

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 12, 1907.

## APPEAL FOR AID.

In response to a letter of appeal from the American National Red Cross association, Washington, D. C., of which the Hon. William H. Taft is president, and Charles L. Magee, secretary, the Deseret News takes pleasure in announcing that it will receive at its business office contributions of cash, to be used in alleviating the wants of famine sufferers in China. Undoubtedly many of our readers will be glad to have an opportunity of contributing, according to their circumstances, to the relief of their suffering fellow-men, although they are of another race. If you cannot give a large sum, send in a smaller. A few cents given promptly may save a life.

All subscriptions will be accepted for and forwarded to Hon. Charles Hallam Keep, Red Cross treasurer, room 341 War Department, Washington, D. C.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

On Monday at high noon the seventh Legislative assembly of the State of Utah will convene in the city and county building. At that hour its members will be sworn in, its organization perfected, and its public duties commenced. In the list of these are some exceedingly important matters. They should receive, and doubtless will be given, the weighty consideration they demand. It is not necessary that many new laws should be added to the statute books. It is far more essential that those to be placed there should be good and wholesome ones. In every state the inclination is to "over, rather than under legislate." By starting early this can be avoided, and much valuable time saved. No member should be, or will be measured by thinking men, by the number of bills he introduces. Rather will they value and appreciate his efforts from the viewpoint of quality instead of quantity. This should be heeded by the younger lawmakers particularly.

Foremost among the big problems are the proposed consolidation of the Agricultural College with the University of Utah; the enactment of a law providing for a railroad commission; the establishment of an insurance department of the state government, with a commissioner at its head whose duty it shall be to examine into and determine the stability, management and reputation of every insurance company doing business within the boundaries of the commonwealth; also to consider how liberal the state can afford to be to the interstate fair that is contemplated for 1908.

These are but a few of the questions with which the lawmakers will have to deal. But each one is worthy of special and careful thought. There is no reason why they cannot get it. There is no senator to elect this session and the transaction of business should be reached early. Will it be done? That is for the Legislature itself to say.

## MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

The beginning of this century is marked by social and political unrest all over the world. The earth itself is trembling and quaking under the pressure of the volcanic fires that are raging in its interior. The social structures that were slowly raised during the last century, upon foundations laid in times of war and bloodshed, are also swaying to and fro to the ominous rumblings of revolutionary forces in the deeper strata. The greater part of the world appears to be affected. There is a difference, though. In the Orient an awakening, a reconstruction, a regeneration is taking place in full view of the observer of current history. In the Occident, demolition, destruction seems to be threatened.

It is true that, at the present time, in nearly every western country, agitators are found who ruthlessly attack the most sacred interests of the citizens. They make light of religion and try to tear into tatters the ethical standards of Holy Writ. They try to corrupt legislators and courts, and deprive laborers of their right to make an honest living. Under such agitation violence and violence thrive. To many, nothing is sacred. They trample the law under their bespattered feet, whenever the thunder is directed against their own crimes and sins, but that does not prevent them from attempting to use it as a weapon whenever a depraved impulse prompts them to assassinate the character of fellow-beings and rob them of their good name. Some are preaching about oppression and tyranny merely to create strife and make revolutionists. To own property, they declare, is to be no better than to be a thief. The abolition of every established institution is aimed at by many agitators. And this is not only to Russia. Agitation is in evidence in a more or less prominent degree in every land.

We are not among those who believe, with Voltaire, that everything is well in this, "the best of all worlds." We recognize that modern development has brought about a condition in which the great majority of mankind have but a poor chance of drawing any prize in the lottery of life; or win in the race that is ever becoming more strenuous. If the present needs could be kept at the level of those of former ages, life would be easy. But that is no longer possible.

