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SALT LAKE CITY, - APRIL 11, 1905

LET US REASON TOGETHER.

One of the commonest objections raised by opponents of the Utah Light and Railway company to any extension of its present franchise is, that improvements in the means for electric lighting are constantly taking place, and therefore "it is the height of injustice to bind coming generations to present conditions for so long a period."

That comes within the line of argument, and therefore may receive serious attention, being above the level of misrepresentation of facts and intentions, along which most of the ravings of malcontents and intriguers have taken their course. The conclusion we have quoted has been repeated and echoed, until many persons who do not stop to examine it closely are led away by it into folly. Let us look at it a little.

Suppose improvements in the mode and apparatus of and for electric lighting and power were discovered within a month from date. Would that justify the discontinuance of a franchise, which is now held and which continues for forty-two years? If the company has a vested right for that period, would the public welfare be endangered by extending it for eight years more?

But is it supposable that a company depending on public support for its business would ignore the very improvements that would increase its facilities, lessen its expenses and perpetuate its claims upon patronage, simply because its franchise was extended a few years? The company in question has been adopting, all along, every new device and development within reach, and one of the purposes that it has in view in applying for a consolidation and extension of its franchise, is to put it upon a solid basis, on which it can build for the future improvement of all its utilities and sources of light and force.

Is it not easy to see that the granting or extension of a franchise for any length of time, does not imply the continuation of obsolete or antiquated methods, or appliances or sources of power? The question is sagely asked: "Who can tell what progress will be made during the next twenty-five years, to say nothing of a hundred?" Suppose there is no one who can answer the query satisfactorily. What has that to do with the granting of a franchise for any purpose or for any time, unless the grant should bind the grantee to perpetuate present methods and ignore the developments of the future?

Will not our great and valuable railroads gladly welcome the benefits that will come from "the progress that will be made during the next twenty-five years to say nothing of a hundred?" Why, certainly. So will other organizations for other purposes. Why, then, do railway companies and telegraph companies obtain long franchises without a murmur, and the requests of a company that has been of immense benefit to the people be hoisted at, and the company be abused and lampooned and berated for attempting to shape its affairs on permanent lines and obtain some returns for parting with valuable properties?

We say to our city officials, you ought to use your own calm judgment and sense of right, without regard to the fractional objections and silly suggestions of excited or intriguing persons and papers. If you are urged into any act of injustice or secured from doing fairly and squarely both to the city and the company in this matter, you will gain nothing politically or otherwise in the long run, but will lose your own self-respect and the support of the honorable and stable of our citizens. You are expected to do the right thing to all parties, and not be swayed by any kind of clamor.

In abusive and silly burlesques of gentlemen of high repute in this community, that we will not stoop to touch it nor its scurrilities. The Journal, while greatly excited and very erratic, does not sink itself to the level of its contemporary. But in its misunderstanding of a subject of particular importance to the people of this city, it has become involved in so much misinformation by which its readers have been led astray, that we will make some reference to its vagaries. Here are two editorial notes, which appear in the Journal of April 8th.

"The Deseret News claims that there were several inaccuracies in a statement made by the Journal regarding the nature of the franchise asked by the Utah Light & Railway Co. of Salt Lake. The record of the City Council furnishes sufficient answer.

"The Deseret News used to advise the people of Utah not to sell their inheritances. The residents of Salt Lake have inherited handsome and wide streets set apart for their use by the wise policy of Brigham Young. The 'News' has changed its tone and now advises that they be given away to a private corporation."

With the first paragraph we fully agree, although the editor appears to imagine that the record of the case before the City Council will justify the strictures of that paper, while the fact is that it gives to them the most positive denial and refutation, and establishes every word of explanation given on the subject by the Deseret News. We can afford as to this matter to "let it go at that."

As to the second paragraph, its concluding words convey a positive and absolute falsehood. The Deseret News has not at any time advised that the streets of this city, or any of them, shall be given away to a private corporation or to any company or association or individual. The statement made by the Journal is as ridiculous as it is untrue, and conveys a false insinuation against the Utah Light and Power Company, which never asked for or claimed anything like that which is implied in the Journal's editorial note. If that paper imagines it will build up a reputation that will be of any value, by misrepresenting the Deseret News and the company referred to, we believe its anticipations will prove utterly and disastrously fallacious.

POPULAR UTAH WRITERS.

