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SENATOR SMOOT'S CASE.

We publish today, in full, the answer
of Senator Reed Smoot to the protest
of nineteen citizens of Utah, against
his retention of the seat in the United
States Senate, to which he was elected
by the majority of the Legislature of
the State of Utah. We printed the
synopsis furnished by the Associated
Press on Saturday. It was a very
credible piece of condensation and
gave the salient points of the reply.

We commend the complete rejoinder
as it now appears in our columns, to
the candid reader. It is clear, explicit
and emphatic. That Reed Smoot
was spoken of as a candidate for the
position of United States Senator,
before he was ordained one of the
Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus
Christ of Latter-day Saints, is well
known to people who are posted on
political affairs. The statement that
his apostleship was the cause of his
nomination is therefore untrue.

When the political campaign was in
progress it was generally understood,
and so stated in public journals, that
the election of Republican members of
the Legislature meant the choice of
Reed Smoot for United States Senator.
He was the candidate of his party. All
the proceedings that led up to his election
were regular, open and without
taint of fraud or anything improper.
He was chosen, not because he was an
Apostle, but in spite of the objection
raised on that ground, for it was considered
no bar to his acceptance of the office.

It was no more a real and tangible
objection than could have been raised
against any Elder in the Church.
George Q. Cannon served ten years in
the House of Representatives when he
was an Apostle, and part of the time
when he was one of the First Presidency.
He did not act in the capacity of
an Apostle when representing Utah
in Congress, but as a citizen duly elected
by his fellow-citizens at the polls.
So with the Elders who have served
in Congress, in the lower or the upper
House, and whether they were Democrats
or Republicans.

All the talk that has been indulged
in about "the oath of an Apostle," is
sheer speculation based upon guesswork.
There is no such thing as the oath
of an Apostle or of any other Elder
in the Church. Nor is there any
covenant, obligation or agreement in
any public or private ceremony that
is antagonistic, or has any relation,
to the Government of the United States.
The ceremonies and ordinances of the Church have nothing to
do with the state, either local or national.

Some persons who have seceded from
the Church and have become bitter in
their feelings, have made statements
about so-called "endowment oaths,"
some of them maliciously fabricated,
others but echoes thereof, and repeated
more through bad memory of the facts
than from wilful falsehood. But every
truthful person who has carefully studied
and comprehended those sacred
ordinances, knows that there is no oath
of any kind taken therein, nor any
allusion to the government of this or
any other country. So that there is
nothing in the Temple ceremonies that
endorses a person until to discharge the
duties of a citizen of the United States
or out of harmony with an oath of
civil office.

The Twelve Apostles are under the
immediate direction of the First Presidency
of the Church when acting in their
apostleship. When serving in a
secular calling, as a director of a business
institution, or working on a farm,
or following any industrial pursuit, or
living, they are not serving in their
ecclesiastical calling. Nor do they need
to lay it down or cast it off, any more
than they would their membership in
the Church, because there is nothing
incompatible in their office or religion
with their work or duty in any public
or private capacity. The calling of an
Apostle need not interfere in the slightest
degree with a man's fealty to his
country, or the duties of official position
under the government, or his perfect
right to observe and hold sacred his
oath of office.

The Council of the Twelve Apostles

is equal to that of the First Presidency
when the latter is for any cause dissolved.
So is the First Quorum of Seventy
with its seven presidents, when there
is no First Presidency or Council of
the Twelve. Each Apostle is sustained
as a Prophet, Seer and Revelator,
so that when the one man holding
the keys of the sealing power and authorized
to receive revelations for the Church,
is removed by death or otherwise,
the Council of the Twelve to temporarily
succeed him and his counselors,
may be composed of persons duly
qualified as a body to preside over the
Church and receive the word of the
Lord. But the revelations are plain
and definite on the authority of the
President of the whole Church, to direct
all its affairs, temporal and spiritual,
and alone to receive the word of the
Lord by revelation for its government.

