

# WATER SUPPLIERS ARE SURPRISED INTO ACTION

## The Spring Valley Water Company Violates Precedent and Submits a Statement.

### Discussion of Water Rates Is Postponed Until the Members of the Board May Analyze the Report Presented for Consideration.

THE Board of Supervisors and Mayor Phelan were paralyzed into official inactivity last night by the Spring Valley Water Company. The board met as a committee of the whole, with Supervisor Phelps in the chair, to discuss water rates. At their last session the Supervisors had adopted a resolution calling upon the Spring Valley Water Company to submit a detailed statement of its affairs, including, under a tabulation of seven classifications, the assets, income and liabilities of the corporation. Such a statement, which might be expected to reveal valuable corporation secrets, the Spring Valley Water Company had positively refused to submit to former Boards of Supervisors. The present board made the demand, however, as a matter of form, and, to the surprise of everybody interested, the water company complied with the demand.

Over the signature of Pelham W. Ames, the secretary of the Spring Valley Water Company, a most formidable document was presented for the consideration of the board. The water company, through its secretary, went into the most minute details of its business, even descending, in its record of financial incidents, to the cost of telephones and the labor of employees on the roads. Every element of revenue to the company was apparently exploited in detail. All the alleged expenditures found place in the statement, and for the satisfaction of the official rate fixers a comparison was drawn between the financial condition of the water company in 1897 and 1898.

The Spring Valley Water Company had never before in its history been so frank to the public, and Attorney Kellogg and Herman Schussler fairly bristled with aggressive importance as Clerk Russell read the statement of the company. The Supervisors had not expected that such a statement would be submitted, and they were ready to listen to the long arguments which it is the privilege of Mr. Schussler to present to every Board of Supervisors. When, however, the statement was presented there was an uncomfortable hesitation on the part of members of the board. Supervisor Perrault, who is heard more than he is listened to, turned his feet to object to the reading of the statement until the members of the board could be assured that the Spring Valley Water Company had rendered a detailed statement. The Supervisor insisted that it was unjust to ask the board to pass judgment upon a document of which the members had no knowledge and which they had not seen before it was presented in open meeting. Dr. Perrault thought that it would be wise for the board to adjourn and digest the statement of the water company.

Supervisor Lackmann moved that a copy of the statement be placed at the disposal of every member of the board. This motion was adopted, and Mr. Lackmann urged that the representatives of the water company be heard. In advocacy of his suggestion the speaker said that representatives of the water company usually come to the board in a mood to listen. Other Supervisors interjected to urge that it would be wiser to wait and listen to the visitors themselves. They argued that the statement of the company was in conformity with the demands of the board, and it would be

# SAYS DR. ROBINSON HEATHENED WIFE

## Charge Made by Mrs. Meta Wrede.

### FRUITS OF A SCANDAL

#### MOTHER AND DAUGHTERS AT SWORDS' POINTS.

#### Former Objects to the Physician's Alleged Attention to Her Offspring—Parent's Accusation Denied.

"I have pleaded with your dead father; I have pleaded with your wife; now I intend to lay the case before your mother." "If you go to my mother I'll kill you." The first speaker was Mrs. Meta Wrede, mother of a family of children ranging in ages from 8 to 28. The threatening retort which followed her strange statement was made, so she claims, by Dr. Frank B. Robinson, son of the late Dr. Luke Robinson.

After making the alleged threat, Dr. Robinson, according to Mrs. Wrede, drew an ugly-looking dirk from his pocket and threatened to use it if she carried out her intention of bearing tales to his mother. The stormy interview took place at the home of Mrs. Wrede, at 2026 Pine street, about a fortnight ago, in the presence of her three daughters, Birdie and Edith, charming girls of 18 and 21 years, and Mrs. Millie Pierce, who is only a few years older. Dr. Frank Pierce, Mrs. Wrede's son-in-law, was also present. The night before last Mrs. Wrede, who is a widow, and was occasioned, so Mrs. Wrede states, by Dr. Robinson's undue attentions to her daughter Edith.

At the culmination of the scene Mrs. Wrede made her escape to another portion of the house, where she remained until the next morning. Then Dr. Robinson, she claims, remained at the house also until the next day. Then Mrs. Wrede gathered up her belongings and took refuge with her mother.



### MISS EDITH WREDE, Who Claims the Doctor Was Only Her Friend.

and she was sadly surprised. When Edith returned home again I told her that I had been to Mrs. Robinson's.

