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UNITY AND STRENGTH.

In a letter to the "News" from Los Angeles, dated Jan. 19 and signed "Phoenix," the correspondent says that the city by the coast enjoys good, healthy conditions, and that the enterprising citizens are figuring on how long time it will take to increase the population to a million.

Some look for that achievement in ten years, others in fifteen, but all classes are united and working together energetically for the common good of all.

As an illustration of the spirit of Los Angeles, our esteemed correspondent quotes from an address by Mayor Harper at the annual banquet of the Merchants and Manufacturers' association, held on the 18th of this month. After referring to the marvelous growth of the city during the past twenty years, the Mayor said:

"Let us generalize upon the causes of the municipal improvements by truthfully saying that this extraordinary progress arose from the solidarity of the agricultural, horticultural, manufacturing and mercantile interests of the county, and above all from the civic loyalty to the good name, as well as the business interests of Los Angeles. We had no reactionaries nor defamers of our city, but were all, including press and pulpit, united in our object of sincerely wishing God-speed to Los Angeles."

"We did not assume the cant of the Pharisee in lauding our own purity as individuals and in pointing out the secret defects and blemishes of our city. We did the best we could and, burying our private and political animosities, we co-operated as practical, commonsense men, and acted as a collective unit. Where we could not at once improve we covered those defects with the mantle of charity, and quietly shouldered to shoulder, worked zealously and steadfastly for ultimate improvement."

"We recognized that a city is the resultant of the people who compose it, and that just as cruel slander and libel injure the individual and impede his efforts for good, so also the needless criticism of a city's fair name and fame injures the welfare of that city and retards its industrial and material advancement. You, the members of the Merchants and Manufacturers' association of Los Angeles, have been the prime, the most active and most honorable factors in this great municipal evolution, and you have happily and deservedly lived to see the fruit of your individual and co-operative zeal and labor, and to behold in the Los Angeles of today, a city without a peer for industrial growth and educational facilities, and unequalled for the moral worth and orderly government of its people."

The application of this to our own conditions is obvious to all. Unity of effort and civic loyalty are indispensable to progress. Per contra, where reactionaries and defamers attain such prominence as to make themselves heard in wide circles, the result is disastrous to advancement. This the "News" has endeavored to point out and emphasize, to the best of its ability. It has urged the entire elimination of anti-Mormonism from the discussion of civic and political questions, as the one necessary reform preliminary to the progress to which the natural advantages of this City entitle it. We commend to the careful consideration of all the quotation from the address of Mayor Harper.

THE BRICKS IN THE WALL.

When Croesus, King of Lydia, once received a Grecian deputation, he was queried by the visitors as to his defense against invasion. The reply was a parade of the King's regular forces then within immediate reach, before the deputation, with the sage observation from Croesus, "There is my wall, and every man in it is a brick."

The social structure may be likened to a wall, the bricks of which are the citizens who compose it. If one of these integral parts is injured and falls out of place, the social structure is damaged just that much. The loss of a single brick may not be perceptible, it may not be felt. The loss of two or three may occasion no palpable difference, but there is a loss just the same. If the falling away, or removal of integral parts continues, the loss will shortly become appreciable to the unassisted vision. Cracks appear in the wall, these cracks become small fissures, and if the process of reduction is sufficiently prolonged, the breakage point is reached, and the entire structure falls to the ground a wreck and a ruin.

The social structure in that community is the strongest, in which the individual component part retains his vigor and abilities unimpaired by weakness or disease, remains able to perform the duties devolving upon him as a citizen—a supporter of the community, rather than supported by it. But let a citizen minimize his usefulness by indulgence in alcoholic stimulants, thus destroying his power of productiveness, and gradually becoming a burden on society, and the wall of the social structure is weakened proportionately as this man sinks lower in the social scale, and it becomes necessary for society to take care of him and his neglected family. It is only a matter of calculation to figure out how long this process of diminishing productivity in other cases may be continued before that community becomes overburdened with political, moral and social deadwood, becomes impoverished, paralyzed for advancement of any kind, a delirium,

often a disgrace to the country or state.

The same reasoning may with equity be applied to the larger political factors, the country and state. With progressive deterioration of the various sections of the commonwealth, the state itself becomes infected, it is blood poisoned, and unless the poison can be laid at the root of the tree, unless the poison that is eating out the life of the commonwealth can be neutralized and driven off, it is also only a question of time before the larger political body falls into the same pit as its component municipalities. It is a case of the blind leading the blind, with both falling into the same ditch.

