

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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## THE ISSUE.

The chief issue, that should be considered by the voters of this County and City is that raised by the so-called "American" party leaders.

Those men declared war upon the Church because the Authorities refused to enter politics in favor of aspirants for high political honors, to which neither education nor character entitled them.

In order to create a sentiment hostile to the Church they hired newspaper writers and lecturers to spread broadcast the falsehood that the Church had re-established polygamy and assumed to dictate the politics of the State. Both statements are false, but by means of frequent repetition they have made an impression, and furnished a pretext for the activity of the anti-Church party demagogues.

By means best known to themselves they have captured the City government and are now reaching out for the County. They have declared that when they obtain the County offices, they intend rekindling the flames of persecution and plunge Utah still deeper into the abyss of strife than it is now. We are aware that some conservative citizens consider this threat as the creation of a diseased brain, but the truth is that the hatred entertained by some leading and controlling spirits of the party, toward Church leaders, is so intense that they are willing to commit almost any atrocity. And there never was a time when demagogues could not command a mob.

This is the principal local issue. The "News" has nothing to say about national issues. Its position on national party questions, at the time when those questions are about to be decided at the polls, is, as it always has been, perfectly non-partisan. There are partisan papers that have made partisanship their special field. But, as we have said, the local issue is: Are the voters of this County willing to turn the offices over to a party that threatens to continue a state of warfare in Utah, for the gratification of disgruntled politicians? And as the war is directed against the Church, the "News" is intensely interested.

All over the County there seems to be an awakening to an understanding of the situation. We believe that many non-Mormons, realizing the infinite injury to business interests that will follow from a continuation of strife, will vote against the American party in order to aid in the restoration of peace and harmony. We believe that many liberal men and women of all parties feel that we have had enough of the reign of bigotry, and that it is time to establish perfect liberty and equality under the law. We believe that the decent element will rise against the proposition to legalize immorality, and rebuke the party responsible. Whether the voters who stand for religious liberty and equality, for decency and morality, and peace and prosperity shall be numerous enough to outvote the following of the party of hatred, extravagance and "red light" districts, or whether the latter shall triumph once more, remains to be seen. But, one thing is certain. The people of this County are confronted with a crisis. Let every voter do his duty, as he sees it, and then we are content to leave the outcome with God.

## AN EXPLANATION.

At every election of importance, for many years past, the "News" has been criticized for partiality, generally by extremists of all parties, and the present campaign which, fortunately, is almost over by this time, is no exception to the general rule, though the complaints have been fewer than on some former occasions. We have heard some complaints, however, from both Republican and Democratic friends.

We, therefore, take this occasion to say that the "News" has endeavored to be perfectly fair to all parties in the publishing of news items concerning the campaign. Reference to the "News" for the past few weeks will furnish ample proof for this statement. Editorially the "News" has not taken sides in the controversy between Democrats and Republicans. It has not sought to influence the opinion, one way or another, on any questions that divide the national parties; it has not given any advice as to how to vote or not to vote.

The "News" has been criticized for refusing to print certain campaign documents, but there has been no partiality, or favoritism, shown with regard to this. All parties have been treated alike.

The "News" has also been criticized for having given more space to Republican oratory than to Democratic. The contrary is, perhaps, the fact, but if it is not, there is a sufficient reason which every intelligent reader will readily perceive, as soon as stated. In this campaign the Republicans have made it a point to oppose the so-called "American" party, which is an anti-Church party, and the Church organ, naturally, has given prominence to the efforts made to expose the plans of the leaders of that party. The Democratic speakers, on the other hand, have confined themselves, chiefly, to criticism of the Republican party. They have said very little against the "American" party. But the "News" is not interested

in partisan politics. While it gladly has published anything that has been said to throw light upon the "American" party methods, by speakers of either party, it has not thought it consistent to give space to the not very flattering opinions party leaders on either side have volunteered regarding opposing parties. The result is, perhaps, that the speakers on one side have had more space than those on the other. We do not say they have. That can be ascertained only by actual measurement. But if they have, the reason is not because they belong to a certain party but because they have exposed the un-American party leaders to the search light of truth. We have not permitted any legitimate party leaders to assail one another through the columns of the "News," but we have permitted them all to take the defense against the common enemy of the people.

This being the plain truth, we feel that the "News" has been the object of unjust criticism. We hope our friends, when the smoke of battle has settled and we all can see a little clearer, will admit the correctness of our position. They will also remember that this paper, for over half a century, has been a factor in the development of Utah, and that it has no partisan aims or aspirations. The "News" is for the advancement of this region both morally, spiritually, intellectually, and every other way. It is for peace and good will between all men—peas founded on justice to all. And now, that the heated campaign is over, the time has come for the serious consideration of what each citizen can do to establish normal conditions here, no matter which party wins. What is needed now is the restoration of normal conditions and peace.