"The night the trouble occurred Dr. Robinson and Dr. Robert Murphy called on the house. After heated quarrels I ordered Dr. Robinson from the house and he refused to go. Then I told him if he did not keep away from my home, as a last resort, I would lay the matter before his mother. Dr. Robinson then flew into a rage, and, quick as a flash, drew a dirk from his pocket and threatened to kill me if I did. I was terror stricken for the moment, and hastily made my escape downstairs into another part of the house.

more than two years she has not sent the little ones to school and now they are allowed to play upon the streets from morning until night. We have the children come in here during the day, and the little food we have we gladly share with them.

"We were once upon a time very well-to-do," continued Mrs. Pierce. "My mother, however, by her ruthless extravagance and sporty company, ruined my father, and about fifteen months ago he deserted her and the family. He is now in Stockton, but makes no effort to do anything, either for himself or for us. He is partially paralyzed and blind of one eye. Mother, in a quarrel, scratched his eye out."

Dr. Pierce spoke in the highest terms of Dr. Robinson, and declared Mrs. Wrede's attack upon his good name and fair fame not only unwarranted and malicious, but a most ungrateful return for many benefits received.

"Dr. Robinson has been a true, kind friend to the Wrede family," said Dr. Pierce, "and many is the time the little girl has been in a four-cornered bed if it had not been for the bounty of the doctor."

Son-in-law and daughters are unanimous in agreeing that Mrs. Wrede, although to all outward seeming a charming and agreeable woman, is possessed of an ungovernable temper, and is never so happy as when engaged in a quarrel or good hand-to-hand fight.

All the girls tell tales of scratched faces, blackened eyes and hair-pulling matches, and Mrs. Pierce claims that even her position as a mother did not exempt her from a fistful encounter with her mother.

The mother's latest alleged escapade Mrs. Wrede attributed upon Mrs. Robinson, and her reported attacks upon Dr. Robinson they are inclined to look upon as the natural results of undesirable associates.

"Mother's company is not on strictly should be," said Mrs. Pierce. "Her intimate friends are Mrs. Grace Hummelten and Mrs. Charles Cunningham, at 1225 Golden Gate avenue, and I do not consider their influence good."

"Yes, there are some prominent men too," exclaimed Edith Wrede, "and perhaps if I would make public their names they might explain what they have done with the money they have given."

Mrs. Pierce threatens to call the attention of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to the sad condition of her little brothers and sisters.

Dr. Frank Robinson, when seen late last night, emphatically denied that he had ever drawn a knife upon Mrs. Wrede. He characterized her as a dissolute "blackmailer" and said, although there had been a quarrel between them, no weapons had been displayed.

He disclaimed any undue intimacy with Mrs. Wrede and was anxious to make it plain that he was merely on terms of friendship with the family.



### DR. F. B. ROBINSON, Who Mrs. Wrede Says Threatened Her Life.

uge with a friend at 418 Golden Gate avenue where he is Robinson's work, and Edith Wrede, Mrs. Millie Pierce, the latter's husband and Dr. Robinson, are much disturbed over the sensational allegations made by Mrs. Wrede. They all freely admit, however, that a quarrel occurred at the Wrede home, in the heat of which some burning words were bandied back and forth, but they strenuously deny that Dr. Robinson threatened to kill Mrs. Wrede. She orders Dr. Robinson to leave the house, they say, but none of them saw the doctor flourish a knife.

The day after Mrs. Wrede left her home she disposed of the furniture, carpets and household fixtures, leaving the handsome two-story structure as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard. The daughters are deeply incensed at their mother's actions, and Dr. Robinson continues to be a regular visitor at Edith Wrede's desolate home.

When seen yesterday afternoon by a Call reporter Mrs. Wrede was still very much wrought up over the affair. At first she was reluctant to furnish the details concerning her quarrel with Dr. Robinson, but finally she made the following statement:

"Dr. Frank Robinson, although he is a married man, has been keeping company with my daughter for a period of two years during which time he has been a constant visitor at my home on Pine street. His visits were extremely distasteful to me. I knew he had a loving wife and two children, and I did not fancy his making love to Edith, and more than once I requested him to keep away. He paid little heed to my wishes, and for that matter neither did Edith. She loved him blindly, and all my pleadings with her were in vain. She remained away from home, when she first became acquainted with Dr. Robinson, for several days at a time. When she would return I always scolded her, but she was of age and thought she was able to take care of herself.