The temperance issue before the country in local option and prohibition involves all this; it involves also the right of self-defense. No one denies the right of the individual to protect himself or his when attacked. By what process of reasoning is the same right denied to a group of individuals, to the community, to society? The liquor evil is eating into the body politic as a virulent cancer eats into the vitals of the individual sufferer. It is destructive of all that is holy and best in the human economy, destroying not only the flesh, but the mind and soul of man, ruining him for all useful purposes in life, breaking up the family, blighting the happiness of his children, causing crime of any and every kind, making him a burden and a disgrace to the community in which he lives, making necessary the heavier expense of police, courts and jails, and lowering the tone of local public morals. Why should not society have the right to defend itself against this insidious evil, this ever present enemy to the commonwealth, by driving it from the borders of the state? Society has just as much right—God given right, to throttle the liquor traffic, and prohibit its citizens from dealing in the soul-destroying stuff, as it has to arrest the lawbreaker generally and put him in prison to prevent his preying on his fellow men. Drive out the liquor traffic, and gambling and prostitution will be reduced to their lowest terms. If not forced to give up the ghost for lack of patronage, these last two evils thrive and grow best where the restriction on the saloon is the least. In striking at whisky, a blow is also struck at the other two forces of hell and the devil; and perhaps that is the reason why the liquor men fight so hard against temperance legislation, because through the gambling interests and prostitution the sale of their goods is so largely increased.

PEOPLE WANT PEACE.

Walter Wellman is authority for the statement that the sentiment of the country is very largely for President Roosevelt, and that the leaders in Congress have heard from the people and passed the word along to congressmen to go slow in the quarrel with him. It is not their intention to cease all opposition, but to keep it within reasonable bounds. An effort will especially be made to restrain Senator Tillman from carrying out his threats of indulging in periodical outbreaks against the President.

The attacks upon the President do not amount to much. Other chief executives of the nation have been similarly treated on their retirement, but no stain has thereby been left on their record in history. The world has soon forgotten the unjust criticism of opponents, while it has remembered the good qualities and deeds of patriotism for which the critics are loath to give credit. But although a Tillman can do but little harm to President Roosevelt, yet the spectacle of a president and the representatives of the nation quarreling is not edifying. It can be readily believed that the people tired of tirades are trying to exert a pressure in the interest of peace, for the sake of appearance if for no other reason.

IN ILLINOIS.

The correspondent of a Chicago paper reminds his readers that the opposition to the re-election of Senator Hopkins of Illinois is intensified by the injection into the contest of anti-Mormonism. He says that according to a Springfield newspaper, the "Mormons" and the Gentiles in Utah and other far western states are taking a hand in the contest, the Gentiles against Hopkins and the "Mormons" for him. The report is, further, that an organization of women has sent thousands of circulars attacking Hopkins in Illinois; that Dubois of Idaho also has been in Illinois "on a mysterious mission," and that numerous "Mormon" missionaries who have been in Illinois, ostensibly for the purpose of re-establishing their colony of Latter-day Saints at Nauvoo, are said to be working secretly in behalf of Hopkins.

Some time ago it was reported that a female agitator had gone to Illinois in the interest of the anti-Mormon religion here, and it is probable that Dubois has been there, too, but as for "Mormon" missionaries working, either secretly or otherwise, in the service of politicians, we feel safe in branding that as a statement without the least foundation in fact. The missionaries of the Church are not in the field for political purposes. They would not, for any consideration, meddle with things that do not concern them. They believe that it is a duty of all to "mind their own business."

It is characteristic of anti-Mormon agitation that it seeks to gain its purposes by falsehoods. In Illinois the cry has been heard everywhere that Senator Hopkins defended polygamy, when he refused to violate his conscience and vote as clamor demanded. The charge is as false as those preferred against the senior Senator from Utah. Senator Hopkins, in his very able address before the Senate, Jan. 11, 1897, expressly denounced polygamy, and should therefore not be assailed on that ground. But the defenders of anti-Mormonism seem to have no conscience, no regard for facts. Anything to gain a point, seems to be their creed.

Senator Hopkins maintained before

AN OPEN LETTER.

Respectfully submitted to members of the Legislature, who are standing upon the dangerous line of indecision. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye did it not to me, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matthew xxv; 44-46.

There are two kinds of sinners—the positive sinner and the negative sinner. With what force does the great Teacher show up the country of the sin of negation. In the above quotation, as no more mortal could.

You cannot shut your eyes to the fact that at the present time thousands of slaves, fathers and mothers are offering their petitions to their fellow men—their representatives who have it in their power to remove the evil which is dragging down to the ruin both body and soul of their loved ones. Will you

live a pure and upright life; he held that it appeared from the testimony that Senator Smoot was guilty of any offense punishable by law or any conduct unbecoming a Christian gentleman, and that the mere fact that he is a member of the Church, and an official, should not bar him from exercising the rights of a Senator. That was the contention of Senator Hopkins. And he was right.

