

Need for Aggressive Policy In Dealing With Spring Valley

PLAINLY enough the Spring Valley Water company is engaged on a campaign to hold up the property owners and tax payers of San Francisco for a monstrously exaggerated price.

It is not as if the public had no data of authentic and fully ascertained character on which to base conclusions.

The city is now asked to believe that the value of the property, because of new acquisitions, has been practically doubled since 1903.

Whatever negotiations there may be pending between the municipal government and the company looking to the submission to a popular vote of an upset price for the plant, they are not going on openly, and secret or open, any such negotiations in the present status of the affair would be sheer waste of time.

How that compulsion shall be applied is the question that presses for consideration by the city. In this regard the way seems clear to bring the company to a realizing sense of the situation.

There is only one way to deal with Spring Valley, and that is at arm's length. The corporation has instituted a holdup campaign with shotgun tactics and the city must meet force with force.

It is another phase of these holdup tactics that the corporation refuses to install any extensions of the water service, so that many residence districts are left without supply, to the manifest injury of the town.

This is an aggressive policy and it is up to the city to reply in kind by the institution of condemnation proceedings.

In the Christian Science Monitor of Boston appears a brief friendly report of progress for San Francisco since the fire which sums in one paragraph the remarkable accomplishment of six years, with a word of promise for the future.

A Report of Progress for San Francisco

On April 18, 1905, San Francisco was laid low by earthquake and fire. Six months afterward its rebuilding was well under way.

Nobody can say that this record of achievement is exaggerated. It is a plain tale of hard facts, which, when massed in this fashion, present an almost incredible history of energy and faith.

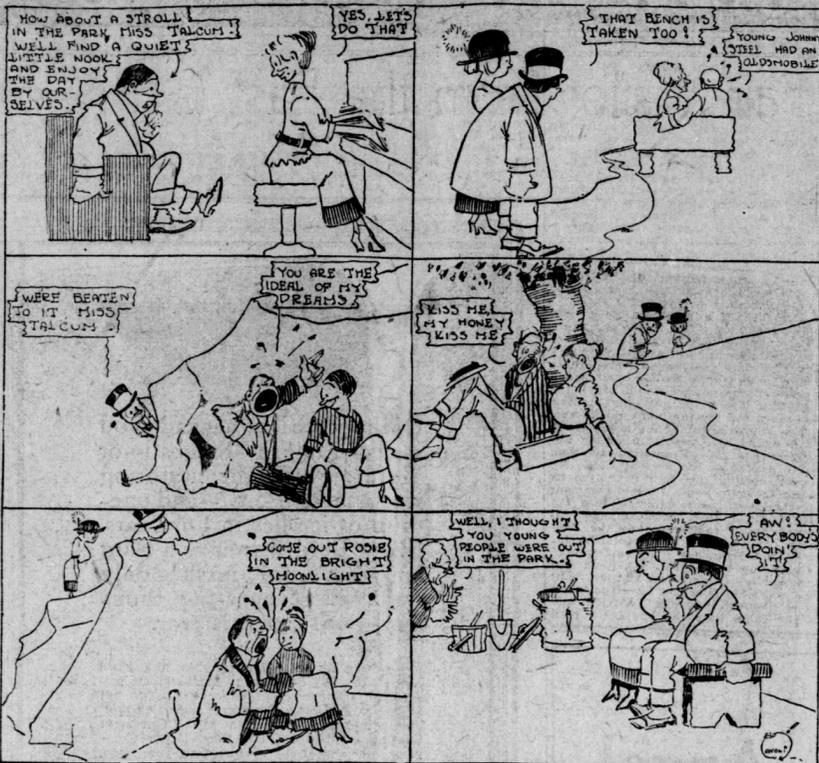
DEBATE arises once more in San Francisco over the question of the acceptance by the city of so called "tainted money."

"Tainted Money" Problem Is Raised Again

It seems, however, that if these views are to be given weight as grounds for rejection of the gift they would be equally valid against acceptance of many of the great and useful endowments for educational and charitable purposes by which the people of California have so largely benefited.

The one question for San Francisco to determine is whether the conditions of the Carnegie gift are such as the city can honorably and profitably accept.

They're All Doing It



ONE of the unexplained features of the current primary campaign is the in and out character of the voting. It is a mixed verdict with confusion of counsel.

Senator La Follette has drawn attention to some of these unexplained and seemingly contradictory features. For example, Oregon republicans gave Roosevelt a majority, but it turned down Jonathan Bourne, who sought reelection to the senate.

