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SALT LAKE CITY, JAN. 17, 1908.

UTAH AND EDUCATION.

The dedication of the site for the Karl Mueser Memorial building at Provo is another reminder of the splendid work done by that great educator and pioneer, who may be said to have laid the foundations for our present school system. He devoted his life to that work, and had an almost phenomenal success, because he was sustained by the people generally, as well as by the leaders of the Church.

It has sometimes been alleged that the "Mormons" are ignorant, and gain converts only from the ranks of the ignorant. Both statements are false. It is true that the "Mormons" have not been gathered out from the class to which the Thaw, or the Castellanes, belong. They have been taken rather from the deeper but, mentally, morally and intellectually sounder strata of society. But that proves neither ignorance nor weakness. It was from those strata that Abraham Lincoln, and countless other makers of history rose to prominence and fame.

The fact is that the Latter-day Saints believe in intelligence as a power of salvation and eternal development. They believe that intelligence is the glory of God, and that ignorance must be overcome by all who desire to reach eternal exaltation. And they have always proved this by their thirst for knowledge and their educational efforts in behalf of their children.

In one of the last circular letters signed by President Brigham Young and counselors, and addressed to the Saints, they are reminded of their duty to educate the growing generation. "Among the many duties," the circular says, "which devolve upon us, there is none that should receive more careful and constant attention than the education of our children. . . . Parents . . . should send them regularly to day and Sunday schools and furnish them every possible facility for gaining a sound and thorough education." Such advice the leaders of the Church have always urged upon the Saints, and they have followed it as faithfully as circumstances would permit.

The result is that Utah has for many years been in the lead in education. Thirty years ago, it was proved that the illiterate white population in the United States amounted to 6.69 per cent. In Utah at that time, it was only 5.71 per cent. This lead Utah has retained, and, we hope, ever will.

What has been said of the Saints and their leaders in the past, in regard to education, is as true today as ever. In addition to the support given in the form of taxes, by "Mormons," as by all other citizens, to the public school system, they spend annually very large sums for educational purposes. No religious community is doing more for the advancement of knowledge among its members, young and old, than the Saints are.

ONCE MORE.

The Salt Lake Tribune, in its frantic efforts to produce anti-"Mormon" pabulum reverts to its local falsehood of a week ago regarding an alleged "ultimatum" from the office of the First Presidency. It rebashees its local story editorially, and demands that we publish the so-called letter to which it alludes.

That is impossible, for the sufficient reason that the letter of the Tribune story was never written. It was never read anywhere. The Tribune calls it an "ultimatum" stating that all Saints who fail to pay tithing shall lose their standing and promising the revival of polygamy. Such a letter has no existence, and has never had, if not in the Tribune office, and we can, consequently, not publish it, as the Tribune well knows.

But, further, according to all accepted rules of controversy, it is the business of the affirming party to furnish the proof of the affirmation. The Tribune affirms that an "ultimatum" was issued in which the promise is made that "polygamy" will soon be restored; it affirms that this document was read by Bishops—several of them—on a certain Sunday, and then, like an idiot, demands that we furnish the proof of its fabrication. Let the Tribune prove its own assertions, or stand again before the public branded as a wilful falsifier, a cheat and a fraud, obtaining money from the public under false pretenses, if selling fakes for news items can be so characterized.

The facts in the case are these: On Friday, Jan. 10, the Tribune published a local statement in which it was alleged in sensational head lines that, "First Presidency Issues Ultimatum; All Saints Who Fail to Pay Tithes Shall Lose Their Standing; Letter Read by Bishops on Sunday, December 29; Announcement also Made that Soon there Will Be a Revival of Polygamy."

There were the infamous lies proclaimed that morning by the Tribune, and, for all we know, telegraphed as gospel truth to other parts of the country. For the Tribune falsehoods are always intended for foreign consumption. The paper endeavors to shift the responsibility to a lady informant, but that is in vain. The blazing headlines are the offspring of the Tribune scribe, and no one else is responsible for them. Inquiries brought out the fact that no letter such as that described in the Tribune had ever been sent out from

the President's office. As far as the Tribune is concerned it was another forgery that can be placed in the same class as the "Bishop West" fake some years ago, which also appeared in the Tribune and which, undoubtedly, was the chief incentive to the massacre of "Mormon" missionaries in Tennessee. The "Bishop West address" was proved a canard, and it was never seriously doubted by the general public that it was forged in the Tribune office for anti-"Mormon" purposes. This "ultimatum" is just another production for which there is no possible excuse.

The letter read at Syracuse on Dec. 29 has not a word in it referring to "those principles of the faith of the Church which the Church has been forced to lay aside for a time," though those words are quoted by the Tribune faker. It contains not a word about "withdrawing fellowship" from anyone, though that is also quoted. So we deny, in toto, the Tribune story. Hundreds of letters are sent out yearly from the office of the First Presidency, addressed to Stake Presidents and other ecclesiastical officers, containing instructions and guidance in matters of doctrine and practice. Some of these letters are read publicly, in conferences, or ward meetings. This is nothing new. It is a practice as old as the Church.

TO HANDLE THE TARIFF.