## ANOTHER KU KLUX KLAN.

The Ku Klux Klan movement, which has been so forcibly represented to the public at the Salt Lake Theatre, in the excellent performance of "The Clansman," began in 1865, for the purpose of breaking up negro suffrage in the South. In many states negroes were members of the legislatures, and in some they were in the majority. Most of the negroes were ignorant and they were controlled by "scalawags" and "carpet baggers," that is to say, by white politicians who used the negro vote for the furtherance of their own personal ends. The result was that taxes were increased, public debts ran up, and the extravagance and corruption of legislatures were almost beyond belief. The state debt of Alabama increased from \$8,000,000 to \$25,000,000, in six years, and the legislature of South Carolina spent \$350,000 in one session, for "supplies, sundries and incidentals," alone. Such fearful exactions came after the exhaustive war and the taxpayers became exasperated.

Then the Ku Klux Klan was formed. The people undertook to break up negro suffrage. Young men, masked and disguised, rode about the country at night, killing, or torturing negroes, and their sympathizers. The "carpet baggers"—Northern adventurers who had gone to the South in order to make a living out of politics—were often caught and driven out by violent means.

There is no doubt that the Klan was at first formed by sincere men who saw no other way of remedying the existing evils that threatened moral and financial ruin. It was founded by men who believed they had a patriotic purpose in view. But when the reign of terror was over, honest men withdrew from the Klan, content with the development of society under a regime of law and order. The Klan minus its respectable, peace-loving members became a band of idle, dissolute and vicious individuals who entered upon a career of brutality and violence that appalled the country.

The so-called night riders that now infest some of the Southern states may be considered as the successors of the terrorists of thirty years ago. In fact, the ghastly procession of the night riders in Georgia a short time ago exceeded in malignant wickedness the most lurid orgies of reconstruction. And laxity in dealing with these outlaws who claim to act under the authority of a "higher law" is having its dire effects.

The atrocious murdering of Capt. Rankin at Walnut Log, Tenn., and the narrow escape from a similar fate of Col. Taylor, both noted attorneys in that section, may be traced directly to the indifference which the authorities manifest toward this latest form of terrorism.

The night riders began by burning the warehouses of tobacco growers who persisted in selling their product at a price below that dictated by them. When the firebombs first showed their hands some effort was made by state officials to the end of running them down. But soon the interest of the law waned and the spirit of wantonness blazed up more fiercely than before. Murders were committed with impunity and the campaign of fright by gun and firebrand resulted in dozens of growers abandoning their properties or obeying the commands of the night riders in fear of their lives.

The decent citizens of the South will have to put down this lawlessness, by the application of law. If they do not do so without delay, the evil will grow beyond their control.

## IN CHINA.

There are some awful press reporters at Amoy, China, as shown by wild rumors issued from that place in the past, and it is not impossible that the dispatches conveying the information that revolutionists are threatening to murder Chinese officials and their guests on the occasion of the visit of the American fleet, are nothing more serious than the products of a diseased imagination. Why should any Chinese care to plot the assassination of American sailors or officers? America has proved itself the true friend of China. This country returned the larger part of the indemnity agreed upon as a compensation for the losses caused by the Boxer troubles. This country insisted on the recognition of the integrity of China and the open door policy; why should the Chinese want to mar the friendly visit of friends by any demon-

stration of murderous hostility? The American fleet will, we believe, be as welcome in China as it has been in every other country so far visited.

An edict issued by the Throne has just prepared the country for a constitutional form of government, to become effective in nine years. It is not identical with other forms of constitutional government in the Western world, but it marks the beginning of rapid advancement, and proves the desire of China to maintain friendly relations with advanced and advancing nations.

The imperial edict establishes an appointive parliament, to be succeeded on its dissolution by a parliament to be elected by the people. It guarantees free speech and the freedom of the press; provides for the protection of life, liberty and property and goes into many details relating to the manner of managing and operating public utilities. The monarchy, however, is to be made perpetual. The edict postpones the establishment of a republic for a long time. It says: "The Ta Ching emperor will rule supreme over the Ta Ching empire for one thousand generations in succession and be honored forever."

Some years ago a Chinese commission went round the world in order to study the various forms of government. They reported, on their arrival home, that the wealthiest and strongest nations of the world were those that were governed by constitutions and it incidentally called attention to the fact that China was the only great nation that was not so governed. The report met with approval and China has now by one step made an advance of which few would have thought it capable ten years ago. Asia is awakening. A new day is dawning over the world.

Morse neither shows books nor remorse.

Preferential trading is often found in politics.

"When in doubt, don't," is good advice, but not in elections.

The tickets that are left will be, in a sense, tickets of leave.

The revolving residence can never take the place of globe-trotting.

It is a good thing for the amenities that the campaign closes tomorrow.

An impudent assertion too often passes as an unanswerable argument.

Although New York is rapidly growing skyward it is not growing any better.

When party speakers grill each other why don't they go into a grill room to do it?