Luxuries beyond the reach of kings centuries ago, are almost necessities of life now. As a consequence, it costs more to keep a family. Better food, more expensive clothes, a more pretentious education are demanded by the times. Homes cost more than formerly. More knowledge and more capital are needed to establish any kind of business. When to these facts is added another serious fact, that competition is rendered impossible in many lines of industrial activity by the trusts that have succeeded in creating oppressive monopolies, and that the competition, consequently, in the lines that are still open, has become a crush in which the stronger are trampling down the weaker, we have a fair idea of a situation that accounts for much of the prevailing unrest.

But the remedy is not the kind of agitation that breeds revolutions. Strife only makes existing defects more dangerous than they are in reality. It is the mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to bring to the world in the Gospel of the Redeemer the eternal truths, and the brotherly spirit, by obedience to which redemption will be effected from all kinds of sin and error and harmony restored between God and man, and man and his fellow-beings. When the principles of the Gospel are carried out, there will be peace and happiness on earth. Every man and woman will be in a position to realize his, or her, highest possibilities. A recreant Christianity has deprived the masses of the benefits of faith, by substituting error for truth. By the restoration of truth, faith becomes operative for the regeneration of mankind. To accomplish this is the mission of the Church in this age and generation.

## UTAH STATE CAPITOL.

After an existence of forty-six years as an organized territory, plus eleven years of statehood, formal and definite steps are to be taken to provide Utah with a capitol in all ways commensurate with her needs and importance. That she has waited long enough to be handsomely and generously treated by her citizens is universally conceded. It is believed that this is the view of most of the members of the Legislature.

Governor Cutler has already gone on record in relation to this much needed improvement, and it is understood he will deal exhaustively and earnestly with the subject in his message to the Legislature. To the Deseret News he has stated that he is more than anxious to have that body deal with the matter this session. Here are his exact words:

"One lack of the state I hope will soon be supplied. With as fine a site for a capitol building as can be found anywhere, Utah has made no definite move toward the erection of a state capitol. Trees have been planted, lawns made, and the grounds beautified in other ways; and I hope soon to see a stately, imposing building, occupying the commanding site. If this Legislature, and each succeeding one for a few years, will appropriate a small amount for this purpose, a commencement at least can be made in the immediate future, and one of the most serious needs of the state supplied. With material wealth the envy of all neighbors; with schools the admiration of the world; with social conditions the most favorable; with churches innumerable pointing their spires heavenward; with farms and factories and flocks and herds, and mines and mills pouring forth their wealth, the future glory of Utah is assured. Now let that glory be crowned by the erection of a beautiful, stately, commodious capitol on the splendid site so wisely chosen for it. It will be both a fitting outgrowth of the splendid past and a potent element in the glorious future of our own dear Utah."

It will be seen from the above succinct and able statement that the Governor has decided and affirmative views upon the matter. Other administration officials look with equal favor upon the proposition, and many prominent citizens do not hesitate to declare that the erection of a state capitol has already been too long delayed. Of course, as the chief executive intimates, such an edifice cannot be built in one year; but it can be commenced, or the nucleus of a fund formed this session of the lawmakers, so that it can be added to annually until Utah shall have a capitol of which all her people will be proud. By all means take definite steps in that direction this year.

## THE LIFE OF MAN.

Ancient Seers spoke of a time when, "the days of a tree are the days of my people," and "the child shall die an hundred years old." Such expressions seem to predict the restoration of the conditions under which mankind in the first age of its existence attained marvelous longevity.

Science has recently paid attention to the question of the prolongation of youth, and it seems to have given rise to quite a discussion.

It is recognized that the process of decline commences with the very beginning of existence. A new-born child, it is pointed out, increases in weight the first month about 25 per cent, but by the end of the year this rate of increase has fallen considerably. By the seventh or eighth year it has fallen to ten per cent. At twenty it has dropped to one per cent more or less, and in a few years more it practically ceases altogether. "What," it is asked, "is the cause of the decline?" Increasing difficulty of nutrition is not a sufficient answer.