According to the New York Tribune, which, we believe, stands high in the favor of the party in power, the Beveridge bill recently introduced in the Senate, in proposing a permanent tariff commission of five members, is intended to take that much discussed question out of politics.

The bill provides that the commission is to be attached to the Department of Commerce and Labor as a bureau thereof. The commissioners are to be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Senate, and to serve for six years, at an annual salary of \$5,000. It is provided that each member "shall be an expert upon the tariff or some general branch thereof." No member is to be a Senator or Representative.

The commission is to proceed immediately to an investigation of the cost of production of all articles covered by the tariff, the prices of American labor in comparison with prices paid foreign labor, the cost of raw materials entering into our manufactured articles, whether domestic or imported, and all other facts necessary to the fixing of the duties on any article.

The commission must visit personally every section of the country and investigate industrial conditions with reference to the tariff. It will be authorized to take testimony and call for the production of all books and papers necessary for an accurate ascertainment of facts regarding the cost and production and any other element affecting tariff duties.

The commission is to tabulate the result of its investigations respecting the cost of production and all other things affecting the tariff, which report is to be laid before Congress at the earliest possible moment "for the use and guidance of Congress in its revision of the tariff."

The proposition is a good one but we fear it is made a little too late to prevent the tariff from being made an issue in the approaching presidential and congressional elections.

SURGICAL EXPERIMENTS.

The latest proposition of surgeons now is to prolong human life by substituting sound organs of animals for those in the human body that are rendered useless by disease. It is proposed, for instance, to replace a patient's stomach or heart or kidneys with new ones taken from dogs, cats, or monkeys. Arteries, it is said, have been transplanted from a dog to a cat and even from a man to a dog, and some time science hopes to accomplish the transfer of the organs of life from sound animals to unsound human beings.

At least, that is what is stated in a recent article in the New York World. But the experiments mentioned in that article are not entirely satisfactory. Cats that have had some vital organs exchanged, died in from five to thirty-six days. But it is explained that further experiments will be made, and that success will be achieved finally.

Business and burglars are picking up.

The best law is a failure if badly administered.

Strange that the upstartdom never wants the upper berth.

At a dollar dinner political feast one always gets his fill of talk of nothing else.

Carrying coal for the Atlantic fleet isn't so easy as carrying coals to Newcastle.

If Schmitz and Ruef had been eternally vigilant they would have the price of liberty.

"Is the pulpit passing?" asks the New York Evening Post. Be that as it may, the contribution box is.

Those who ride on street cars and cry, "No seat, no fare," would soon find that they had no standing in court.

The brilliant entertainment of Admiral Evans and his men at Rio de Janeiro is nothing but a fleeting show.

After fourteen years' estrangement Mme. Tetrazzini kissed her sister. It is a good ad and is free, being a news item.

"Japan may strike us at any moment," says inventor Maxim. If she does (which is not at all likely) she will get hit back.

It might be well to offer Mark Twain the presidency of the Knickerbocker Trust company as part payment for the money he lost in it.

If the Chinamen in China would only fight as Chinamen fight in a San Francisco war, they would soon drive the Japanese out of Manchuria.

Judge Hough says that E. H. Harri-

man "must answer" the questions propounded to him by the interstate commerce commission. How will Judge Hough make him?

Regarding the movement in favor of his endorsement for the presidency by the Republicans of New York State, Governor Hughes is silent. And silence gives consent.

An investigation of the National Airship company has been started, it is said. It would not be surprising if it should be developed that there is some hot air in it.

"Are women as happy as their grandmothers?" asks Mrs. John A. Logan. No doubt some are and some aren't. Very likely there are not enough facts from which to make an inference. But what if they aren't and what if they are?

ALFONSO AND LATIN AMERICA.

San Francisco Chronicle.
It is announced that King Alfonso of Spain is seriously considering suggestion that he visit the Spanish-speaking countries of this continent, and that the people of Spain are enthusiastically in favor of the trip. If he comes he will presumably be accompanied by Queen Victoria, and the two of them are certain to have the time of their lives. The King of Spain is reported to be a thoroughly good fellow, and there can be no doubt of his enthusiastic reception in Mexico and the other capitals of Central and South America. And if he comes to the United States he will have an equally warm reception here. In such a case one would expect that the first step would be an official invitation from the countries which he expects to visit, and such a proposal may have been made by them. It is probable, however, that the suggestion has been put out as a "feeler" to see how it would be received by the people of the various countries concerned. While he is out it would be useful and pleasant to the King to see as much of the world as possible, and we are sure that we are speaking for California when we say that if his itinerary should take him through this port he will get a hearty reception as well as greet him in any other part of his travels.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TRUTH.