We notice with pleasure that a number of our contemporaries have said very pleasant things concerning the recognition given by some eastern magazines, of the talent in literary work exhibited by a lady who is a member of the editorial staff of the Deseret News. A story which appeared in the latest issue of Pearson's Magazine entitled "McCloosky's Kid," by Miss Josephine Spencer, has attracted much attention both here and elsewhere, and has elicited liberal offers to that lady for other stories of interest, in which she is no novice. The tale in Pearson's touches the tone of the times and therefore takes with the reading multitude. It is also well written and entertaining, and gives token of ability to produce something of still greater literary merit. We congratulate the writer, and feel pleased that our contemporaries have been kind enough to make favorable mention of the story and its talented author. We concur.

"Another Utah lady contributor to popular magazines is Miss Edyth Eilerbeck. Her recent story in Ainslie's entitled "The House Party on Olympus" is interesting and marked with more than ordinary ability, and gives evidence of talent that only needs further exercise to raise the writer to a high-class position in the region of romance. There is no need, in our opinion, for the use of a nom de plume in her case, but that is a matter of choice and taste with which we have no fault to find. It is gratifying to note the success of writers and artists of Utah birth and education, and we congratulate the ladies here briefly mentioned, who are both products of our loved mountain home.

THE COMING NAVAL FIGHT.

There is great rejoicing in Russian war-circles, because Admiral Rojestvensky has succeeded in entering the China sea with at least part of his squadron. The strategy by which he effected a passage through the long and narrow Strait of Malacca, un molested, because his enemies were keeping watch elsewhere, is considered as clever as it was bold, and hopes are being entertained that the arrival of Rojestvensky on the scene of conflict, may yet turn the war fortunes in favor of Russia.

It is true that the destruction of the Japanese fleet would materially change the situation. With Russia the master of the sea, the Japanese army in Manchuria would be unable to continue its aggressive operations. But the world generally does not share the Russian hopes for a sea victory for Rojestvensky. He is still a long way from Vladivostok, and the question is whether the Japanese have not permitted him to enter the China sea, in order to meet him at some place of their own selection.

The Russian squadron has been many months getting to the place where it is needed. It ought to have been at Port Arthur before that stronghold captured. But the Russian commander did not appear to be in a hurry. He loitered around Malagascar, allowing his ships to be disfigured by barnacles and his men to be weakened by oriental diseases. For these reasons it has been generally supposed that the expedition of the Russian squadron was for spectacular, rather than practical, purposes. This view may be wrong, though. And possibly the greatest sea fight of modern history is about to take place. It may therefore be of interest to know that the general low estimate of Rojestvensky's strength is by no means shared by the Japanese. A London correspondent of a German paper says he has had an interview with a prominent representative of the Japanese government on the question of the immediate prospects. According to this official, the Japanese consider the Baltic squadron a real menace. They realize that Rojestvensky can take all the time he needs for preparation, and reinforcement, provided he can find a harbor of refuge, while the Japanese

have no means of augmenting their fighting craft. The Japanese are now perfectly sure of victory on land, but they are not so sure of their ability to cope with the Baltic squadron. This, then, remains to be tested. By the coming naval battle the war will be decided. If Rojestvensky is defeated, Russia will probably have to ask for peace, and then conditions to be obtained after another disaster will be such as to endanger the very existence of the Russian government. With Rojestvensky, Russian despotism may find its grave in the China sea.

EUROPEAN POLITICS.

The interpretation given to the German-Morocco incident, by Mr. Arnold White, a writer on foreign politics, seems far-fetched. But, as already stated in these columns, if it has any political significance at all, this will appear to the public only in the political events that may follow.

Mr. White's opinion is, that the move of the German emperor is really in the direction of Holland, and not against France. He seems to think that the creation of a misunderstanding between England and Russia, with French allegiance divided would create the coveted opportunity for an advance on Holland, with the object of including that country in the German union of states. He believes that the Kaiser would have the support of the financial kings of the empire, who are, principally, Jews, and who favor an extension of the empire westward. He argues:

"They (the German-Jewish money kings) know that if Germany is to wait until the death of the Emperor Franz Josef, the Kaiser would be compelled to find his outlet on the shores of the Mediterranean. This is a prospect which they do not relish, because, if Prussia, where they are omnipotent, were to join with Austria, the anti-semitism of Austria would reduce, if it did not annul their influence in Prussia. * * * The Jews, who are the shrewdest diplomatists in the world, recognize that pan-Germanism is hostile to Jewry in Austria. * * * The German Jews have no liking for German enterprise southwards. When Germany extends her territory to the Adriatic, the situation of the Jews will be precarious. It is quite possible that a great federal republic strong enough even to defy the Kaiser may follow the break-up of the empire of the Hapsburgs. For these reasons the Jews will have nothing to lose by a war with England are opposed to action southwards. * * * And furthermore, do not let us lose sight of the fact that, as all roads lead to Rome, so all the schemes that the busy brains of German statesmen concoct are directed, sooner or later, and in some form or another, against the existence of Great Britain."

