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SALT LAKE CITY, - AUG. 19, 1907

AN UNWISE REMARK.

According to a contemporary, Mayor Bransford said a very unwise thing about a subject concerning which the "News" has recently given its readers the actual facts. Following is the report:

"The mayor said he was pleased with all of the improvements. Regarding the Second Avenue macadam, about which there has been much complaint, Mayor Bransford said he saw no reason for any opposition to the work of the city. He said the paving was excellent for the money and would mean a great improvement for this section of the city."

And so the Mayor, after a flying visit of perhaps an hour or so over the entire city in an automobile, expressed himself as satisfied with "all the improvements!" Very quick work—very hasty judgment!

It took representatives of this paper several weeks of close study and hard work before they could, with absolute certainty, pass judgment upon the Second Avenue macadamizing. When they did so, however, no one was able to dispute the correctness of a single one of their findings.

Street paving is not a subject upon which off-hand opinions are of any particular value. Even engineers have to study the details of each particular piece of road-building, before they know much about it.

In the present case, the following facts are among those made known by this paper. They have not been disputed and they can be verified by any one willing to look into this matter.

1. Roads previously constructed like that on Second Avenue and from the same material, have worn out, or entirely disappeared, in less than two years.

2. The work on Second Avenue and vicinity is largely an open, flagrant and persistent violation of almost every section of the contract—the printed specifications—under which that work is supposed to be done.

It is quite unnecessary for the new Mayor to assume to justify the incomprehensible folly to use no stronger term, now being perpetrated in our city street macadamizing. It will be quite enough for those who are responsible for it to face its impending consequences.

BY THE RECORD.

The other day the local daily exponent of anti-Americanism expressed a desire to be judged by the "record." Very well!

In 1884, not to go any further back to begin with, that sheet published under the caption, "A Red Hot Address" what purported to be a sermon delivered by one "Bishop West" in Juab. This alleged address was an appeal to the audience to assassinate non-Mormons, and especially the governor of the Territory. According to the report in the Tribune, the speaker told the people that it was their duty to seize him and tread him down until his bowels gushed out on the streets. The paper mentioned explained that the so-called report was forwarded by a friend and that it was "verbatim." That it was prepared in the Tribune office has never been satisfactorily disproved. It never will be. It was proved, however, that on the day it was alleged to have been delivered at Juab, no meeting was held there, and that there never had been a "Bishop West" at that place. But the Tribune instead of apologizing for deceiving its readers and selling them such rot under the label of news, asserted that the bogus address was true in spirit if not in fact.

It was proved that the vile literary concoction was liberally circulated in Tennessee as well as in other parts of the country, by sectarian preachers, and that it was a determining cause of the assassination that is known in Church history as the Tennessee massacre. The blood of the victims of that tragedy still stain the record of the Salt Lake Tribune.

In 1890 the Salt Lake Times, also an anti-Mormon paper, felt so disgusted with the journalistic outrages of the Tribune, that it took occasion to administer the following deserved rebuke:

"We are heartily ashamed of a species of journalism not to be found outside of Salt Lake City, that revels in the most infamous, outrageous and blasphemous travesties in its reports of certain religious worship. We are ashamed of a species of journalism that ignores the difference between a devotional service to God and a political mass meeting. We are ashamed of it because it is calculated to advertise us broadcast as a horde of barbarians without sense of honor, decency or reverence."

That was the sentiment of the decent non-Mormons when the article was penned from which these lines are taken. It is the sentiment of decent non-Mormons now.

A stranger, referring to the same subject, expressed his indignation in a letter which appeared in the Deseret News of December 29, 1890:

"The report [meaning a Tribune report of the Tabernacle services] further says: 'He told the story of Adam and the apple, and how Eve and the serpent made beguiled the father of mankind into contracting an attack of cold. Then he described the death of Abel and how Cain wept the stuffing out of him with a club. Cain was a brute, and thus the sermon went.'"

