

WILKES

All This Week
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FLORENCE ROBERTS
—IN—
ZAZA

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HOW TO DISAPPEAR

(Continued from page 5.)

very first day of the mystery to make an identification "just for fun." The lawyer dropped into the shop one day and became interested in the clerk's chatter about the case. Several circumstances, especially the London address, awakened a train of thought and he remembered the melancholy of Judge Hill's daughter the day she called on him. He left the shop immediately and purchased the newspapers for several days back. This was the first time he had read anything about the case except the headlines.

THE circumstances were such that he felt it his duty to call at the morgue. I think that he saw the body about a week after the woman's death. When he was departing he was questioned by the reporters, but shook his head as if to say "I did not recognize her."

With the true caution of a lawyer he had determined to make up a complete case before going to trial. He was practically certain that he had recognized "Mrs. Irving" as Judge Hill's daughter, and that evening he wired the judge to come to New York, giving him as much information as possible.

While the reporters were busy at the coroner's office the judge, accompanied by the lawyers, had made the identification.

The judge's daughter and her husband had been touring Europe under the stage name of "Veragua." The real name has slipped my memory.

The husband was approached by the London correspondents of the New York papers as he was coming out of a mansion at which he had been giving a musicale. He was in evening dress and wore a monocle. When informed of his wife's death he screwed the monocle into his eye and, in an attempted English manner, said coldly:

"Indeed. Quite interesting."

Then he stepped into a carriage and was driven to his apartments.

USE A LITTLE BRAINS

THE west is facing a power shortage. Not merely on account of lack of water during certain periods of the year, but through lack of development to keep pace with the rapidly expanding industrial system and the increasing number of uses to which electricity is being put in the homes and on the farms, not to mention contemplated electrification of railroad systems.

This is not the fault of the great utility companies, but the fault of a public system which has slowly but surely during the past ten years squeezed their earnings down to a point where their credit has been impaired and they could no longer get the money to make extensions.

Our system of regulation, which is supposed to be for the benefit of the public, is now coming before the bar

of public opinion. Old theories are being swept away by the dear lessons of experience and the public is coming to see that any system of regulation which ultimately strangles industry is a public detriment.

Regulation in the future must be along more constructive lines or the people will be the losers.

With the present cost of labor and of material and of money, not only now, but for the last couple of years, nearly all utilities have operated at a loss or inadequate income. Nearly all the power companies are confronted with shortage of power, because they have not been able to make the normal expenditures for additional development, on account of scarcity and high price of labor, money and material.

The situation was never before so critical. One of the most pressing needs of the west is additional cheap power, and there is nothing that is given so little consideration or held down by public regulation so hard and fast as the power utility. The people and industries are demanding power far beyond the ability of power companies to serve, and it is not so much a question of price with them as it is a question of getting the power.

Virtually every kind of business which the power companies have been serving is making good money and can afford to pay, and should pay a remunerative price for power.

What the west needs is a few utility commissions with nerve enough to allow the power utility the right to collect sufficient rates to go ahead and expand to meet the people's needs. Anybody can kill industry, but it takes brains to build it up. Let our commissions use a little brains and co-operate with the utilities.—Industrial News.

JUSTICE AT HOME.

THE Chicago Herald and Examiner says: "Intelligent workers know that after the war the country and its industries are like a sick man rising from his bed, trying to get on his feet again.

"Such men are entitled to the co-operation of workers. If they do not get it, there's going to be great trouble in this country and the workers will be the chief sufferers."

THE WAY THEY WORK.

"Have you any alarm-clocks?" inquired the customer. "What I want is one that will arouse the girl without waking the whole family."

"I don't know of any such alarm-clock as that, madam," said the man behind the counter; "we keep just the ordinary kind—the kind that will wake the whole family without disturbing the girl."—Tit-Bits.

AT THE JOINTS.

Customer (looking at soiled bill of fare)—That's a splendid idea, waiter. Samples of the different dishes glued to the menu.—Bridgeport Life.



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Week Feb. 24: "Stop Thief"