It has been demonstrated by what seems to be cruel experiments upon animals, that prolonged muscular activity produces a poison that causes death. When this poison, which the Germans call "Ermuedungstoxin," is injected into animals, it produces the same effects as overwork. It is also claimed that a very little of this toxin injected into the veins of animals render them capable of a more prolonged exertion than without it. And these experiments and deductions lead to the surmise that some serum may be found which will re-enforce the aging cells and stimulate them to renewed youth.

This is as far as research has gone on this road. The knowledge acquired regarding serums, body destroyers and body builders, can hardly fail to prove a powerful engine for further advance. The progress realized in the past thirty or forty years, is nothing short of marvelous, and it will not stop short now.

A great physiologist, Flourens, has ut-

tered the human life in four parts. Infancy, he says, extends to the twentieth year. This is the period of growth. Youth extends to the fiftieth, because during this period the tissues are firm; virility from fifty to seventy-five, during which the organism remains complete; at seventy-five, he says, old age ordinarily commences. But modern research seems to indicate that even this scientific classification of the years that make up the age of man, may have to be revised in the not far distant future.

## LET THE PEOPLE KNOW.

The many secret meetings of the "American" party managers, and members of the city council, do not augur well for the taxpayers. It is manifest that there is mischief afoot. It is not easy to understand that so much of the public's business should be transacted behind locked doors, simply to be rattled in open session.

There can be no denying the fact that the finances of the city have been terribly depleted. It is known to a certainty that inroads have been made on the various funds early in the year to such an extent that the more shrewd ones have become startled. They realize that there must be a reckoning in the near future and that they must render an accounting of their stewardship. But it has apparently resolved itself into a matter of tiding over difficulties that they dare not discuss in regular session. So, shaded lantern and barred entrance councils, with reporters kept far in the background, have become occurrences to be looked for rather than exceptions. Is it because their deeds will not stand the light of day, or because they prefer the dark and devious way of doing things?

Two or three weeks ago the chief organ of the Knockers' crowd gave indications of pronounced displeasure at the manner in which the city's affairs were being conducted. More than that, it flayed two or three officials roundly for their alleged neglect of duty, which it is understood also included a refusal to dance to the organ's music. The latter set up a lusty howl and commenced a vigorous beating of its battered tom toms and soon the whole horde of incompetents like Mr. Raleigh, of dirty streets and muddy crossings fame, fell into line and executed an administration two-step, as under their breath they cursed "the whole business." Then harder cracked the whip and more tractable became the lieutenants of the party, and into the secret gatherings were admitted the editors and publishers of the main organ. What the latter concluded was proper to print was printed; what it put its disapproval upon was effectually censored. The information that went to the other newspapers of the city was just what the arrogant leaders were willing to let percolate, just that much and nothing more.

Mr. Mayor and gentlemen of the city council, together with your heads of departments, are not playing a fair or an honest game with the taxpayers and the general public! What is there about it you are afraid to let them know?

## MALICE UNDER COVER OF LAW.

Mr. Theodore Schroeder, a former resident of this city, has just issued a pamphlet containing three essays on the freedom of the press, etc. Mr. Schroeder is not a profound writer. He is not always particular even as to the logical connection between facts and deductions, and sometimes his prejudices get the better of his judgment, but in one of these essays he proves incidentally the important fact that even the law can be used for unlawful purposes—for purposes of oppression and revenge. This is an important truth. Even the law intended for the protection of society and individuals against wrongs and injustice, can be used by those inclined to do evil in the service of unrighteousness. Here is an illustration:

Mr. Schroeder says that in 1892, Dodd, Mead, & Co., published a little book entitled "Almost Fourteen," written by one Mr. Warren, a school teacher. It was written in the interest of public morals. The manuscript had been submitted to competent judges of that kind of literature, and to Dr. Lyman Abbott among others. It was endorsed by them all. The book was favorably reviewed by religious papers, and a Baptist minister bought several copies for his Sunday school library. It was circulated for five years before any objection was raised against it. Then it was pronounced "obscene."

