

**Rent strike:** The usually powerful San Francisco Tenants Union got a big surprise before the Board of Supervisors the other day when the once-overwhelming support for its pet ballot initiative went poof.

At issue was a proposed measure to increase the number of tenants on the city's Rent Board — a change naturally opposed by the deep-pocketed apartment owners association.

The behind-the-scenes play: The association and its consultant, **Jack Davis**, let it be known that if the measure made the ballot, the apartment owners would campaign against every tax measure the board put up in November.

Drop the measure, and there would be peace.

"It was extortion," fumed **Ted Gullicksen** of the Tenants Union.

Davis and Company prefer to think of it as an offer that was just too good to refuse.