In Nebraska and Illinois similarly confused results are noted. In both of these states the candidates for senator selected by the republicans belong to the "standpat" wing.

Somewhat similarly mixed results have attended the democratic primary voting. Pennsylvania democrats voted for Woodrow Wilson as a progressive.

Probably the solution lies in the personal equation. This always must weigh more heavily in the hasty canvass of a primary campaign than in the more deliberate judgment pronounced at a general election after the fullest discussion of principles rather than personalities.

SAN FRANCISCO will have a big national convention during the month of June, when the General Federation of Women's Clubs meets in this city. We may expect a large gathering and should make ready our best welcome.

A big delegation is coming from New York in a special train, with an extensive itinerary covering visits to the scenic wonders and attractions of the state.

A leading topic for consideration by the convention will be means to increase the income of the body. The federation is deeply interested in such movements as the enforcement of the pure food laws and in the output of propaganda to forward such purposes.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

- G. A. KOBOLD and V. C. Kobold, who have large realty holdings in Winnipeg, Canada, are at the Palace. They own the largest theater in Winnipeg and are sportsmen of high reputation. Their dogs and horses are well known to the sporting fraternity of the States. They are accompanied by their wives.

Spring Poetry

By the POET PHILOSOPHER

It is indeed a blessed thing that lots of words will rhyme with spring; there's wing and king and sing and bring, and fifty-seven more, by jing!

He Got It

"My nephew," says the bespectacled man, "entertained me most generously while I was in New York. He took me almost every evening to one restaurant or another, and I heard several most lively songs."

SHAKESPEARE

By GEORGE FITCH, Author of "At Good Old Slivash"

ABOUT this date in April William Shakespeare was born in a fine old timbered house in Stratford-on-Avon, England. This fact alone has raised the value of the house a hundred fold, but its owner of that time did not discover it until it was everlastingly too late—for him.

Shakespeare was an ordinary boy and was not thought much of in Stratford, because he wore his hair short and wasted his time in learning to read and in poaching and on Anne Hathaway. No crepe was hung on the city hall when he left Stratford and went to London, and even after he became famous and was allowed to bow to some ninth rate duchess the home people used to say: "What, Will Shakespeare famous! Nonsense. I remember when Sir Thomas had him whipped for deer stalking."

But Shakespeare persisted in writing plays, and as he was his own manager, he got them all acted and became rich, retiring afterward to Stratford and dying with much pomp and ceremony, so that he was buried in the village church itself, instead of being put on the waiting list among the pickers in the tombs outside.

After he died, Shakespeare became constantly more noted and people began to say that it was a pity there were not writers like Shakespeare in those degenerate days. They have been saying so ever since. He has now been dead more than 300 years, but the best thing said of any playwright is the fact that his stuff sounds like Shakespeare. And usually he has to say it himself.

Shakespeare borrowed most of his plots from the Italians, who were great story-tellers. If you weren't too fastidious about the stories, he rewrote them in drama, in which all the characters speak in beautiful, stately blank verse, saying an average of one deep, eternal philosophic truth per line.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Editor Call: With the meager facts at hand, there is sufficient evidence of carelessness in the operation of the steamship Titanic. This carelessness is not the carelessness of the gallant captain who sank with his ship, or that of the faithful crew who sacrificed their lives in rescuing the passengers. It is the carelessness of the steamship company in the operation and maintenance of the ship.

There are limits to the number of people on shipboard who can be handled effectively in an emergency with plenty of lifeboats. A requirement of ample life saving equipment may thus impose a very decided check upon the tendency to giant construction.—New York World.

How many seem the greatest works of man when brought face to face with the elemental forces of nature!—Chicago Tribune.

The designer of the Titanic says it had 50 davits for lifeboats, but davits are of not much use to drowning men.—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

In any case the ocean ought to have something more interesting for tourists than betting on the day's run.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.



Bill, this piece needs some gags and a happy ending.

THE HIDDEN OFFICE A Story of Mystery (Continued) Our readers who have been following the thrilling narrative of the search for the branch postoffice that is located in the vicinity of Second and Stevenson streets, must possess their souls (we hope they have souls) in patience.

Postmaster Flisk and the searching stranger started out yesterday morning to find the office, possibly by nightfall no report of their whereabouts had been received. Just as The Colyum is going to press a faint "S. O. S." signal is received. We shall investigate as soon as it is daylight.

