

DESERET EVENING NEWS
Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets,
Salt Lake City, Utah.
Charles W. Penrose, Editor
Bernice G. Whitney, Business Manager.
SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
One Year, in advance, \$2.00
Six Months, " " 1.25
Three Months, " " .75
One Month, " " .25
Saturday edition, per year, 2.00
Single copy, 5c

NEW YORK OFFICE:
In charge of B. F. Cummings, Manager Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office, 1127 Park Ave. Building, New York.
SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
In charge of E. J. Cooper, 35 Geary St.
Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
Address all business communications to:
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Post Office of Salt Lake City as second class matter according to the Act of Congress March 3rd, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 17, 1903.

BOOKS FOR THE PUBLIC.

A gentleman writing from Chicago to the Deseret News Book Store, says: "I would like to know if you send your Book of Doctrine and Covenants to those outside of your Church? I have been told that you do not like to do this. Is this statement true? I wish you would contradict this statement, provided it is false."

We have been requested to answer this question and do so cheerfully. All publications containing the doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints may be obtained by any person no matter what his creed, party or station. Occasionally we hear of persons claiming to be specially favored in having a copy of the Book of Mormon, and the same in relation to the Doctrine and Covenants. The truth is the Church has been endeavoring to circulate these works, with others, setting forth its doctrine, for the last seventy years. The standard works of the Church are the Bible, Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and Pearl of Great Price. These can be obtained by any one who sends the purchase price to this city. There are many other works published for the purpose of explaining and promulgating the principles of our faith, written by different authors. They are of great value as the exponents of those doctrines, but such of them stands on its merits, and the views expressed therein and the arguments used are those of the writers, for which the Church does not hold itself responsible, but all of them without exception are for the general public, as well as for members of the Church. There is no secret creed or doctrine held by members of the Church to the exclusion of others. Catalogues will be cheerfully furnished to all persons without charge on application to the Deseret News Book Store, Salt Lake.

AS TO NOTARIES PUBLIC.

The bill introduced by Hon. Willard Dore, requiring the registration of the names of notaries public in the County Clerk's office, appears to be a much needed regulation. A certificate from the clerk of the court is often required that a person claiming to be a notary public is really in that office. At present a list of notaries is kept in the office of the Secretary of State, but it is often difficult for the necessary certificate to be obtained from that office especially from distant counties. By requiring each notary public to be registered in the County Clerk's office in the county where the notary offices, it will be easy to obtain the required certificate, and the arrangement will be beneficial both to the notaries and to the public. The general convenience should be kept in view in all matters of legislation, and we think this Dore bill should become a law without hesitation or unnecessary delay.

THE BALKAN SITUATION.

Predictions of trouble in the Balkan states before long are not taken as seriously as they would be, had not the cry of wolf been heard so often before. Yet, it is quite certain that some time, that corner of the world will be the center of great events. General von Moltke at one time predicted that a universal war would be fought in the neighborhood of Constantinople, and he certainly was an authority on such subjects. It may not come now. But it will come, before the final restoration of all things. It has to come as a preliminary to that restoration.

Through the Berlin treaty, what was anciently known as Macedonia was cut in half. The upper part was made a virtually independent kingdom, under the name of Bulgaria, while the lower half was restored to Turkey, on the condition that it should enjoy a good and liberal government. But it has had neither. The atrocities that provoked Russia to go to war 25 years ago, have been repeated in Macedonia, until the country has become nearly depopulated. The so-called "Christian" population has no standing in the courts. They have no remedy against injustice and extortion. The powers have "remonstrated," until "remonstration" has become a continuous farcical performance at the Yildiz Kiosk, but, of course, without other effect than furnishing the Sultan some diversion.

Much has been said about an organization known as the "Macedonian Committee." This exists for the purpose of leading an insurrection against Turkey, whenever the time shall be deemed opportune. The committee is said to have its headquarters in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. It issues a weekly newspaper in which its plans and purposes are announced. It is encouraged by the Bulgarian government, and receives liberal contributions from Russia. It is claimed that this committee executed the plot to kidnap the American lady missionary, and spent the ransom on arms and ammunition. This was done, it is supposed, to attract the attention of the world to the conditions existing in Macedonia, and also to involve the United States in the coming quarrel with Turkey.

The Bulgarians and Macedonians are one race, one people. Anciently they formed a mighty nation that fought successfully with the great world powers. They were the last to fall under the yoke of Rome. Bulgaria's sympathy for the Macedonians is natural. It is the sympathy of one brother for another. Bulgaria alone can probably do much for the cause of liberty, but it is supposed that if the war breaks out, other powers will step forward and cut the knot that so long has puzzled the entire Europe.

