

GOOD EVENING

THE WEATHER.

Rain this afternoon, tonight and Thursday; fresh southerly breeze.

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WIDOWED MOTHER SACRIFICES HOME TO DEFEND VELGUTH

IRE HEADED UPON WATER DEPARTMENT

Civil Service Commission Says Men Certified to by Dodge as Competent Are Not

Decides All Employees Must Take Examination to Show Whether They Are Worthy of the Positions They Hold—Money Being Wasted.

Severe censure of the methods of the water department is implied in the action of the civil service commission, which this morning decided that the men certified to as competent by Frank T. Dodge, superintendent of the water department, are not capable of filling their positions, and that they must take an examination, which will be a real test of their abilities.

The examination of tappers, metermen and caulkers held last month was thrown out, and not only the new men who sought places in the water department through the examination, but the men who have been doing this work under Superintendent Dodge, must take an examination soon to be held by Mr. Dodge.

Secretary McPherson made a report on his investigations into the manner in which water meters are being sold to house service pipes by the tappers employed by Mr. Dodge.

Save Money Is Wasted. According to the information he obtained, an average of 75 cents is unnecessarily expended on every meter installed. This is for material which the best plumbers in the city pronounce absolutely unnecessary. Unnecessary jobs add to the material bills.

One thousand new meters have just been purchased by the water board. Scores of these have already been installed.

If the same methods found by Mr. McPherson are followed on all these 3,000 meters with an average unnecessary expense of 75 cents, just \$750 will have been expended by the city which is so much money thrown away. The material consists of nipples, piping and stopcocks.

A. G. Washlight, a councilman and a plumber; C. E. Oliver, head inspector in the water department, and E. J. Gray, east side foreman, formed the examining board at the examination of tappers, metermen and caulkers held last month. They found that the methods of C. G. Murphy, who has been in charge of the meter gangs, were wrong and that the material was being used in a wasteful manner.

The completion has now held that Murphy, through in charge of the work of installing meters for some time, is himself not competent to do the work of the men supposed to be under his supervision. (Continued on Page Two.)

RAILROAD ENTERS GREAT GOLD CAMP

From All Over the Desert Miners Are Gathering to Celebrate the Arrival of the First Train at Goldfield—Clark Wins Race—Other Lines to Follow.

Los Angeles, Sept. 12.—From all over the desert miners are gathering at Beatty, Nev., in the heart of the gold mines, to celebrate the arrival of the first train. Senator Clark has won the race of the railroad magnates. One of his giant Salt Lake engines will be arriving from Las Vegas through the famous Bull Frog region next week. The first train will be the signal for a mining rush such as the world has never seen since the days of '49.

LOVE SYNDICATE WIDOW ARRESTED FOR FRENZIED FINANCE



Mrs. Isella Brown, the "Love Syndicate" Widow Under Arrest. Below is Gregory Allen, Sculptor, Fiance of Mrs. Brown's Daughter, Who Fought the Raiders. Sketches Show Incidents in Raid.

THREE WARSHIPS FOR CUBA

Roosevelt Orders the Denver, Marietta and Des Moines to Havana—Havana in an Uproar When News Is Broken

Washington, Sept. 12.—The cruiser Denver, it is announced today, ordered to Havana, should arrive late today or tomorrow. The gunboat Marietta, now at Santo Domingo, has been ordered to Cienfuegos. The orders were issued by the president from Oyster Bay. The Des Moines will await orders at Key West.

There is much activity in the state, navy and war departments on account of the Cuban situation. Major E. F. Ladd, a trusted officer of the military secretary's office, has started for Havana on a "month's leave of absence to attend to private interests." It is thought that the government means to have the army officer present in case of trouble.

The Denver left New London, Connecticut on September 8, under orders to stop at Norfolk. Two days later orders were given her to go to Havana at full speed, which she proceeded to do without stopping on this coast.

Advices from Havana say that the city is in an uproar, the people having heard that the United States has ordered three ships here and it is rumored that the whole fleet is coming. Insurgents are recruiting in the city. Reports are constantly coming of rebel successes. Many believe that President Palma is unable to cope with the situation.

The situation at Havana is worse than since the outbreak began. Many want intervention and others strenuously oppose it without stopping to consider the complications. The feeling is general that there will be no peace until America restores it.

A representative of a leading English firm with large interests in Cuba, who was interviewed today, expressed serious apprehension at the latest developments there. The Cuban Cigar company says that it believes that trade will be crippled for several years unless order is quickly restored. The company's only hope is that the American government will intervene. Its fear is chiefly due to the fact that fighting in the western part of the island has not yet been completely suppressed.

LOVE SYNDICATE PROMOTED BOGUS MINING COMPANY

Mrs. Isella Brown's Residence Raided by Police and Widow Arrested, Charged With Felony Embezzlement—Accused of Helping to Float Coal Stock.