"Boston a magnet," says the Herald of that city. Always thought Boston was a Hub.

With lots and lots and lots of people to be non-partisan means to be on their side.

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

When a politician feels the ground swell under him it often gives him a swelled head.

"Do what is right and let the consequences follow," is a good motto and ever applicable.

Mr. Rockefeller might calm the storm by giving Judge Taft and Mr. Bryan a half vote each.

Mr. Taft has gained votes and lost flesh during the campaign. Fair exchange is no robbery.

The leader of New York society and founder of the "400" has passed into the great beyond. Will she set up a "400" there?

The raising or the lowering of the tariff will not cure two great national ills—the measles and the whooping-cough.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., is working in the worsted room of a carpet mill. It is a safe wager, that in the end he will not be worsted.

If Mr. Rockefeller were a leper with a belt politicians could not be more studious to avoid meeting him than they have been for the last few days.

"Our Chief Executive is autochthonous," says the New York Evening Post. One must consult Bourvier before deciding whether or no the word is libelous.

A threatened revolt of Turkish troops at the Yildiz Kiosk was promptly suppressed. The promulgation of a constitution and events in the Balkans have put the Sultan in just the right humor promptly to suppress a revolt.

Nothing could better show the difference between the Japanese and the Chinese than the manner in which the visit of the American war fleet has affected them. The one were all alertness and affability; the other, all apathy and indifference.

## JUST FOR FUN.

### The Logical Place.

It was closing time at the town library. Old Mr. Duke, who had filled the post of librarian for years, took down his coat and hat, and, with the assistance of his little daughter, got them safely on. Together they started for the door. It was raining hard. "Wait a moment, child," said her father, and went back into the building. The girl remained obediently. Five minutes passed. Then ten. She pushed open the door and walked in. Her father was bent over one of the card catalogues. "What are you looking for, father?" she inquired. "I couldn't find my umbrella, and I was searching for it under U in the lists,"—Youth's Companion.

### A Plot.

Towne—I heard your daughter urging the Kadleys to move into that vacant house next door to you. Browne—Ah, yes. She wants me to let her take singing lessons, but I've refused so far.

Towne—Er—really—I don't see the connection. Browne—Well, she knows the Kadleys hate that sort of thing, and she knows I hate the Kadleys.—The Catholic Standard and Times.

Excited But Unbroken. "You must avoid getting excited," the family physician cautioned Will's irritable mother in the boy's hearing. "For you'll go all to pieces."

Later in the day the boy appeared at the doctor's office.

"Ma wants you to come right over and see her," he said. "She's gone and got herself all excited again, but she ain't busted yet."—Brooklyn Life.

How He Managed It. Mrs. Homer—Mrs. Neighbor's husband must be a perfect man if there ever was one.

Homer—Why do you think so? Mrs. Homer—Because she says he never does anything wrong.

Homer—Oh, that's easily explained. He never does anything.—Chicago News.

Natural Deduction. Her Mother—How did Mr. Slobov become counting boy?

The Daughter—Nearly two years. Her Mother—I should think he'd get tired of making love to a counting boy. The Daughter—I guess he is. At least he proposed last night.—Chicago News.

Deeply Impressed. Looey—What if an impression did your new father-in-law make on you?

James—Well, it was about a foot long, three inches deep and made with a league boot.—Chicago News.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

A book specially suited for Christmas gift has just been published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston. It is called "The Children's Longfellow" and consists of a selection of poems from that author, with special reference to the taste of the younger readers. In the list we find "Paul Revere's Ride," "The Children's Hour," "The Village Blacksmith," "Evangeline," "The Song of Hiawatha," "The Courtship of Miles Standish," "The Old Clock on the Stairs," and many others. There are more than eighty poems in all. With three exceptions, each poem is reprinted in its entirety. In the case of Evangeline, Hiawatha, and Miles Standish, it has been necessary to make a selection of one or two complete divisions from each. The volume has eight charming full-page illustrations in color by popular artists; decorated title-page, sub-titles and headings in color, and is handsomely bound with a pictorial cover.—Houghton Mifflin Co., 4 Park St., Boston.

You can almost sniff the scent of theater-land in "The Sea of Disillusion" the novelette in November Young's Magazine, so alive is the tale with the atmosphere of the stage. Unconventional in style, it appeals strongly to a world where conventions are a tiresome necessity and "Under the Southern Cross" by W. Carey Wonderly "rings the bell" of interest. "Negative Sequence," by Leigh Gordon Giltner is a little tale of a man's hunt for a girl whose photo he falls in love with and his disillusionment when he finds her. "Street Barbarian" by John A. Williams is a gay, rollicking story of a reckless girl, who bares her soul strangely—a story like a twisted thread of scarlet and gray. "Speaking of Sales" by John Carmichael is a vivid with the color of Paris and in that gay setting a sweet flower of a girl is contrasted sharply with a girl of the streets.—114-116 East Twenty-eighth street, New York.

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