This Tribune "report" the stranger very properly rebukes as follows:

"This is just how John Most and

Mr. Parsons, the anarchists, describe the same biblical incident when ridiculing Christianity and the Bible. The Tribune may suppose that such language as this reviles Mormonism alone; in that it is mistaken. It is an attack on all religion. It is an outrage on the sacred beliefs of the vast majority of the American people. This is just how the Bible is handled in the slums of all the large cities, by the Communists of Paris, by the red socialists of Berlin, by the anarchists of Chicago, and by (as I see now) alleged Christians of Salt Lake City.

"Being a stranger in this city and having attended yesterday's services in the Tabernacle, I cannot help repudiating, as a Christian, such foul and villainous presentations of the most important sacraments of the Bible."

"Heaven help the country which depends on such a source for patriotism and purification, for sanctification and evangelization. That's what I say."

This outrageous violation of the religious sentiment is an integral part of the record of the Tribune.

We should not forget to add to it the fact that the sheet has actually advocated licentiousness as an effective anti-Mormon agency. Under date of March 6, 1881, the Tribune reported a "gentleman" as having said that he rejoiced to see the youth of the "Mormon" community visiting saloons, gambling dens, and houses of ill-fame.

The Tribune's editorial comment on this infamous proposition was: "If freedom can be gained without excesses, so much the better; but if not, gain the freedom, never mind the excesses."

That is the record. But why turn the soiled leaves over any longer? It is well, however, to consider the moral caliber of a sheet that claims to stand for purity and patriotism, but which has done more than any other agency to establish filth and rottenness in this City, as well as to retard the growth of Utah and to injure the business interests of the State, all because it found that it could make money by an anti-Mormon agitation.

DIVORCES INCREASING.

According to recent statistics on divorces for the period 1887-1897, the number of dissolutions of marriages has been increasing more rapidly than the population. Between the years 1887 and 1897, 328,715 divorces were granted in the United States. During the following period of 20 years the total number granted was 1,500,000.

Various suggestions have been made to account for this fearful increase in the disruption of family ties. Growing infidelity on the part of both men and women is one of them. But the facility with which separations can be obtained is another. We have before us a paper published in one of the larger cities, in which attorneys advertise a specialty. Quick, quiet, no charge unless successful. Another puts it this way: "Advice free on all legal matters. Divorce costs \$12; damages, collections. All cases no charge without success." Here is still another: "Divorce; cost \$12; quick, quiet; advice free; no charge unless successful; and still another: "Complete divorce for \$25; no delay; courteous treatment; square dealing; please see me first." And thus it goes throughout the list.

When divorces are advertised in the same manner as patent medicine, or after the manner of the "barker" for a sideshow in a circus, no wonder that the business flourishes. It is safe to say that many would not think of obtaining a divorce but for the suggestion of an advertisement that promises secrecy and a small outlay.

THAT SUPPOSED DISCOVERY.

An anti-Mormon organ of this city a few days since announced a supposed discovery it had made. It was that the Church by buying goods made in other States is engaging in interstate commerce. From this false premise the paper proceeded to argue that Congress or the federal power should prosecute the Church. It even hinted at the confiscation of Church property, or something of that nature. We exposed the error of our contemporary by showing that, according to the court decisions, it is necessary to be a common carrier of freight or passengers in order to come within the legal meaning of engaging in interstate commerce. The organ, however, professes not to be satisfied with this demonstration. It now argues that "interstate" means anything that concerns or extends into more than one State. And this is true in a general sense, but not in the sense of the legal phrase of "engaging in interstate commerce."

No one would claim that the word "interstate" does not have this general meaning; but the question was simply whether the Church officers should be haled into court, not only for supposedly engaging in interstate commerce, but for violating the law in so doing. We showed that the Church neither engages in interstate commerce nor that it breaks any of the laws of the land. The organ still maintains, however, that it merely stated the facts in claiming that the Church should be "regulated" in some way for engaging in interstate commerce. Thus, it says:

"If the News is to be so particular as to the meaning of the word 'interstate,' it should deny that it holds an interstate conference here every six months. To be consistent it should say that when the Welsh people hold an elateded, it is not an interstate musical competition."