New York, Sept. 12.—Every day sees new developments in the case against the "love syndicate," run by "widows" recently raided by federal authorities. The women are accused of having practiced their arts and charms to lure many thousands from admirers who proposed matrimony and to have unloaded much bogus stock on ardent would-be fiancés.

Tangible proof of fraud has resulted in the arrest of several of the pretty women alleged confederates of Mrs. Isella Brown, copartner with Mrs. Blinn F. Verrant in the notorious love syndicate.

New Charges of Felony. The new charges of felony lie in the sale of Boston and Nova Scotia coal stock, by which means, it is estimated, hundreds were fleeced and many of them ruined.

The Boston & Nova Scotia Coal company, with offices at No. 52 Broadway, was promoted by George Allen Mason, a brother of Mrs. Brown. It is charged with being a fake concern, yet well known names appeared in the official records of the company as its officers.

The scheme, while an ultimate failure, was for a time successful, in that huge blocks of stock were sold and much money thus obtained. But the concern was short lived, the stockholders' demand for dividends resulting in its quick collapse.

Raid on Residence. Mrs. Brown is in the Tombs charged with grand larceny. The stock of Boston and Nova Scotia coal was advertised widely in the news.

YOUNG THIEF IS JILTED BY HIS BUTTERFLY DEITY

WOMAN HE STOLE FOR SPURNS HIM

Fly-By-Night Friends Go With Adversity. Mother to Sell Property to Aid Son

Though night-time friends have deserted him and those on whom he lavished money with amazing prodigality have turned away, Bernard O. Velguth, the defaulting clerk of the Portland Gas company, still has one friend who has come to him in his distress.

It is his widowed mother, Mrs. Marie Velguth, 44 East Fifteenth street, who has made overtures to sacrifice her home, to sell her interest in a small farm near Hood River, to release all her possessions in order that she may shield her son from punishment.

The frenzied young man whose wild career of extravagance started even the most pronounced "rounders" for a time deserted by the multitude of parasites and beneficiaries of his thefts, Mrs. Velguth, who has paid constant and maddest devotion, has repudiated her love, saying that she never really cared, that he was no more to her than another and that, indeed, she was never more than slightly acquainted with the erring clerk.

Loneliness and hangover at saloons and cafes who drank with him and ate with him offering a faint imitation of flattery, and immediately after his departure wailing on the length of time that would elapse before his employers "got wise," are wisely saying "I told you so." None tried to see him while in jail, and not one has made an effort to aid him at this time.

But his sudden desertion of the young man's crimes had hardly reached the public before his mother was planning a way whereby she might shield and aid her son. She was assisted by the young man's brother and other relatives, who expressed a willingness to aid him in any way they might. It was proposed that the deficit in the funds of the gas company be made good, and proceedings against the young man dropped. The offer met with little encouragement, however, on the part of either of the officials of the gas company or the district attorney's office.

To Drop Prosecution. It is impossible at this time to determine just exactly the amount of the shortage in the company, say company officials. So far there is no disposition on the part of the company to drop the prosecution. It is a distressing affair and all sympathies with the mother, but the information against the young man himself is concerned, there seems to be no special reason why he will not be punished for his misdoings.

Table listing expenses: Horse and buggy \$2.00, Automobile \$5.00, Meals \$2.50, Incidentals \$1.00, Total per day \$17.50

NADINE NOT ONLY GIRL HE ADORED

Before Attachment for Fair Divorcee, Gas Clerk Was Enamored of Beautiful Nurse

Further investigation into the habits and methods of young Velguth, who was employed for \$10 per month as clerk in the office of the Portland Gas company and spent between \$50 and \$75 per day for several months, reveals an alluring life of profligacy which would dazzle even the dreams of Portland's wildest divorcees.

To Deputy District Attorney Heney he made a partial confession of the manner in which he spent the large sums which he stole from the company. Officers and others who have investigated the young man's scattered career are convinced that he only gambled occasionally though formerly addicted to the habit and that he did not drink excessively. His lavish expenditures were chiefly in the form of entertainment for his female friends. His efforts in that line, however, were confined largely to making himself interesting to Mrs. Nadine Nichols, the beautiful divorcee from San Francisco, who was the beneficiary of gifts from him of fabulous value.

Loved Pretty Nurse. Previous to his maddened adoration for her he was enamored of a beautiful nurse, who is now in another city. While here she was assisted as the assistant of a prominent physician. To a woman of the nether world on Seventh street he was attentive for a time and spent large sums for wine and presents for both. Those experiences, however, revealed his ardent devotion to the San Francisco woman, who declares she is greatly mortified at the publication of her photograph.

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Chicago, Sept. 12.—A few drops of kerosene administered to a sick woman in Freeport, Illinois, by a doctor's error 20 years before, led to the assassination of James A. Garfield and the election of Chester A. Arthur as president of the United States. This bit of history, hitherto unpublished, was revealed today by Mrs. Frances Smith.

