

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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THE IDAHO SUBTERRUG.

Idaho papers have a great deal to say about the anti-Mormon agitation which has been stirred up in that state, and which received formal expression at the Weiser convention. A widespread opinion is entertained that the wily politician who worked up the scheme for the insertion of the thoroughly undemocratic plank in the Democratic platform there, and is trying to induce the Republicans through his organ—the Idaho Statesman—to commit a similar act of folly, has in view the fact that he is unlikely of re-election by either party in its present shape, and therefore means to manipulate the anti-Mormon movement, so as to form what will be a new party on that basis, and on it climb back into the seat which he fears he will otherwise have to vacate. This is not our forecast, it is that perceived by a number of our Idaho contemporaries. The Pocatello Tribune takes this view, and copies a long article from the Boise Capital News from which we take these extracts:

"The vital issue at Weiser was whether the man who once disrupted the Republicans in order to secure office in a silver state, shall now that his adopted party is in the majority, disrupt that party and attempt to retain that office by making its organization simply a personal machine to do his bidding, even to the extent of subscribing to the most pernicious of all un-democratic doctrines. Mr. Dubois won by that shrewd political trickery that has all along characterized his career, and it remains to be seen what the real demerits of Idaho will do in the premises. It is safe to say, however, that thousands of them will refuse to endorse his program at the polls, because Democrats are first of all patriots, and are quick to discern the difference between a party organization and a mere machine."

"The men who are leading this religious-political crusade are not Democrats, neither are they Republicans, but rather belong to that shifting class of politicians who are always advocating something new at each succeeding election. Read the list of the men put prominently forward at that convention, trace their records and you will not find proof of this assertion lacking."

"Such men as these cannot or will not believe that principle is more to be desired than expediency. They would open the floodgates of religious intolerance, and label the ideal menace to our constitutional rights—Democracy."

"They would demand federal interference with our police regulations to suppress vice and brand the invasion of state's rights with the stamp of the immortal Jefferson."

The Caldwell Tribune, a Republican paper, says the Idaho Democracy is not in harmony with the national Democracy, and the movement at Weiser was fostered to give the former an issue. It says further:

"That is one reason for resurrecting the old anti-Mormon fight. Another reason is the necessity to Senator Dubois of disrupting the parties in this state. He begins to feel that he cannot much longer ride the Democratic broncho. Every day it becomes harder for him to remain in the saddle, and unless he can create a great diversion, he is liable to be tumbled off very soon."

"To the purpose of organizing a new political party the first essential step is the disruption of old parties. This can only be done by bringing forth a paramount issue. Senator Dubois is now in labor with that kind of an offspring. He proposes that the Mormon question shall be paramount in Idaho."

The St. Anthony News has this pungent paragraph on the same subject:

"Senator Dubois and his Ada county delegation have at last arranged matters for the Boise Statesman, which has long been in dispute with its party. It will now be an easy matter for that sheet to line up with the Democratic party. Wonder what the honorable senator proposes doing with the Capital News, which expounds genuine Democratic doctrine, not the stripe advocated by Idaho's senior senator. Will he undertake to force it into the Republican party, or he will try to force the southeastern Democrats at the recent convention?"

The Pocatello Advance puts the matter in this way:

"The action of the Weiser convention was not directed at a vice that exists in the state. That was made clear in the discussion that the advocates of the passage of the resolutions ceased to pretend that such was the case and argued along the line that their action was justified by the necessity of an attack upon a religious body. The question was at once placed where it belonged as one of whether the party should place itself on record as being willing to go back to the old A. P. A. doctrines and attack a religious body upon the theories advocated by that old organization, or whether it should take the broad ground that certain vices bearing upon its marital relations should receive the condemnation of the party."

"To the doctrine that the party should

become the instrument by which anybody calling itself religious should be attacked, there were many that could not consent; to the offer to make the action of the convention cover all the vices alluded to and thus remove the religious aspect of the question, the majority would not consent."