It happened in this way. Mr. Albert F. Hunt, of Newburyport, Mass., had secured permission to republish the book in his paper. He had made himself unpopular as a reformer. He had attacked the police force, exhibited the iniquity of the city administration, exposed the sins of the city, such as the practice of taking indecent photographs, the aggressions of the saloon-keepers, and exposed the owners of buildings leased for immoral purposes. The consequence was that he had many influential enemies. These found their opportunity in the re-publication of the innocent book referred to, and he was arrested, convicted and fined. In this instance it is plain that the persecutors were none the less villains, because they found a way by which to use the law as an instrument for the furtherance of their plans for revenge.

Mr. Schroeder informs his readers that even the Bible has been judicially declared "obscene," in some parts of it, and, since a book that is obscene in part, is so in toto, in the meaning of the law, it is evident that, under the present law and judging from precedents already established, any fanatic could with the assistance of a jury unfriendly to the Bible suppress the circulation of that volume, and in some states the laws would authorize the seizure and destruction of it.

This is a startling illustration of what can be done even in a free, enlightened country like this, by the aid of law. In France a melancholy effort is made to secularize a certain church, and to do this in a perfectly legal manner. Nearer at home vicious assaults have been made upon the rights and prerogatives of American citizens under the guise of loyalty to the institutions of the country. As not all that glitters is gold, so all that is not loyalty, that is exhibited to public view as such,

## ALONG CROOKED LINES.

Engineering feats as shown in gradients, curves and public improvements of various kinds is the pride of every modern city. There have been times when Salt Lake was proud of its display in this direction. But it wasn't in all of the work done in 1906 and it probably will not be in all that of 1907. Last year much of it was along lines that were mystifying and deviously crooked, when the science of engineering, to say nothing of common sense and clear eye-sight, demanded that they be straight.

Perhaps Mr. Kelsey can tell some of his constituents on the northeast bench why the sidewalks on one block are along a certain line and those on the next along an entirely different survey, with those farther on, out of joint with all others. Thus far it is a conundrum they have not been able to solve. But it should not be surprising if things did not go straight while the work was under way. It isn't an altogether easy task for a man to serve two or more masters at the same time; and it appears that is just what Mr. Kelsey did do. While in the pay of Salt Lake City he was in other states attending to public improvements there. What lines he followed in them Salt Lake has not yet learned. Perhaps, they being away from home, are all right. Mr. Kelsey might be kind enough to inform the city council and board of public works to that; for if what he does is acceptable elsewhere, it might be that he could be induced to become just as efficient in his home endeavors. In any event it would be interesting to see him make the attempt. Of course, it might inconvenience him and even take all the time Salt Lake pays him for, but it is worth a trial all the same.

## SOME IMMIGRANTS.

Last year's immigration figures, which are record-breaking, have suggested the observation that the source of supply is different from what it used to be. It is not from Germany and the Scandinavian countries that the great increase is obtained but from Italy, Russia, Greece, and Turkey. And it is also pointed out that the immigration from these countries is not entirely natural. It is stimulated by agents of transportation companies "scouring the countries for passengers." This is, of course, nothing new. But if a remedy for undesirable immigration is wanted it must be found in some practical measure directed against the traffic of the immigration agents and their deputies who search every nook and corner of the district allotted to them, for a man or woman willing to emigrate. We would suppose that if the American consuls abroad were charged with the duty of looking after the immigration from their ports of embarkation, it would be more difficult for agents to pass their human freight to the ships.

A notable feature of the immigration is the number of Syrians and Armenians which form part of it. A gain of 5,168 over the previous year of this class is reported. The Sultan's subjects commenced coming here in 1876. They have increased every year, notwithstanding the difficulties of leaving Turkey. Syrians are scattered throughout the country. Besides the settlement of a few thousands in New York, there are fairly large colonies in Chicago, Cleveland, Fall River, Worcester, Lawrence and other cities. How many there are in all is not known, but they are estimated at tens of thousands. The number of Armenians is also increasing.

As yet the cold is not sharper than a serpent's tooth.

These days one must cut down living expenses or be cut down.