One of the signers of the protest
against Senator Smoot comes out with
a purported reply to the Senator's
answer. He tries to expound "Mormonism"
to the "Mormons," and simply airs
his own ignorance. He acts like a child
who has learned numeration when attempting
to explain algebra. We are of the opinion
that the doctrines and discipline of the
"Mormon" Church are better understood
and more properly explained by its
authorized exponents, than by the most
learned and bumptious of its virulent
opponents. There are many of his own
creed and congregation who think he
should attend to his own ministerial
business and leave political affairs and
other people's religion alone.

The controversy now before the Senate
should be confined to the question of
the fitness of Reed Smoot to serve as
a United States Senator. And the allegations
of his enemies should be limited to
that alone. The "Mormon" Church is
able to defend itself when brought before
the bar of the world as a religious system,
but it is not the province of the United
States Senate to bring that Church to trial,
when investigating the election of a citizen
of the United States and his qualifications
under the Constitution and laws, and the
rules of the Senate to occupy a seat
therein. That is the only proper issue
before the committee to whom this case
is referred.

GERMANY NEUTRAL.

The talk about war in Asia continues
the leading topic in world-politics. The
announcement is made from Berlin,
that Germany will maintain strict neutrality,
in the event of hostilities. This, if true,
is doubly important. It proves that the
German government entertains fears for
a speedy termination of the peaceful
negotiations, for no such announcement
would be given out, were these hopes
founded. It is also important as showing
that the powers are determined, if possible,
to confine the conflict to the two contestants.

In this, the hand of Great Britain is
visible, if we mistake not. The Anglo-Japanese
treaty makes it incumbent upon England
to secure, if possible, the neutrality of
other powers, in the case of a conflict.
It is a remarkable treaty. Its purpose, as
stated, is to maintain the independence
and territorial integrity of both China
and Korea, and to keep the door open
to all nations. It declares that Japan
is specially interested in Korea. If therefore
either Great Britain or Japan in the
defense of their respective interests,
should become involved in war with
another power, the other high contracting
party will maintain a strict neutrality,
and use its efforts to prevent other powers
from joining in hostilities against its ally.
But if this effort is unavailing and other
powers join in hostilities against either
of the contracting parties, the other ally
will come to its assistance and they will
conduct the war in common.

These are the terms of the treaty.
Accordingly Great Britain's first duty
is to endeavor to secure the neutrality
of the other powers. But if her diplomacy
is already employed to secure this,
it is evident that war is expected.
The situation is peculiar. Korea is
supposed to be an independent kingdom.
Two powers are about to go to war
to decide the question which of them
has a right to maintain that independence.
Was diplomacy ever more thoroughly
changed into hypocrisy? In the meantime,
the soldiers of other powers are sent
to protect the interests of the respective
countries. This increases the danger
and multiplies the possibilities of
international complications.

MONEY FOR CONVERSIONS.

The money raised among people interested
in missionary work, and spent in so-called
heathen lands, has grown to immense
sums. Of course, only approximate estimates
can be made, except for the larger missionary
societies. The sum expended for the purpose
mentioned during the past year is placed at
\$18,459,841. Of this sum Great Britain led,
with \$8,847,666, and the United States
was a close second with \$7,176,845.
The continental societies, chiefly Lutheran,
raised \$2,051,582, and the societies in
Canada gave \$383,745. The great foreign
work societies of the world are, in order
of amount of money annually handled:
The Church Missionary Society of England,
\$1,765,815; the Methodist North in the
United States, \$1,749,000; the Presbyterian
Foreign Board, \$1,043,000; the London
Missionary Society, \$993,000; the Society
for the Propagation of the Gospel, Church
of England, \$762,000; the Baptist Missionary
Union of Boston, \$722,000; the American
Board of Christian Workers, \$700,000; the
Wesleyan Methodist of London, \$691,000;
the Episcopal in the United States, \$677,000;
and the United Free Church of Scotland,
Presbyterian, \$441,000.

THE CASE AGAINST SMOOT.