TRICK USED BY VELGUTH IN STEALING

Able to Take Thousands By Clever Manipulation of Adding Machines and Stubs

"How did he ever do it?" This is the oft-repeated question of the day. "By what means was an \$100-a-month clerk able to steal \$15,000 from his employers before being discovered?"

The secret lay in a manipulation of the adding machine, according to Manager Fabus of the Portland Gas company. Adding machines never lie—except when operated by liars. In this case Bernard Velguth operated the adding machine, and by a clever manipulation known only to experts he is supposed to have routed up the ledger totals so as to hide his daily thefts.

Velguth occupied the position in the gas company's office known as recording clerk. It was his business to meet the consumer at the paying window, receive the money, sign a receipt and place the stub on file for the bookkeeper to enter the amounts upon the books later.

The bill, he it understood, is made out on a piece of paper which consists of two sections. When the bill is paid the two sections are detached, one going to the consumer and the other, the stub, being kept by the company as its record of the payment.

How He Took the Money. Whenever the receiving teller wanted to put some extra cash in his pocket he would drop the stub along with the money, thus leaving always a balance between the cash and the stub total. But this was not enough. Customers who are not marked paid on the books are sent a second bill and their voices are immediately heard in protest.

To prevent this difficulty the smooth young financier went boldly to the ledger and marked as paid the accounts which had been paid, being guided by his stubs in doing so. Another difficulty still lay ahead. The ledger receipts must be made to tally with the cash receipts. Knowing dollar for dollar the amount which he had stolen during the month, when Velguth did the adding machine to figure up the monthly totals, he knew that he was master of the situation. The ledger figures were called off by one of the bookkeepers, Velguth tapped them off and, by manipulating the machine, he made the total less than it should be, the difference being the exact amount of his stealings.

REFUSES \$25,000 FOR SWEETHEART

Beardless Youth Declines to Surrender Pretty Girl to Broker Who Makes Six Offers for Him to Drop Out—Money Nothing to Her Love.

New York, Sept. 12.—Frederick Elkey, a ruddy checked youth of 20, private secretary to W. R. Collins, trustee of the Equitable Life Assurance society, was made his sixth offer today by a Wall street broker to give up his attentions to his sweetheart, Clara Thiel of Brooklyn. The broker in a telegram offered the young man \$25,000 if he would desert his attentions to his 13-year-old fiancée, who is a stenographer employed by John N. Ryan, also a broker for the Equitable, whose office adjoins that of Collins. Young Elkey plainly showed perturbation today when it was made known that the terms of the latest \$25,000 offer had become public.

"I have been hounded and bothered," said he, "off and on by the man who wants me to give up Miss Thiel, and there is more behind the affair than I can tell at present. I will say that \$25,000 is no inducement for me to give up my sweetheart. It is nothing compared to her love."

Clara Thiel is exceedingly pretty, and is an accomplished swimmer. She and Elkey are engaged. She is much vexed that the matter has been made public. "I met the man who has been following me so anxiously about a year ago," she said, "but have never been out with him. He has proposed marriage to me, but I have always refused him."

Workingmen Far Better Off in England Than in America

London, Sept. 12.—The workingman is better off in England than in America. That is the conclusion reached by Bert Kennedy, the well-known writer. No severe analysis of conditions in both countries ever appeared here. Kennedy has just returned from a long trip in America, where he more working as a laborer.

PEASANTS IN URAL FORCIBLY RESIST TAX

St. Petersburg, Sept. 12.—Peasants in the Ural district are offering stubborn resistance to the collection of taxes. Troops have been ordered to the district. Social democrats have been notified that they will not be permitted to hold the conventions called to meet soon.

SAKOMELSKI IS TO SUPPRESS TERRORISTS

St. Petersburg, Sept. 12.—The czar has appointed General Sakomelski commander of the 15th army corps, with headquarters at Warsaw, and ordered him to suppress the terrorists.

EIGHT TRAINMEN DEAD IN GEORGIA COLLISION

Birmingham, Ga., Sept. 12.—A bad wreck occurred on the Western & Atlantic this morning. Engineer W. W. Fisher and seven other trainmen were killed. The disaster was a collision between two fast freight trains. Mistaken orders caused the wreck.

MURDER OF A PRESIDENT DUE TO A FEW DROPS OF HENBANE

Chicago, Sept. 12.—A few drops of kerosene administered to a sick woman in Freeport, Illinois, by a doctor's error 20 years before, led to the assassination of James A. Garfield and the election of Chester A. Arthur as president of the United States. This bit of history, hitherto unpublished, was revealed today by Mrs. Frances Smith.

FOUR PRISONERS KILLED

St. Petersburg, Sept. 12.—Four prisoners in Martin jail were killed and 14 wounded by the guards during an attempt to escape.