If this supposition is correct, great events may be looked for on the political field of Europe. Germany will not obtain permission to encompass Holland, without giving an equivalent to the other powers that consider themselves the guardians of the European equilibrium. The incorporation of Holland in the German empire would make that country second only to Great Britain in wealth and influence. Morocco would be too poor a price to offer for French acquiescence. Belgium as an addition to the French republic would be more acceptable. But is the doom of all the little states at hand? If not, the division of the prey among the larger empires will not be accomplished at this time.

The President's hunting trip may very properly be called a tour de forceful.

King Edward has also called at Minerva. Is he following the Kaiser's lead?

Tape worms, it is claimed, kill the bacillus of consumption. It's a choice of evils.

When he reaches Colorado Colonel Roosevelt will be on the bear side of the market.

Those rough riders thought the President had won his spurs and so presented him with a pair.

The apirists of the State have decided to ignore future fairs. Bee wise, gentlemen, and don't do it.

Togo will give Rojestvensky a surprise party one of these days, else the Japanese have lost their cunning.

The weather man deserves a vote of thanks for the fine weather during Conference and for the fine rain that followed.

Mr. Rockefeller might heap coals of fire on the heads of Dr. Gladden, Dr. Strong and others by giving another hundred thousand to the American board of foreign missions.

Ralph Voorhees has given a hundred thousand dollars to the American Tract society. There were no corrupt or immoral microbes on that money - a protest would have gone up against its acceptance.

If San Francisco's latest murder is the work of a Black Hand or Mafia society, San Francisco is quite equal to putting down the society in the same rough and ready manner that New Orleans did.

Henry James, the well known American novelist, who has been spending some time in the southern part of California, is now at Del Monte. He seems to possess the elusiveness the lack of which he notes in American girls.

The Bourne Gazette of St. Petersburg says that Japan stands to lose the mastery of the sea and the fruits of her successes on land. Whatever her other losses, Russia does not stand to lose the fruits of her successes on land.

Puck has heard of the great campaign against race suicide in this the land of the free, and has written a new "America," which should become a national nursery rhyme.

(H. L. T.) My country, 'tis of thee, Land of fecundity, Of thee I sing; Land where our fathers lived, Land of the patriarch's pride, From every cradle-side, Let "Goo-goo" ring.

Let "Da-da" swell the breeze

From every pair of knees, All, all day long; Let infant tongues awake Throughout the night, and make This life, without mistake, One grand, sweet song. "Author" that is to be, Father of family, In thee we trust; Let every groom and bride Piling the brave slogan wide: "Anti-Race Suicide!" Pilo's Peak or bust!"

THEIR'S NOT TO REASON WHY.

Washington Post. The Russian soldiers' plight is most pitiable, yet their bravery under the circumstances - complete admiration. Worn, crazed and weakened by incessant fighting against a superior foe for more than twenty days; with food supplies cut off, with guns captured, with comrades lying dead by almost countless thousands, with the Japs on their rear and flank and Chinese bandits before them, with their commanders quarreling and dissension ranking among the officials, these Russian privates have fought stubbornly on, entering into lanes of death north of the pass, with their agile enemies everywhere, and enduring hardships greater than ever befall an army - with the possible exception of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow - and all because it is their business to fight, to obey the commands of their superior officers.

THE GOOD THAT MONEY MAY DO.

Washington Post. We are convinced that it requires too much straining of a point to distinguish between pure and impure money when the purpose to which it is to be devoted is commendable. With the large and ever increasing field for the employment of money in the relief of suffering and the spread of education, religion and general enlightenment, we suggest that churches and charitable organizations would do well to measure the good that may come from the proper use of money against the purely ethical question of sources of the money to be thus employed.

LESS MEAT, MORE FRUIT.

New York World. Director Chittenden, who has had charge of the Sheffield Scientific school dietary experiments, recently reported that the men under him grew stronger the less meat they ate. The men under investigation were kept at work in the Yale gymnasium while they were on a diet of less meat and more vegetables and fruit. The gymnasium tests show a growth of muscular development of 25 to 100 per cent. Disposing of surplus meat food by the digestive apparatus is much more difficult than getting rid of the surplus of vegetables and fruits. Partly digested protein frequently develops toxic qualities which either cause disease or furnish a breeding place for it. The great increase of Bright's disease and other kidney and semi-nervous troubles is attributed to the excess of meat in the normal demand of the body. These studies and investigations are valuable, and the acceptance of their conclusions would be more profitable to most families than one of Mr. Grayfield's investigations of the beef trust.

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