On the question of the actual prevalence of polygamy in Idaho, direct issue is taken by those who know, against those who only make assertions that they do not attempt to prove. After the great and repeated outcries of the Statesman, and the resolutions adopted at the Weiser convention, one not familiar with the facts would suppose that there was urgent necessity for the national government to take up the matter, and use its power to crush out an evil that the State could not suppress and which was of threatening proportions. Here is what another Idaho paper sets forth in reply to all such sensational charges:

A number of times the question has been asked of the Times by correspondents: Are there polygamists in Idaho? Our answer has always been that we did not know; that so far as we knew there were none. J. H. Wallis, the editor of the Fremont County Current-Journal, from his position in the church, should be supposed to know definitely of the condition. The last issue of that paper says:

"The Current-Journal is in a position to prove that there is not a score of polygamist families in Idaho, all told; and that there has not been a polygamous marriage contracted by parties living in the state for the past ten years."

That paper challenges the Statesman to prove its assertion that "There are scores of polygamist families in Idaho, and the number is constantly increasing."

But the Statesman will not attempt to prove the charges, nor will it give the facts as stated by those who know them. The scheme is to work up the old anti-Mormon furor in the State, and make a fusion of the elements of all parties that can be hounded together or attracted by a common religious cause of animosity. We firmly believe that the plot will fail, and that the wily wire-pullers will eventually lose their grip and fall into the pit they have dugged for others. True Democrats will not favor anti-Democratic doctrine or action out of religious prejudice; real Republicans will hesitate before tumbling into the trap set for their feet by political tricksters; and the right will finally triumph.

COST OF STRIKES.

From time to time the question of the cost of strikes comes up, and the general conviction is that that mode of adjusting labor differences does not pay.

The Denver Republican says the cost of five recent strikes in the mining and smelting industries of Colorado is about \$23,936,000, of which \$636,000 has been paid by the taxpayers as the cost of military operations, while the most of the remainder has fallen upon labor.

It is but natural that laborers should exert themselves to obtain the wages their labor is worth, or to raise the standard of living. Employers do not, as a rule, care for how employees live. The laborers must look after their own interests. But do strikes pay? Do not the laborers injure themselves by stopping, as far as they can, the wheels of industry, and bringing hard times upon themselves and their families? There is but little doubt, among the students of these questions, that the laborers generally had been better off than they are today, but for the strikes that have occurred during the last ten or twenty years.

What is needed is a better method of reaching an understanding between the parties that are mutually dependent upon one another. Arbitration is the demand of civilization, and capital and labor must eventually yield to that demand.

POSSIBILITIES OF CHINA.

Sir Robert Hart, who for years has devoted his services to the British interests in China, has a detailed plan for the civil and moral regeneration of that country. It is interesting chiefly as showing the possibilities of that empire, in the estimation of one who is thoroughly familiar with every part of it.

Sir Robert aims to raise the revenue of the country from the present amount of about \$60,000,000, to \$268,000,000. This, he claims, can be done by a tax on the productive area of the country. His plan also contemplates the organization of a corps of responsible officials, who shall be so well paid as not to need to be dishonest.

As soon as there is money on hand, Sir Robert proposes to apply it to the reorganization of the civil service and the army and navy. He would create four army corps for the provinces of Chih-li, Liang-Kiang, Hu-Kwang and Liang-Kwang, each to consist of 50,000 men. He would establish four military colleges and spend \$3,000,000 tael annually on arms and ammunition. He would gradually increase the army, which he calls the peace establishment, to 500,000 men by forming reserves from the original corps. He puts the annual cost of the establishment at 50,000,000 tael. He proposes to create a navy of 240 vessels of all classes, to be formed into three squadrons, northern, central and southern, their officers to be drawn from three naval colleges. The navy bill is computed at 200,000,000 tael spread over ten years. In regard to the civil service, he would pay every official, high and low, a salary which would remove all excuses for blackmail; he would spend 10,000,000 tael annually on education, 1,000,000 on the post office department, 5,000,000 for telegraph service. The total expenditures for the civil service and imperial household he sets at 278,000,000 tael. He counts on a balance of about 74,000,000 tael, which he would apply to the promotion of undertakings beneficial to the empire.