"The doctor kept coming to the house and finding that my protestations had no effect I finally decided to tell his father, the late Dr. Luke Robinson, and accordingly did so. He expressed great sorrow at his son's waywardness, and promised to do what he could to put a stop to the flirtation.

"I don't know what passed between father and son, but at any rate Dr. Robinson did not stop paying court to Edith. Things went on and Edith left home again. I then decided to tell Mrs. Robinson of her husband's unfaithfulness. I called on her and asked if the doctor was at home. She told me that her husband had not been home for several nights. I told her of his behavior with my daughter

GOOD HARD FIGHTING.

Bouts at the San Francisco Club That Pleased One Thousand Spectators.

The San Francisco Athletic Club gave its monthly fistic show last evening at the clubrooms, on Sixth street, before a large gathering of sports, with the following results: Yank Calahan defeated boy Jim in a four-round bout. "Kid" Johnson and Charley Vickers boxed six rounds, which ended in a draw. "Kid" McFadden and easy came met returned blow for blow and came very close to a knockout in the second, fourth and fifth rounds. McFadden lost the winning cards in the first, second and third rounds. Referee Jimmy Lawler declared the bout a draw, much to the disgust of McFadden. R. E. Woods, a pupil of Freddie Watson, stopped T. Tiernan in the third round by a six-round knockout. Jeff Jeffords, a very promising heavyweight, hammered Pat McViney so hard in the first round that the authorities interfered and the referee, Alex. Greigains, decided in favor of Jeffords, a 200-pound aspirant for honors.

For a Change

Try any two 126 dishes, with small coffee, 25c at Camp's, 106-108, O'Farrell st., opposite Orpheum, and you'll not be disappointed.

CARRENO DUE TO-DAY.

The Much Belated Pianiste Sends a Welcome Wire.

Teresa Carreno wired from Toano, Nev., yesterday afternoon: "Special train set for me, please. Expect to arrive at 9:40 this morning. Expect to arrive about 6 o'clock Thursday night."

Madame Carreno left Denver last Thursday night and got stuck in the snow at Salida. For three days she was blockaded and her piano recitals, announced for three weeks in advance, had to be abandoned.

She is to be tendered a reception by the Sorosis Club to-morrow evening—other words, the money has been blocked. Her first recital will be given at the Metropolitan Temple Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Her final recital will be given Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

The famous old JESSE MOORE WHISKY is recommended by physicians for family and medicinal use because it is pure.

WANTED NEW YEAR MONEY.

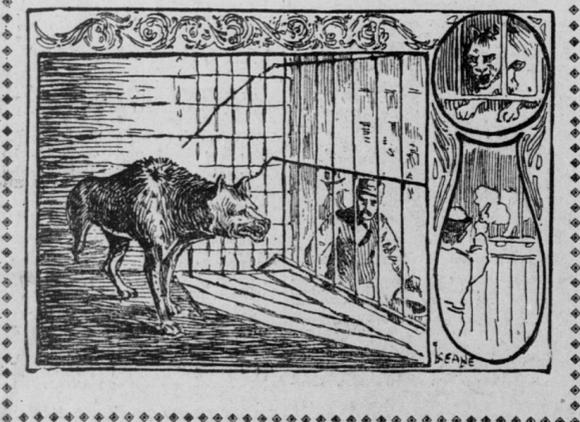
Chan On, a Highbinder, Arrested for Viciously Assaulting and Robbing Ah Ching.

Chan On, a Chinese, was arrested last night by Officer Savaules of the Chinatown squad and charged at the Metropolitan street station with robbery.

Chan On is a noted highbinder and a member of the Bon Ong Tong. It is alleged by Ah Ching that when the latter was in a room at 1025 1/2 Dupont street with two friends Chan On was concealed in the hallway. Chan On saw one of the men pay some money over to Ah Ching, and as soon as they were gone slipped into the room and struck Ah Ching a stunning blow in the face and then rifled his pockets.

The story of Luther Burbank's wonderful success in breeding fruits and flowers is told in next Sunday's Call.

# WEYLER ATTEMPTED TO DEVOUR HIMSELF AND HORRIFYING DEATH OF THE PREMIER HYENA OF THE CHUTES' ZOO.



WEYLER is dead. He died a death as horrifying as ever came to a living creature. In an agony of distress or in the satisfaction of the venom that was in his nature he ate his right hind leg off, and a bullet of mercy ended his existence. Some say that Weyler preferred death to the ignominy of his name. Others insist that his savage gluttony was satiated upon himself. Whatever the cause may have been Weyler died early Monday morning at the Chutes.