And so, a Conference of the Church or a Welsh elateded is a violation of the law against rebating, is it? For observe that this is the question at issue. The question is, not the meaning of "interstate," alone; but of "interstate commerce," and that, too, in the sense in which the law uses the term in "regulating" the acts of railroads and other common carriers. Thus the interstate commerce law, as passed in 1887 and amended in 1889, and the rate law of 1906, together provide that in the case of a corporation acting as a common carrier, any director or officer or any receiver, trustee, lessee, agent or person permitting an unlawful discrimination in passenger or freight rates, "on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, and in addition to the fine, 'be liable to imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding two years, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.'"

The rebating act of 1905 raised the fine to a maximum of \$20,000.

It is only under these statutes that violations of the "interstate commerce" laws can be prosecuted. Under which

section, for instance, would the Tribune suggest the prosecution of the Church officials for holding a semi-annual conference? or of the Welsh choral society officers in presenting an elateded? Unless that paper can show in what precise manner the holding of either the elateded or the conference is a violation of the laws against rebating by railroads, its newest charge against the Church as a violator of these laws must be regarded as equally false with its various other allegations.

The strikers have changed front. Are they getting back?

Salt Lake is to get a fountain pen factory. "Write" away, too.

Indians trailed those Nevada robbers to earth. Who says poor Lo's day has passed?

San Francisco is not exactly proud of the collection of freaks she has in her Glass case.

Miss Jeanette Gamble of Riverside, Cal., who saved her escort from drowning is a trump.

A trial was held over telephones in Wyoming a few days ago. That's a regular thing on the coast.

The lid's on in Canton. An imperial decree orders all opium dens closed. Beautiful dreams, good-bye.

"Tillman tips a negro porter!" exclaims an exchange. Probably a typographical error in the second word.

That reported failure of another big eastern manufacturing concern proved false as most alarmists' stories do.

Berkeley, Cal., is suffering from swarms of mosquitoes and San Rafael from an epidemic of bats. Other cities complain of political bees.

Col. Henry Watterson is trying to convince William J. Bryan that Bryan is too good a man to run for president, says the Baltimore sun.

Los Angeles hotel-men are objecting to paying a city income tax. In a business way they do not mind being taxed to the utmost capacity.

The elevator men employed in the Empire sky-scraper, New York, went on a strike the other day, and strange as it may seem, for a raise.

When Small issued his general strike order but few telegraphers obeyed it. Not owing to rebellion but because there was nobody left to go out.

The president's plan to send battleships and cruiser fleets to the Pacific may meet with opposition in Congress. The control of the navy is in the president's hand, however, and if he decides the trip the correct thing, needless to say the navy will go, opposition or no opposition.

A man in New York, convicted of embezzlement was sentenced to two years' confinement in the state prison. To a fellow prisoner in the Tombs he boasted how he had fooled the district attorney and had secreted \$35,000 which he intended spending abroad when his term expired. This reached the ears of the district attorney and Mr. Smar's sentence was lengthened by five years. Seven years ought to be time enough to plan a European trip.

There seems to be a growing tendency on the part of drivers and chauffeurs of this city to forget to slow down in passing over street crossings. Old men and women and children are in great danger of injury whenever crossing from one pavement to another; young and agile persons must keep a sharp lookout. The drivers grin delightedly at the awkward antics of the ordinary citizens who have to walk, as they dodge past speeding carriages and cars. A few arrests would bring a welcome frost on their crop of idiotic grins and prevent serious accidents which are sure to result if the police do not call a halt.

IN THE AIR.

New York Evening Post.
The airship, like the automobile, is bound to arouse exaggerated hopes for a long time to come. Thus an eminent German military critic protests against the Utopian fancies which are beginning to call for fleets of dirigible war balloons as the most suitable means for conquering Britain's girdle of invincible insularity, overrunning France, establishing a world-dominion, etc. This critic points out that the war balloon is still in its experimental stage; that it rises with difficulty and lands with still greater difficulty, and that at the height of a mile and a half it can be assailed with gun-fire from the ground. Nevertheless, Germany rejoices at the fact that she has wrested from France the advantage in "air-power" which the latter country has held for a number of years. Even the military statistician who figures out the fate of battles in advance by balancing knotted against knot-speed and weight of broadsides against each other, has turned his attention to the new field. He has discovered that, inasmuch as the French war-balloon La Patrie was up in the air for three hours, while the German ship floated for three hours and a quarter, Germany has a preponderant strength of thirteen as against twelve.