TRUST LEGISLATION.

A great deal by the way of anti-trust legislation was expected from this session of Congress. When it assembled indignation was widespread in the country against trusts, on account of the coal strike that threatened to become a great calamity. Congress has now dealt with the matter. It is believed that its trust program is about finished. Whether anything of practical value has been accomplished, remains to be seen.

One of the measures passed appropriates half a million dollars to enable the attorney-general to employ legal talent to assist in the prosecution of corporations charged with having evaded the provisions of the Sherman anti-trust law. A number of bills proposed drastic legislation. Among these were the measures introduced by Senator Hoar and Congressman Littlefield, both of which failed to receive influential support.

Perhaps the most important of these efforts is the Department of Commerce bill, with Senator Nelson's publicity amendment, as it is called. This bill provides in part:

"That there shall be in the Department of Commerce and Labor a bureau to be called the bureau of corporations, and the chief of said bureau shall be appointed by the President and shall receive a salary of \$4,000 per annum. There shall also be in said bureau such clerks and assistants as may from time to time be authorized by law. It shall be the province and duty of said bureau, under the direction of the secretary of commerce and labor, to gather, compile, publish and supply useful information concerning such corporations doing business within the limits of the United States as shall engage in interstate commerce or in commerce between the United States and foreign countries, and to attend to such other duties as may be hereafter provided by law."

The amendment gives to the commission the same power and authority in respect to corporations, joint stock companies and commissions as is conferred on the Interstate Commerce Commission in respect to common carriers so far as the same may be applicable, including the right to subpoena and compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of documentary evidence and to administer oaths.

Another measure aimed at the trusts is the Elkins bill, intended to regulate the rebate system. It makes it the duty of transportation companies to publish their tariff rates and abide by them. The penalty prescribed for a violation of the acts is a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$20,000 for each offense.

Such is the result of the agitation for anti-trust legislation. It is not far-reaching enough to suit all. But if the laws adopted were carried out strictly, they would prove effective. Russell Sage is a philosopher. He said the other day of the trust legislation:

"The situation, as it appears to me, is similar to a case of illness, with the trust as the patient. The doctors are called in. They simply watch developments and time speedily develops just what is the matter. Then the curatives are applied."

In the opinion of many, the development has been watched long enough. The time to apply the curatives has come.

THE PLAGUE DISCUSSION.

A Tacoma doctor has contributed an "interview" on the much discussed question whether the bubonic plague does or does not exist on our western coast. The Tacoma Ledger says the gentleman is authority on the subject, because he has lived for thirty years in the tropics and seen thousands of cases.

Speaking of the State of Washington particularly, the doctor said there is no possibility of the introduction of bubonic plague, and even if it were introduced it would die out at once without medical attention of any sort. He bases his opinion on the fact that no well-fed man can catch the disease. In Hongkong, he said, where there have been untold thousands of deaths from this cause, the Europeans walk into and through infected quarters with perfect impunity, never giving it a thought until they see the daily grisly of dead bodies brought for destruction. "The only Europeans," he continued, "who have taken it have been a few soldiers who have gone on a tour, neglected eating, and when their systems have been sufficiently reduced to resemble a starved native, they have taken it and been dead four hours afterward. The important fact is that only those in reduced flesh and strength from the starvation of these oriental lands ever are known to take the disease. No Chinese living on the imported American food ever takes it. No coolie working hard for small pay ever gets it, for he is also comparatively well fed. And the cure for the disease, so far as anything can be said to be a cure, is nourishment. A starving Chinese, taken in hand by Europeans and fed, may take the disease, but a few days of feeding before the disease appears saves his life."

The doctor went on to give further reasons why he maintained that there was no need of fearing the plague here. The disease, he claims, never lies dormant. If anyone has it, he will die in three days or less. It cannot be carried across the Pacific, unless there is a continuous string of cases across the entire ocean. But ships before leaving are careful of whom they take on board. Anyone showing a rise in temperature is left behind. All support the contention that the plague

cannot be introduced here, and if it is, it can be stamped out with the one case.

The opinion of an authority on that dread disease is worth quoting, in view of the controversy so long carried on as to whether the plague exists in San Francisco or not. That is a question in which the country is interested.

The contention that the disease attacks only people weakened by starvation, appears reasonable. Is that not the case with most diseases? Where the system is strong, microbes cannot gain an entrance. Where it is weakened, sickness easily prevails.

Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

It's a cold day whether or not one gets left.

The Storm King's flag continues to be a cold wave.

Just now the earth, like the way of the transgressor, is very hard.

In Wyoming the wind is not being tempered to the shorn lamb.

Cornell university has twenty-six fraternities. Also the typhoid fever.

In Los Angeles just now the matrimonial situation is: Good morning, Carrie Nation.

The allies have made quite a raise. They have raised considerable cash and also the blockade.

With pure food, clean-up-once-a-year and curfew laws on our statute book Utah will be a Utopia.

Uncle Sam is to have a protocol himself. They have become indispensable to nations of the first rank.

Mr. Bryan announces that he will not be a candidate in 1904. It would be far more interesting to know who will be.

Venezuela will welcome back her ships with the same ardor that the fond father welcomed back his prodigal son.

Mr. Roosevelt seems to be making his appointments to the department of commerce on the theory of natural selection.

"Must we pay still further tribute to Macedonia?" says the Boston Transcript. Yes; the tribute of a tear, nothing more.

Those who are crying for a bigger navy should induce the government to buy the Cedric. It is the biggest vessel in the world.

If Minister Bowen doesn't receive L.D. from some university, at commencement time, the learned institutions will miss a great chance.

The weather man says that the back-home of winter has been broken. It is the hope of all good citizens that it may stay broken.

The German poets have formed a union. They should be able to turn out good strong poetry for in union there is strength. Their motto should be, Learn to labor and to write.

The wisdom of placing fenders on the street cars was exemplified yesterday when the life of a mail carrier was saved by one. Had he fallen in front of a car without one he surely would have been crushed and mangled to death.

The British government has issued a Blue Book on the Venezuelan dispute. It once issued one on the Venezuela-British Guiana boundary dispute, but the editors, for some unexplained reason, in quoting important documents left out the gist of some and did not indicate it by stars. It was dishonest work, exposed by an American with the consequence that a second edition was issued rectifying the "error" of the first. It is to be hoped there has been no such negligence in the present case.

Under Secretary of Commerce Cortelyou's jurisdiction will be: Bureau of statistics from the treasury department; bureau of statistics from the state department; department of labor, unattached; light-house establishment, from the treasury department; steamboat inspection service, from the treasury department; bureau of stand. ards, from the treasury department; coast and geodetic survey, from the treasury department; bureau of immigration, from the treasury department; bureau of navigation, from the treasury department; census office, from the interior department; fish commission, unattached; shipping commission, from the treasury department. Also the newly created bureau of corporations.

HOISON'S CHOICE

Worcester Spy.

The resignation of Lieutenant Hobson may not be so great a misfortune to the navy as his friends and many of those in the department fear. We believe that his work for the navy on the lecture platform is of great importance.

Washington Evening Star.

Various men have various ambitions. Gen. Funston has given up speechmaking and Captain Hobson is anxious to make a fresh start.

Philadelphia Press.

Hobson has concluded to get out into the lecture field, where he can lecture the navy department and other things without restraint.

Chicago Daily News.

As Hobson's case plainly shows, free indulgence in the seductive lecture platform habit is a terrible thing for young men.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

An effort is making to induce Lieutenant Hobson to stay in the navy. After all the adverse criticism, the navy department recognizes the fact that Hobson is hard to find.

Boston Globe.

Captain Hobson takes a gloomy view of the present condition of our navy. But he says in the same interesting interview that his sight is very bad.

New York Sun.

There are other men in the navy whose desire to serve their country is not so spasmodic as Mr. Hobson's, and perhaps it would be better for him to be permitted to make room for them.

VERMONT PROHIBITION.

New York Evening Sun.

Vermont has voted to discard her prohibitory law, which was more honest than the one it replaced.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The only difference that will be noticeable in Vermont, now that the prohibition law has gone under there, is that those who do not care so very much for water will not have to practice so much deceit when they wish to avoid drinking it.

Ohio State Journal.

In spite of all the varied forms which the opposition took, the common sense of the state seems to have been in favor of a change. A similar feeling has been shown in New Hampshire, and, of course, throughout the states generally, local opinion has gained everywhere in the last few years.

Philadelphia Record.

The election on local option will show more clearly to what extent the result in Vermont has been a revolt against the intolerant spirit of Puritanism.

New York Evening Post.

The State of Vermont is to be congratulated upon clearing its mind of cant and coming under a law which is each community deal with the liquor traffic according to its needs.

Sozodont

"Good for Bad Teeth, Not Bad for Good Teeth."

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