An accident to the pumping plant in 1888 caused the works to shut down, and

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Absolutely Pure

ent points the power could not be transmitted as electricity can be, and to generate electricity for practical purposes the power must be continuous and the tide-driven wheels would stop at slack water, when the salt water reservoir would come into play and do the work until the tide began to run again and pumping recommenced, thus insuring the needed continuous power.

A BETROTHAL DINNER. Mr. Samuel Knight, Miss Holbrook and Their Friends Entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Merrill.

The most important society event this week was the dinner party last evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Merrill, 1732 Washington street, in honor of Miss Holbrook, who is to be married on

PETITION FOR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP. To the Honorable Mayor and Board of Supervisors of San Francisco.

We, your Petitioners, residents and voters in the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, respectfully ask that a special election be called and held for submitting to the voters of this City and County the question of municipal ownership of the water works, gas works and electric lighting plants, which are now using our streets.

We request that at the election which you are asked to call the voters be allowed to signify their assent or disapproval (in conformity with Article XI, Section 18 of our Constitution) of the incurring of such indebtedness as may be found necessary to provide this City with a sufficient, adequate and proper water, gas and electric light supply.

We request that all work undertaken shall be under the direct control of the City, and that as far as possible California products shall be used if said undertaking receives the assent of the voters of this City and County.

Requesting your favorable and prompt action, we subscribe ourselves your petitioners.

The 8th of next month to Samuel Knight, Assistant United States Attorney, and a prominent member of the University Club. There were twenty-one guests, and the preparations for their welcome and entertainment were very elaborate. The apartments on the main floor were lavishly and tastefully decorated with choice flowers and smiles.

Those present in addition to the guests of honor, Miss Holbrook and Mr. Knight, were Miss Ella Goodall, Miss Minnie Houghton, Miss Bessie Shreve, Miss Nellie Hillyer, Miss Jessie Coleman, Miss Jennie Hooker, Miss Olive Holbrook, Miss Dunham, Edward H. Sheldon, Frank P.

Fortunately for the new line of the San Mateo road to the racetrack, we will be able to take passengers from any point on Market street to the new line to the Castro or Valencia cars. The first transfers to our line at Eighteenth street and the latter at Fourteenth. These contracts with the Market-street Company cover a good period of years, and they are so drawn up as not to be easily rescinded.

PRIZES IN ART AWARDED. Meritorious Pictures and Ordinaments of the Mechanics' Fair.

The art committee of the Mechanics' Institute Fair yesterday made a report of premiums awarded in the art department. The judges were James D. Phelan and Sidney M. Smith. In all cases the judges did not agree, but where a divergence of opinion was registered the committee, consisting of Grove P. Ayer and E. A. Denicke, assisted by Superintendent Solly Walter, reached a decision. The prizes went generally to the work reported best by one judge or the other. The cash prizes range from \$50 to \$5.

Following is a list of awards: 715. Best figure painting—Grace Hudson, "Indian Baby"; A. F. Matthews, "The Weekly"; 716. Animals—C. Jorgensen, "English Setter"; 717. Landscape—William Keith, landscape; Annie Harris, "After the Rain"; A. Joullin, "Presidio Marsh"; 718. Marine—J. E. Robinson, "Drawing the Bay"; R. Diez, "Whistling-bird"; 719. Genre—H. Raschen, "Fisher Girl"; Eleanor Warren, "Aviary"; F. M. Vermorcken, "Fench Girl"; 720. Portrait—H. Raschen, portrait; J. D. Strong, portrait; E. F. Van Winkle, portrait; Bronze figure, Rupert Schmid; plaster figure group, J. Melo Griffin, "The Little Gretchen"; 721. Landscape—William Keith, landscape; "Calla Lilies"; water-color still life, Mary T. Menton, "Violets"; pastel, Alice B. Chittenden, "Portrait"; 722. Marine—J. E. Robinson, "Drawing the Bay"; R. Diez, "Whistling-bird"; 719. Genre—H. Raschen, "Fisher Girl"; Eleanor Warren, "Aviary"; F. M. Vermorcken, "Fench Girl"; 720. Portrait—H. Raschen, portrait; J. D. Strong, portrait; E. F. 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