Philadelphia Ledger.
The newspapers of New York and other places which have been commenting at length for many days on the thousands of butterflies from Europe, Asia, Africa and South America, said to have been sent loose at Miss Paul's affair, and the gold fish for which the young nobles and their ladies in attendance were supposed to have angled in a brook at the Dorothy Randolph celebration, might have been spared much speculation if they had correctly informed themselves in regard to the facts. As was pointed out in our news columns yesterday, such butterflies as were seen at Miss Paul's ballroom had paper wings; such gold fish as were present at Miss Randolph's party swam in a basin in an entirely usual way, and the belles and beaux were not allowed to hook them with rods and reels. It may be shown that there is not very much public importance to be attached to these incidents. They point a moral, however, which if it be an old one, is always worth repeating, namely, the need of trustworthy reporters for newspapers. They are the units in the system, and if they fail the results are unhappy. The journal is an aggregation of written accounts of happenings in many fields, and when any of these are reported falsely it is calculated to do a very great deal of harm, for the telegraph disseminates and the editorial writer and commentator keep on reiterating an untruth in all parts of the country.

UNEXPECTED RESULTS OF WAR ON RATS.

Seattle Times.
Sea gulls take to the small cubes of bread with a coating of rat poison like a pup to warm milk, and as a result of the campaign against rats and fleas and plague, the edibles in Elliott bay are harboring a lot of dead birds. The gulls, it is supposed, are getting hold of the poison planted on the garbage dumps, and the unusual number of dead ones found floating in the bay has attracted considerable attention. Seafaring men regard gulls as valuable scavengers, and they express some regret that they are diminishing through the means of poison. However, the gulls and the plague belong to the sea-coast communities, and there has not been nearly as much protest over the loss of the sea gulls as some housewives have presented over the unexpected death of some of their chickens.

JUST FOR FUN.

The Irishman's View.

The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott's statement before the People's Institute, "If I were not a Christian I would want to be a Jew," was the subject of discussion at an Hungarian coffee house on the East Side. "It's very flattering to the Jews, I suppose," said an old man, "but it counts nothing. An Austrian nobleman once made a big tour. At Prag he said that if he were not a Wiener he would like to be a Prager. He said the same thing with reference to Budapest and other places when he visited them. The various speeches pleased the hearers, but I prefer the Irishman's style."

"And what was that?" was asked. "He became well acquainted with a Frenchman, who said to him once, 'Pat, if I were not a Frenchman I'd be an Irishman. Now, if you were not an Irishman, what would you like to be?'"

"Sure," said Pat, "if I were not Irish I'd be well. I'd be ashamed of myself."—Ex.

Unsophisticated.

A newly married couple was talking in the Jamestown exposition. "There's our biggest man-of-war, dear," said the husband, pointing to one of the vessels in the harbor.

"And is the little one a tug-of-war, Tom?" asked the wife.—Success Magazine.

Vocalization.

"A lecturer should always have an agreeable voice," said the public speaker.

"Of course," answered Miss Cayenne. "Many people attend lectures as they attend concerts, not to be enlightened, but to have their nerves soothed."—Washington Star.

Compensation.

"Pardon me," said Ascum, "but it must be pretty tough to be married to a strong-minded woman."

"Oh," replied Hennepe, "it has its advantages. When my wife thinks she hears burglars downstairs she won't trust me to go down and investigate."—Philadelphia Press.

Only a Guess.

"Pa," asked Mr. Hennepe's little boy, "why did Patrick Henry say, 'Give me liberty or give me death?'"

"He may have been out five minutes after the war was over and the night before."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

[For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.]

All kinds of betting is not bad. Bet yourself against your job. Would that be a safe bet in your case? All kinds of people are willing to take all kinds of chances betting on some chance outside of themselves, but we don't hear much about fellows betting their own individual ability against somebody's needs.

But yourself against the New Year—against every possible obstacle and drawback it may hold in store for you—and you have got something to exercise your brain cells that is at least more profitable than the average New Year resolution, which doesn't last January out.

What do you think of the two rival salesmen who bet \$200 against a drop of water on a window pane in a Pullman car? There were two drops coursing slowly down the pane, and the bet was that \$200 should go to the man whose drop reached the window sill first. Thus a neat little sum, that would have served a clever man as a nest egg for making a fortune, went to the backer of a winning drop—a smart and silly enough exhibition of scandalous expenditure to ruin any man if kept up to the limit.

Those two salesmen evidently thought they were doing a pretty smart stunt, but how much smarter would it not have been if they had bet themselves against the common object of their own particular job.

It might have taken a year to decide the winner, who by that time would have outgrown his job and risen to higher honors, and the loser would have been a winner, on a smaller scale, in emulating his rival's success.

It is the old, old story of searching for novelty or truth or success—call it what you will—in some far fetched way, in some far distant relation or place or condition, when as a matter of fact, these things are not to be found externally but within your own personal self.

The man who can concentrate on himself—and that, to a good man, means his job—has a better chance than ever at success with a big "S."

But yourself against your job. "Tis your one best bet."

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—Joel Priest, Salt Lake Herald,
Nov. 25, 1906.

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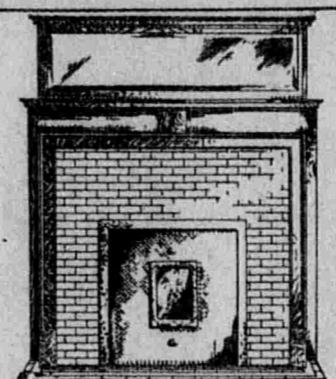
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