Under this caption Harper's Weekly
contains the following clear, and therefore
forcible, argument against yielding
to popular clamor:

"It is well known that the accused
Senator from Utah is one of the so-called
Twelve Apostles of the Mormon Church.
The protest is signed by 19 citizens
of Utah, of whom 14 are Republicans
and four Democrats. It

avers that the Mormon hierarchy is invested
with supreme authority in all things,
temporal and spiritual; that the mandates
of this authority are announced and
transmitted by the first president and
Twelve Apostles; that, as a matter of
faith or belief, this body of men has
not abandoned polygamy, and that, consequently,
it must be held to connive at and encourage
polygamous practices.

"This protest may seem, at the first
glance, to raise a nice question, but we
do not believe that the Federal Senate
or the United States Supreme court
would have much difficulty in deciding
it. It should be obvious to all intelligent
men that the absolute religious liberty
guaranteed by our Constitution would
be devoid of practical significance if the
professor of particular beliefs be held
responsible for the translation of those
beliefs into acts by others. How could a
Chinese, a Japanese, a Jew, or even an
agnostic, be secure in his citizenship
under such an interpretation of our
Federal organic law? There is but one
reasonable and endurable construction
of the Constitution. With a man's personal
beliefs, or with the tenets of the church
to which he sees fit to belong, our
Federal authorities have absolutely nothing
to do, so long as the citizen does not
personally commit such acts which are
prohibited by a Federal statute. It would
be in the highest degree dangerous—nay,
ultimately fatal—to the principle of complete
toleration in matters of opinion and belief if
the construction of the Constitution advocated
by many well-meaning persons in the
case of Senator Smoot should be accepted
by the Senate and sanctioned by the
United States Supreme court."

INTENSE COLD.

Some cold weather was experienced
in this intermountain region during the
past week, but nothing to compare with
the blizzard that was raging over the
northeastern states. The dispatches from
there told of suffering among the poor,
and inconvenience to all. In New York,
Connecticut and New Jersey the thermometers
registered from 2 to 45 degrees below zero.
In New Hampshire the temperature dropped
between 32 degrees and 45 degrees below
zero. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and
Vermont and Pennsylvania suffered correspondingly.
The harbor at Salem was frozen over
for the first time in fifteen years, and the
passages of Narragansett bay were closed
by ice. In New York alone, the known
casualties on account of cold amounted to
12 dead and 24 injured. Trains were
delayed, and some were abandoned. That
the suffering among the poor, who are
not equipped or such weather, was intense,
need not be said. Relief was given quickly
by the charity organizations, but not all
cases are called to their attention. Fortunately,
such arctic temperature does not last long
in these latitudes, and it is seldom, if
ever, experienced in the valleys protected
by the mountains on all sides. The eastern
and middle states are not so protected,
and they therefore at times feel the cold
from the Polar regions without any modification.
The intense cold in the East suggests that
in all probability severe conditions prevail
in the Arctic regions, and that explorers
this year may encounter unlooked-for
obstacles to progress. Some years the ice
conditions are more favorable than other
years. This appears to be an unfavorable
year.

Old Boreas was very hilarious last night.

General Wood seems to be of the lignum
vite variety.

Many trains are delayed but the wrecks
are all on time.

It is better to throw up your hands than
to lose your life.

In the far east the question is: What
are the wild Slavs saying?

When Russia and Japan get to going
it will be a pity poor little Korea.

Murderer Shockley has discovered that
confession is good for the soul.

Boston is the only place in the country
where the people Back Bay the moon.

General James H. Wilson "talked
right out in meetings" on the Wood case.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound
of cure. But it isn't worth a pound of
radium.

On her last note to Russia Japan placed
the cabalistic letters: R. S. V. P. P. D. Q.

General Reyes, like the Arabs, has folded
his tent and silently stolen away. Ben
voyage!

The results in the cases of Senator Dietrich
and ex-Congressman Briggs were as like
as two D's, the D standing for diversity.

Thunder in the winter! We had it last
night and it was grand. The lightning
accompaniment was unusually brilliant.

If you haven't a sleigh, take a good
brisk walk in the bracing air. The result
is equally good while the exhilaration is
great.

Dowle says that he will locate a new
Zion City in Texas. Probably the streets
will flow with oil instead of milk and
honey.