The New York Evening Sun, from which these data are taken, thinks that the plan would be opposed by the high officials who would be losers by the reduction of their salaries, while it would be approved by the lower officials whose economic condition would be bettered. Probably this would be the case. The question of salary acts as an obstacle to many a reform that otherwise would be carried with the force of a landslide. But some time the regeneration of

China must commence, notwithstanding obstructionists. And it is interesting to notice the possibilities. China, with a standing army of half a million soldiers and a navy of 240 ships, would change the general direction of European politics considerably. The question is whether the land-hungry powers would not break the country to pieces rather than suffer it to assume the importance of a first-class power.

THE FILIPINOS.

A recent decision by the Supreme Court of this country, according to which the Filipinos are barred from the privilege of trial by jury, has started the discussion concerning those far away possessions again. And it is really astonishing to notice how illogical some of our contemporaries become when the Philippine question suddenly is flashed before them. One prominent paper declares on the authority of ex-Governor Taft, that the islanders are so far from fit for self-government, that it is not even good policy to discuss the subject with them. And yet, the same paper, in the same breath, advocates "giving independence" to these islanders, so unfit for citizenship.

The discussion concerning the Philippines is very strange, from an American point of view. It would not be singular, if those who envy Americans their position, should tell us that we are tyrants and that American government is tyranny, from which the Filipinos must seek an escape. But what can be said, when Americans speak of the institutions of their country in that foreign spirit? In some countries such words would brand their authors as traitors.

When the Philippines were acquired from Spain, the people there were given liberty, under the American flag. Is it, we would ask, possible for a people to attain any more genuine brand of liberty, any higher attitude of freedom than that? If American institutions are planted in the island soil, and if they are cultivated and taken care of there, until they attain a flourishing growth, and spread, will that be a curse to the inhabitants? Will they be slaves, or free? Such questions should need no reply in this country.

The Philippine problem may be intricate, but when we Americans know to shrink from a task because of its difficulties. This will be solved in accordance with the demands of justice and humanity. The Philippines may at some future time, if that shall be deemed best, be established as an independent republic. If that is done, the experience of the people under the American flag will be of the greatest benefit. When they were abandoned by Spain they were certainly not fit to assume the position of an independent people in the family of nations. They may not yet be qualified for that position. But they will become so, if they profit by the schooling they now receive. American civilization is destined to become a light to all the world, and Americans should be the last to remove the candlestick from any corner of the earth, where it may have been placed by Providence.

Percidaris is still captivated.

The grammar controversy has grown from tense to intense.

The man without a country—the deported union miner.

The bark of that old sea dog, Togo, is on the sea again.

Panics of all kinds are generally announced in "scare" heads.

While everything is pitched high in Colorado it is all in the miner key.

Train a child up in the way he should go, and see how you have fooled yourself.

Senator Beveridge's book "The Russian Advance," doesn't mean to the front.

Governor Peabody does not believe in local option when it comes to deporting miners.

The General Slocum's name will go down in history along side that of the Iroquois theater.

"What is the age of the earth?" asks the Saturday Review. Let the age of Ann first be settled.

Alfred Austin's last poem is entitled "Forgiveness." If he will let it be his last he will get forgiveness.

Speaker Cannon may yet turn out to be a Donna Julia, and while protesting he will n'er consent, consent.

And now Colorado proposes to send her deported miners to Old Mexico. Isn't this carrying matters a little far?

Secretary Shaw is a cautious, conservative man. He makes no assertion without buttressing it with facts from the bulletin of the bureau of statistics of the treasury department.

"The Western Federation of Miners has always courted and invited the utmost publicity in all its acts and the acts of its members in matters affecting all its dealings," is the statement of the executive board of that organization. It is now getting all the publicity it ever courted and invited, and a little more.

"Permission has been granted a Canadian military band to come through Utah with sidearms and instruments. What are the sidearms for? For use in compelling people to listen to the instruments?" says a contemporary. Probably to defend themselves from the people after they have listened to the instruments.