VACATION HUES.

Boston Transcript.
There are nice degrees in the coats of tan frequently seen in the city streets just now, the vacation and having sounded for a large number. And every coat, every sample of the "vacation hue" is of interest to those whose recreation day is yet to come. Into some faces a rich, dark brown, blended with red is ground, speaking of a naturally healthy state made healthier for one who makes a comparative study of vacation tans soon learns that to the man who already bath is given a happier and speedier renewal of general health even in a ward sign than comes to the ones who must seek health before attending to the pleasure end of the fortnight's trip. On the faces of these others as they return there often rests but lightly a brownish tinge that is little more than a shadow. The sun has reddened their faces, sometimes, but everyone who sees the effect knows it is but a counterfeited, that will be quite wiped away by two city days. And between the two extremes of color there are the degrees or shades of tan of many to be mentioned. Everyone is a pleasant note to those and the pleasantest thing about them is the thought they start that by the time Labor day comes everyone in town almost will be wearing or will

have worn at some time this summer his annual outdoor hue.

AMIALE CRIMINALS.

Los Angeles Times.
A Chicago criminal lawyer, editor of American Criminal Records, who appears to have made a pretty profound study of penology, proposes the establishment of a colony for what he calls "amiable criminals." The idea of this criminologist is to found a colony in the western country where the restraint will not be so galling as in a regular penitentiary. In such an institution there would be the help of green fields and trees, of flowers and other humanizing influences.

Now in a broad way this idea is excellent. Undoubtedly the method of dealing with criminals, even under the most advanced conditions of the day, is faulty. It tends to harden condemned persons rather than to lift them to a higher moral plane. The most abandoned, degraded and degenerate types are mixed together with persons whose fault was more a matter of accident than perhaps of deliberate intent. There ought to be a segregation of criminals of different types, with different treatment. The purpose of such segregation would be to reclaim those who are reclaimable, and undoubtedly there are numerous instances wherein men who have fallen into criminal conduct under stress of necessity or sudden temptation are anything but hardened offenders.

JUST FOR FUN.

Their Busy Day.

More Joy. One tomato patch in Clark county cut, 170 acres, and all the plants are working.—Kansas City Star.

"Jones is a slave of fashion."

"I hadn't noticed that he was a very swell dresser."

"He isn't. But he has to work overtime to keep his wife supplied with frocks."—Cleveland Leader.

"What was your impression of Europe?"

"Well," answered Mr. Cumrox, "judging from what mother and the girls say, there doesn't seem to be much to the place except art and matrimony. It depends for revenue entirely on pictures and pedigrees."—Washington Star.

Enthusiastic Constituent.—It's a great thing, Senator, isn't it, that it has been found an easy matter to curb the rapacity of the trusts under the existing law?

Prominent Statesman.—Why, yes, it's—er—considerably easier than we thought it would be when we passed that law.—Chicago Tribune.

Canvasser—Good morning, madam. I'm introducing a polish for cleaning silver. It is superior to anything now on the market and the price is only 50 cents a box.

Mrs. Smart (sharply)—Don't want any.

Canvasser—Sorry to have troubled you, madam. I see the lady next door was right.

Mrs. Smart—Eh? What did she say?

Canvasser—She said I needn't waste my time calling here, as you had no silver.

Mrs. Smart—The impudent thing! Give me six boxes!—Chicago Daily News.

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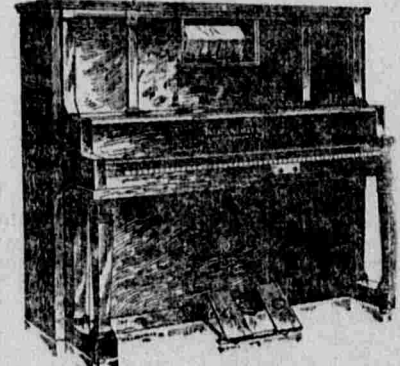
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