"MANKIND OWES another debt of gratitude to Marconi," says the Chicago Tribune in Washington. Sammis tried to collect it in its most tangible form.

Kenneth MacDonald, the architect-collector, Dr. Ike M. Angelo and Leonard Set on a hillside and batted the dullerest Soldier who ever was sent there to guard.

"Hey, you are sketching a cannon that 'dis-ap-pears'! Shouted the sentry, to his chagrin. "No, I am painting a fog like a mist of tears." Murmured the painter, "I see o'er Marinip."

"That is a cannon and that is a rifle pit; That is a battery you're drawing now." "No," said the architect, more than a trifle hit; "Can't you discern? I am painting a cow."

"I'm an impressionist, fervent and colorful." Kenneth explained. "You have made a mistake." "May be you is," said the sentryman, dolorous; "See what impression the guardhouse will make."

The Colyum

The Southern Pacific company is boasting rainin day with such avidity that one would think it had something to do with rainfall rates.

AT SANTA CRUZ (The only difficulty at Santa Cruz is that you never can decide whether you are at a seaside or a mountain resort.—Tourist's Note.)



I put on my boots in the morning; I'll climb up a mountain; you bet; I must swim—my clothes get all wet.

THE COLYUM had a neat little eulogy on the Boats' progress but just as it was finished the sporting editor came in from the afternoon game. Thus is true literature discouraged in this country.

IF THIS: A BOARD OF OFFICERS, consisting of Captain Glenn T. Davis, Twelfth Infantry; Captain James W. Clinton, Twelfth Infantry, and Second Lieutenant John R. Wainwright, Twelfth Infantry, has been appointed to meet at the Presidio of Monterey to examine two horses, the property of First Lieutenant Thomas W. Brown, Twenty-seventh Infantry, to determine their fitness for service and to appraise their value.—Army News.

Why Not This: A board of officers, consisting of Admiral George Dewey and Admiral Uriel Sebree, has been appointed to meet at the Mare Island Arsenal and examine a yawl, the property of Admiral Thomas Phelps, to determine its fitness for service and to appraise its value.

A board of officials, consisting of President Taft, Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh and Attorney General Wickham, has been appointed to meet at Pittsburgh and inspect a ton of coal, to determine its fitness to be burned in the White House furnace.

A board of officials, consisting of Emperor William, Czar Nicholas and King George, has been appointed to meet at The Hague and inspect a new desk, which is to be used by the third secretary to the chairman of the next peace congress, and also to consider bids for bird seed for the dove of peace.

Where Competition May Be Restrained: One of the handicaps to western farmers in their use of dynamite for clearing logged lands has been the high cost of the explosive, largely due to the expense of transportation from eastern factories. It is gratifying to be informed that Stevens county is enjoying the benefits of competition between two western manufacturers of powder.—Spokane Spokesman-Review.

Not so gratifying if these two western manufacturers should carry their competition to the point of detonating rivalry.

THE TENT-SIN: TIENTSIN, April 24.—The Chinese government is becoming apprehensive of the assistance of the money lending powers for financial supervision in order to eliminate all possibilities of graft in serious discussions are reported in the cabinet.—News Dispatch.

China probably fears that we might send "Cox" Abe Ruef, Bathhouse John and "Charlie" Murphy over to give expert supervision.

THOSE THRILLING MARKET REPORTS: Speculators Tire of Holding Potatoes: "With hold them a while for you, if you wish." Prices for Dried Fruit Getting Down to Bedrock: With basalt blocks selling at \$59 per 1,000, rock prices must look very tempting. What pruned was expected to do that much? Honey Closely Guarded: We must do something to keep flies and ants out of our markets.

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THE AGGREGATE value of the jewels worn by the Daughters of the American Revolution at a recent reception in Washington is said to have exceeded \$500,000.—Boston Transcript.

Not all of that wealth was accumulated from pensions, however.

APPARENTLY THE only books of the city that Carnegie is down in are those excluded from the public library.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS: ELECTROUTION—Mrs. L. S. My husband is work. Would you support him by doing laundry? My wife told me to support him by doing laundry. Answer. Yes. But be sure to disconnect the wire before you throw it at him.

A Muddled Tourist: Absent minded husband (in Paris): My wife asked me while I was out to get her some eau de cologne. Now what the deuce is "eau de cologne" in French?—Boston Transcript.



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