Sarah Grand is credited with saying that American women are, for the most part, more thorough, more intelligent, better informed, larger minded, and more agreeable to meet than their British sisters. The average English woman, she says, is dull, idle, sluggish and incompetent; the average American is busy, bright, energetic and capable. This tribute to American womanhood

shows Sarah to be if not an angel at least a heavenly twin.

There is nothing small about Ralskill the Rascal. To release Percidaris, he demands absolute control of four provinces and a guarantee from three nations, one of which shall be the United States, that the Sultan's promises will be carried out. It behooves the Sultan to catch the bold bandit and teach him moderation if not manners.

U. S. District Judge John A. Marshall and State District Judge Charles H. Hart are among the signers of the appeal to be made to the Chicago and St. Louis conventions asking that the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands be granted their national independence as soon as, with the countenance and aid and under the protection of this republic, they can install a free government of their own.

THE ST. LOUIS BULLFIGHT.

St. Paul Globe.

Although the performance of the mob at St. Louis that burned an arena to the ground because it could not get back the money it had paid for a show that did not materialize must be denounced as another of those daily exhibitions of disregard of law which are flying danger signals in every part of the United States, no one can grieve over the actual consequences. Indeed, the fact that such an enterprise could be put upon its feet at all and could go so far as the construction of a theater for a real old-fashioned bull fight is the most curious commentary upon the hypocrisy that reigns in American morals.

Boston Transcript.

Seven thousand people who never thought of criticizing the folks who would try to perpetrate a bull fight in St. Louis—and on Sunday, too—got so indignant when their money wasn't returned after the show had been effectually prohibited that they tried to lynch the management and succeeded in destroying by fire all its property. And among the seven thousand were "hundreds of women." Truly, ours is a marvellously complex civilization. Bull fighting is not a success in the New world. Even in Mexico it is not art. A Spanish torero, homeward bound, recently paused in New York long enough to say that Mexican bull fighting permits no display of the art on account of the "inferiority" of the bulls. The Mexican bull is without artistic feeling or sympathy, and is contemptuous of the rules of the game. He will play the game his way. His first move is to drive everybody out of the arena. Writing right and left, and manifesting a determination to have the first blood. Consequently, as the torero sighed, "bulls have to be killed 'brutally' in Mexico."

New York Evening Post.

The means by which the bull-fight was prevented at St. Louis yesterday recalls the story of the heroic young man who, when he saw a little child playing on the track in front of the locomotive, promptly turned the switch and dived the train, saving the child by killing five hundred other people. We read of arson, mayhem, and attempted lynching at St. Louis, to be sure, but a high-minded city with an international exposition on its hands had to draw the line at bull-fighting. The arena is in such a place that the whole pane of glass, the hospitals are filled with the injured from the riot, and the manager appears to be in hiding; but the four Texas bulls are peacefully cropping grass in their paddocks, and the moral sentiment of St. Louis is vindicated. It does not appear, for all this, that the show would have been of a sensational or demoralizing nature, for the fierce toros when driven into the ring huddled together in the center for protection and permitted small boys to wave quilts at them with impunity. Missouri's sliding scale of crime recalls De Quincey's remark that a man who regards murder lightly is in danger of becoming so completely calloused in time as to think little of incontinuity and procrastination.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Young Woman's Journal for June has for frontispiece a picture of "Ruins of King Arthur's Castle." It's first page is devoted to a poem by Edyth Ellerbeck, entitled "June, 1904." Milton Bennett writes of "The Nations of New Zealand." "Some Things for Wives to Do," and "Some Things for Husbands to Do" are subjects discussed by members of the general board of Y. L. M. I. A. Among the contributors are Kate Thomas, Christine D. Young, Christian D. Fieldstead, Alfred Lamborne and Mary Annabel Fantom. It is a very interesting number.—Constitution Bldg. Salt Lake City.

Special features of Irrigation Age for June are: "The Irrigation Problem," "Investigations in Irrigation," "Canal and Stream Measurements," "Scope and Purview of Irrigation Investigations," and "The Gulf Coast Country." The number is well illustrated.—112 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

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2 AND 2

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