A poor pun's better than none.

Cheaper lumber is a knotty question. Prohibition means salvation from drink.

A good President is always a good precedent.

Better butter prices do not make better butter.

The people want prohibition. Shall the people rule?

The gipsy moth is Massachusetts' Old Man of the Sea.

The snow is not the result of a brain-storm in the weather bureau.

Ten-cent theater shows could hardly be worse than some dollar shows.

If anyone in Emory county has wheels they are only emery wheels.

Dogs sent as excess baggage never have even the bark knocked off them.

The name of Legion has not yet been signed to the anti-prohibition petition.

There is more Salt Lake aid to the State than there is State aid to Salt Lake.

Andrew Carnegie thinks that eventually the laborer will become one with the capitalist.

The secret service, like the ground hog, has seen its shadow and gone back into hiding.

While prosperity has arrived it seems to be somewhat embarrassed for lack of terminal facilities.

Pittsburg is to have a fourteen-story church. Then Pittsburg will be doubly in the seventh heaven.

John Howard Payne never lived in a flat, had he, he never would have written his immortal song.

Every man who toots a horn for a victorious party in a campaign hopes to become a "piped" piper.

Does California understand that if she kicks the Japanese out she may kick up a row with Japan?

Assessing taxes on abutting property owners for parking the streets would be fun for the park commissioners but it would be death to the property owners.

The Pierce-Waters Oil company proposes to pay its \$1,500,000 fine in silver, thinking thereby to split and embarrass Texas. The proceeding will embarrass the company far more than it will Texas.

The "stand patters" are not thinking of surrendering (like the Old Guard) they never surrender, they die but they do keep shifting from one foot to the other as though they were getting a little bit tired of their position.

"On what ground should the persons who have been in the field for the purpose of re-establishing their colony of Latter-day Saints at Nauvoo, be said to be working secretly in behalf of Hopkins."

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not heed the tears of the children and the prayers of the wives and mothers? If the saloon is an evil what shall be said of those who say, "hands off, let it alone."

Think of the awful responsibility resting upon you—your vote may decide the question whether or not that terrible scourge shall remain. Henceforth the piercing cry of anguish of some poor wife or mother that shall reach high Heaven at the awful ending of a husband or son will not only create as an accusation against the keeper of that saloon that led the dear one astray, but perhaps also against those who failed to do all in their power to remove the evil.

Some of you, I am informed, hold membership in a church whose discipline declares a saloon keeper cannot retain fellowship therein. To such I will suggest this question: If, after having voted against prohibition, you are willing to return home and go into the councils of your church and hold up your hand to disfellowship such a one—the positive sinner—what will you do with the negative sinner? W. N. B. SHEPHERD.

States in a new form. There appears to be no reasonable doubt that this government can keep the Japanese from immigrating here, as it has kept the Chinese out, but will it be as easy to fight the Japanese of South America as it is to fight the Japanese of Nippon?

RECKLESS LAWMAKING.

Albany Argus. Massachusetts has a law, known as the "semi-colon law," under which a misplaced semi-colon regulates the liquor traffic in the city of Boston. But this is not a circumstance to an omitted comma as indicated in the following act of the last legislature of Massachusetts: "Whoever operates an automobile or a motorcycle on any public way or private way laid out under the authority of law recklessly or while under the influence of liquor, or so as to endanger the lives or safety of the public, &c. It is now asserted that the motorist can go as he pleases on highways which have not been laid out under the influence of liquor."

JUST FOR FUN.

Amiguous—"Has your husband concluded to join our temperance society?" "No, he still wavers."—Pittsboro Blatter.

A Sociologist—"He's a sociologist, isn't he?" "I should say he is. He can entertain a whole room full of company."—Detroit Free Press.

A Toast—"The latest thing is toasts comes from 'up-state' and was responded to by a father of twelve daughters, who claims that he ought to know: 'To the ladies—to their sweetness we give love; to their beauty admiration; and to their hats the whole sidewalk.'"—New York Times.

No Waits, No Delays.—Jim the Stable Boy—"My word, sir, you 'ave given the horse a doing up 'unt, he's fairly 'run out.' Johnson the Patron.—Well, you see, I drove to my aunt's funeral and I had to keep up with the horses for decency's sake.—The Tattler.

The Young Rocketeer—"Mother, if Santa Claus comes down the chimney he'll have to walk through the kitchen, won't he?" "I suppose he will, dear." "Well, don't you think we'd maybe lock up the preserves?"—Brooklyn Life.

"A man never knows how many friends he has until he experiences real sorrow." "Oh, I don't know. Did you ever have it known that you had shot and brought home a deer?"—Detroit Free Press.

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