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THE "NEWS" AND THE PLATFORM.

IT HAS been stated by some of the radical members of the "Liberal" party that the People's Party platform is inconsistent with the former principles of that party, because the DESERET NEWS has opposed certain measures which the platform now endorses.

The DESERET NEWS has always endeavored to represent, fairly and strongly, the party which has made all the public improvements of which this city and the entire Territory can boast. But it is not the party, nor in control of the party, and never has been. The People's Party has formulated its own platform and transacted its own business, and the DESERET NEWS has simply supported it in its endeavors to secure the liberty of the citizen, and to elect candidates for office who represented the majority of the people, and at the same time has pointed out such measures as appeared to be for the best interests of the public.

Therefore, if the People's Party has adopted anything different to that advocated by this paper there is nothing inconsistent in the step, and the Party has never intimated in any way that it was bound by any suggestion of any newspaper. But we do not admit that there is anything in the Declaration of Principles adopted by the Party in this city that is at variance with the utterances of this paper, except perhaps in the matter of police uniforms. In the discussion that has occurred during the past few years on that point, we have taken the side of the officers, who have been efficient, faithful, public servants and who disliked the uniform proposed for them.

We need not repeat the arguments advanced against the project, because we regard the question as settled. And will only say on that head, statistics will show that our ununiformed police have made more arrests in proportion to their number, taking our population into

consideration, than the ununiformed officers in other places with a similar population.

It is the hoodlum fashion everywhere to burlesque the police and gully their pretended counterparts on the stage. In this city, vicious and semi-idiotic reporters have attempted to ridicule their official acts, and obstruct them in the performance of their duties, by inciting the brutal to resist them, and courts to punish them when it has been essential to their safety to resort to force. We regard all such puerile imitations of street Arab "chaff" as weak-minded drivel, and the endeavors to lessen police usefulness by vexatious prosecutions as an endorsement of ruffianism and disorder.

The People's Party, by a good majority, have decided in favor of uniform after a full discussion of the question, one upon which their representatives in the City Council were divided among themselves. Those who were opposed, bow to the will of the majority, in accordance with party principle, and are now unanimous on the question. The DESERET NEWS cheerfully joins with the Party which it represents and endorses the voice of the convention. It is a small matter, and one in which no vital principle is involved. It has been simply a question of policy, and is not deserving of as much attention and feeling as it has provoked. The main thing is to have efficient officers who will aid in the preservation of the public peace, and what clothes they shall wear is comparatively a small consideration.

On the question of sanitation the DESERET NEWS stands just where it stood before the Convention was held. We were and are in favor of "sewers for the business part of the city, and the deodorization and removal of fecal and all waste matter from the other districts." The files of this paper will show that we have advocated this for many years. We opposed the expenditure of public money gathered from every part of the municipality, for a system that was for the special benefit of one locality, without a vote of the entire people whose money was to be thus expended. We opposed the discharge of the city's filth into the river Jordan, as was contemplated when the sewerage scheme was started. We urged the cleansing of the business centre by means of sewers, and the reception and deodorization of the sewage at some point southwest of the city, which would save the spending

of many thousands of dollars for carrying it miles further, pumping it up at great cost, and discharging it where it may become a public nuisance. That was the extent of our opposition to sewerage.

We have urged upon the city authorities, every year for a dozen years or more, an effective and complete system of sanitation by the use of dry earth in the districts outside of business localities, and the removal of waste material under an official inspector of nuisances and his assistants. We have pointed out and explained how it could be done and the sanitary benefits it would bring to the city.

The Declaration of Principles contains these views which were adopted without reference to this paper in any shape or form. It will now devolve upon the City Council to carry them into effect, and to do that under the voice of the People's Party which it would not attempt to do under the advice of a newspaper. So long as the end is accomplished we care nothing about that. What we have desired is a simple, economical and efficient system of sanitation, and the platform of the People's Party now demands that very system.

Water must be had, and water has been sought for diligently by the present City Council. What has been done to meet the demand has been accomplished by the representatives of the People's Party. They have not made the impudent and false pretense that they could or would furnish "free water" to the inhabitants of the city. Nor have they ever closed their eyes to the need of seeking for new sources of supply. But they have not been in control of the elements nor have they promised impossibilities. And they are not responsible for that general drouth which has extended all over this region, and has not only dried up the very fountains in the heights above us but exhausted wells in the valleys that never lacked moisture before.

The water want is the great trouble of the municipality. If diligence, experience, experiment, enterprise and the expenditure of such funds as can be lawfully obtained will solve the knotty problem, it will be settled by the representatives of the People's Party, whose labors, little understood and still less appreciated, towards that essential end have never been relaxed.

The People's municipal representatives have not been directed, heretofore, as to the views and policy of