Weyler was the premier hyena of the zoo. He was the animal personification of savage cowardice and received his name from some one who had studied the Cuban war. Weyler was but little larger than a dog, dull gray and striped black in color. He had fangs of cruel whiteness and a disposition invariably to show his teeth.

A few days ago the keeper of the zoo noticed that Weyler had gone lame. He limped and snarled and snapped at his mate in evident pain. It was impossible to apply remedies, as Weyler did not take kindly to ministrations of any sort. Day after day he continued to limp, but as time passed the expression of his brute eyes was one of anger rather than of pain. On Monday morning the end came. When the keepers of the zoo approached Weyler's cage they saw the hyena calmly eating his leg. He had crunched flesh, bones, hide and hair until only a bleeding stump remained.

The animal, dreadful in its self-affliction, could not be frightened from its feast. The keepers shouted, but the hyena was unmindful of their cries. Other endeavors failing, one of the keepers sent a bullet into the animal's brain and instantly killed it. The incident has created considerable comment, as it is apparently without precedent. Monkeys have been known to bite their tails off in a fit of rage. Rats have gnawed at themselves when trapped, but the hyena of the Chutes is the first animal known to have attempted with evident satisfaction a digestion of himself.

# The great white sale:

Monday we introduced it to the public with a good result; thousands were in and out of our stores: Tuesday was even a better day than the first: yesterday (Wednesday) one of our aisles (the underwear department) was so crowded at 4:20 p. m. that we had to apologize for delay in serving trade: it had to be done, yet we met the rush and we succeeded in waiting upon our customers: we make the admission to show how this sale has pleased the visitors: it's pleased us too: it was a new departure in San Francisco, but it will impress you more than ever with the merits of Hale's methods, Hale's goods and Hale's prices if you join the visiting throng. Bring the children: we call it "great" white sale to-day—if it keeps on growing we will have to use stronger words to tell you the exact truth.

- muslin 36 lbs unbleached muslin, 36 inches wide, heavy quality, in white sale; 27 yards for... \$1.00
- flannelettes new flannelettes in pinks and blues, nice striped patterns; 4 1/2c per yard
- lawns white apron lawns, 40 inches wide, with fancy open-work borders, in white sale, per yard... 5c
- skirts 10 dozen skirts, made of good heavy muslin, tucked and deep cambric and 3-inch lace ruffle on bottom, cut good and wide... 50c
- 15 dozen of good heavy muslin, deep cambric ruffle, lace insertion and 4-inch lace ruffle on bottom... 85c
- gowns of good heavy muslin, 40 lb. 1/2 yoke back, tucked front, bottom, cut, ruffled neck, front and cuffs; 35c in white sale... 50c
- h'd'k'fs 50 dozen ladies' white handkerchiefs, 1/2-inch hem, size 11x17, in the white sale... 3c
- 68 dozen ladies' white handkerchiefs, fancy corded, and drawn work, with 1/2-inch hem... 5c
- drawers of fine soft finished muslin, extra wide, deep cambric ruffle, torchon lace edge; per pair... 19c
- drawers, umbrella style, of fine soft-finished muslin, deep cambric ruffle, with 1/2-inch emroid-39c
- valentines lace valentines, each... 1c to 25c
- fancy card valentines, each... 5c to 30c
- comic valentines... 25c to 50c
- valentines directed and mailed at Hale's stamps for sale at stationery counter.
- gloves ladies' 2-clasp real leather, French selected kid pique walking glove, known as Hale's dollar-and-a-half pique glove, in red, brown, tan, mocha, navy, green, black, white; sizes 5 1/2 to 7 1/2... \$1.50
- pillow cases 1200 pillow cases, 45x36, of extra heavy muslin, with 2-inch hem, one of the attractive features of this great white exhibition... 7c

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Visit our stores during this week and try a cup of our delicious Ideal Coffee free.

IDEAL COFFEE POTS.

2 pints...	\$1.10	75
3 pints...	1.20	85
4 pints...	1.30	95
5 pints...	1.35	95
6 pints...	1.40	95
7 pints...	1.45	95
8 pints...	1.50	95

These are beautiful nickel plated coffee pots, requiring less coffee than any others, and are the only ones made on strictly scientific principles.

CLARET, gallon... 40c

Well-aged good flavor.

Regular price \$1.00.

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A superior quality; delicious with hot cakes.

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SALAD DRESSING, bot... 25c

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WHISKEY, bot, 75c, 3 bottles... \$2.00

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EGGS, dozen... 25c

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