It might be just as well to lay something aside for a snowy day.

To create a sensation—stick a pin under the finger nail till it touches the quick.

The Italian lawyers have gone on strike. This is the modern spirit with a vengeance.

Often when a husband thinks his wife is laughing at his jokes she is laughing at him.

A model industrial school would be one where the boys would work without growing.

Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis says we need more poets. People don't read those we have.

One feels that automobiles are the true infernal machines when he hears some of their horns toot.

The Russian terrorists count that day lost whose low descending sun does not see some high official "done."

Those who feel the hardship of the withdrawal of passes are those who can best afford to pay their fares.

Dubois is anxiously looking forward to the time when he can, in the senate, undam the pent up anti-Smoother.

A lovers' quarrel could not have ended more prettily than did that between Representatives Gaines and Mahon.

Steel King Corey says that he is not going to marry on his present trip to Europe. A sort of "not today, some other day, good day" case.

Paying a legislator's campaign expenses comes pretty near buying a legislator, no matter what sophistry is used to make it appear otherwise.

Mr. Bryan has been in a railroad wreck, but fortunately was not injured. Now he has another argument in favor of government ownership.

Before his inauguration Governor Hughes said that he would speak for himself. But he has not said a word since he sent his message to the New York legislature.

The editor of the Kalamazoo Morning Gazette opens the day's work with prayer. He should follow Elliot Shepard's practice of placing a biblical quotation at the head of the editorial columns each day.

## From The Battleground of Thought.

Hope. Hope, like the glimmering taper's light, Adorns and cheers the way. And still as darker grows the night, Emits a brighter ray. —Goldsmith.

The Count. The greatest need of the world, America for 1907, is a closer relation between the Christian Church and the People, both the masses and the classes. —Bishop Fowler.

On Suicide. If a person loves Christ supremely his heart never breaks for what men can do to him. The early disciples never committed suicide (excepting Judas, the traitor), notwithstanding they were beaten, imprisoned, tortured and slain. The greatest following of any religion is Buddha, but his disciples frequently commit suicide and were encouraged by their master to do so. —Silas Hubbard, M. D.

Why Good Frederick the Second of Prussia has been held up to scorn because he insisted that his non-commissioned officers, many of them confirmed drunkards, wanting employment, should be appointed as school teachers. All protests were met by the explanations that they must have shelter during the inclement winter days; that teaching would keep them out of mischief; that being military drill-masters they would keep the children in order; and that the wages paid to teachers were all they were worth. The frugal Frederick's reasonings, especially the latter point, are not unlike those actuating some of our American school boards. —Ossian H. Lang, in the January-March Forum.

Freezing In. The fuel shortage in the West. West has reached the proportions of a public calamity. When Mr. James J. Hill said in a recent speech at Chicago that the country had outgrown its railroad facilities and could no longer get its business done with the existing plant, there was a general feeling that he had exaggerated the emergency, but the appalling conditions in a large part of the west, especially in North Dakota, make it clear that in that quarter at least things are even worse than Mr. Hill represented them. In the bitter cold of a north-west winter the people of many towns are absolutely without fuel. On the treeless plains there is no wood, and when the coal supply falls suffering and even death are at hand. Some farmers have burnt fences, outhouses, corn, and twisted straw. In some places the schools have been closed.

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Divine Side. There is a personal element in faith, but we do not need to infuse it. A greater Faith will attend to that. There is a doctrinal correctness in faith; but except when it becomes our duty to teach others, we do not need to be accurate theologians. Whose doctrine. There is an emotional side, but we do not need to pluck with clumsy fingers at the petals of emotions and take ourselves to task because they do not bloom. There is, in His own good time and each where it belongs. There is a certainty in faith; but we need not agonize over the sentiments of the region, or even of the particular private answers to our name. There is a power in faith; but we need not agonize over the results; a peace; but we need not try to pacify ourselves; a joy; but we need not force ourselves into the felt rejoicings. All these things are the divine side. —Living Church.



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