The police did good work on the Gleason-
Brighton murder cases, but without the
aid of Prothero they would necessarily
have groped in the dark.

A Carrie Nationite has been arrested
for destroying a picture in the Kansas
state capitol. Such people should be
sent to the asylum for the violently insane.

Lieutenant-General B. S. M. Young,
head of the army, has been retired for
age. And yet it may truly be said of
him that he is sixty-four years Young.

"If you will take my advice you will
never work for hire," says Secretary Shaw.
And yet his hire is eight thousand
dollars a year. And he is worthy of his
hire.

A Chicago alderman, who is known as
the dog's friend, announces his con-

version to the belief that dogs should be
muzzled the whole year round. How
about aldermen?

It seems that there was a fire in the
Iroquois theater soon after it was opened.
If this is so, then those responsible for
the great holocaust are more culpable
than ever.

The Utah State Journal says: "According
to our census reports there are 7,566,530
unmarried women in the United States
of marriageable age; and according to
the same reports there are 5,319,912
women engaged in gainful occupations.
This would seem to indicate that the
modern woman prefers hustle to husband
and work to worry."

WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE?

Kansas City World.
The responsibility for loss of life in the
Iroquois theater rests upon the city
administration and especially upon the
mayor, says the Chicago Tribune. The
disposition to suspend the enforcement
of ordinances extends to all departments
of the city government, and it was the
immediate cause of the loss of life in
the Iroquois theater. There are sufficient
ordinances concerning the construction
of theaters and their equipment to
protect every person in every theater.
Had the provisions of these ordinances
been complied with there would have
been no loss of life in the Iroquois
theater. Many of the provisions were
not complied with, because the building
department carelessly or corruptly
decided that some of them might, for
a consideration be disregarded.

Pueblo Chieftain.

The facts already disclosed show an
amazing lack of precaution and a surprising
disregard of obvious and ordinary
measures of safety. Such indifference
on the part of owners, operators and
employees could have only resulted from
the lax enforcement of the ordinances
by inspectors and others whose duty it
was to protect the public. But the vigilance
of the police and the energy of Mayor
Harrison and the city officials is
commendable, and it is to be hoped
that enough of it will be permanent
to ensure the lives of Chicago theater
goers for many years to come.

Kansas City Star.

A Chicago alderman introduced a
resolution in the Chicago city council
to forbid the acceptance of free passes
from theaters and free transportation
from street railways and steam railroad
companies. His motion to adopt the
resolution was defeated, although he
declares that the acceptance of such
favors was to yield to "small bribes."
Under the influence of such calamities
as that which befell last Wednesday
in Chicago men's conscience become
quicker. But it does not denote a
strained quality of virtue to see that
the Chicago alderman's view was the
true one. It would be better for municipal
government everywhere if all civic
officers would manifest after
scruples against accepting favors from
those whom they must control.

Portland Oregonian.

The burden of protection, therefore,
falls upon officials who have been selected
to see that careless persons obey the
laws that have been made for them.
Perhaps a greater guilt than managerial
laxness at Chicago has been official
laxness. There was ample power at the
city administration's disposal to have
required compliance at the Iroquois
with every ordinance whose violation
brought death to 600 souls. In every
city this warning should be heeded.

Kansas City Times.

A wooden theater with plenty of exits,
with every known device to prevent
or check fire, with an asbestos or steel
curtain to cut off the stage from the
auditorium, is a good deal safer place
than a fireproof structure filled with
combustible material and without
precautionary appliances and regulations.
Ten persons have been killed by panic
or by suffocation in theaters where one
has actually lost his life by fire. The
great point is, after all, to prevent
fire, thereby preventing panics, and to
furnish such means of egress as to reduce
the danger from panic to the minimum.

St. Paul Globe.

Just now there is great vigilance and
a disposition to be severe. In a few
months every community will fall into
the old apathy and indifference, and
fire will continue to claim its victims
until another shocking catastrophe
shall again provoke the general human
sensitivity to revolt. Should not one
think that an age and a people called
civilized would put an end to this
savage and criminal recklessness with
life once for all?

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