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DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING
(Sunday Excepted)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES
(In Advance)
One Year \$3.00
Six Months 2.00
Three Months 1.00
One Month50
Saturday Edition25
Semi-Weekly, Per Year 2.00

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.
Address all business communications and all remittances to
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

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

SALT LAKE CITY, - JUNE 17, 1907.

NO DEFERENCE HERE.

The address of Elder B. H. Roberts, delivered in the tabernacle on the 9th of this month, is itself the best refutation of the unjust criticism that has been bestowed upon it from various sides. It shows more especially that the attitude of the Church is far from being one of defiance of the laws of the land. The speaker demonstrated as clearly as possible that the Church members and leaders have done all in their power to bring about a condition in harmony with the demands of the country. He pointed out the fact that, at first, there was some difference of opinion as to the meaning of the Manifesto, until it was accepted as applicable to the Church in all the world. He proved by official figures that the number of families in plural relations had decreased from the time of the Manifesto, until at the time of the testimony before the Senate Committee on Elections and Privileges, there remained only perhaps 500. This was regarded as a marvelous proof of loyalty to the government, and we may say that the result would not have been what it is but for the sincerity and honesty of the so unjustly berated Church leaders, and especially the efforts of the Presidency to remove every reasonable cause of complaint against the Church.

In proof of the assertions made by the speaker concerning this subject, he prints in full the letter of resignation of Elder John W. Taylor, dated this city, Oct. 23, 1905. Two facts are established by this document. First, that Elder Taylor took a view of the Manifesto different from that held by the majority of the Quorum of which he was a member; second, that President Joseph F. Smith, true to a promise given in Washington, exerted his influence to persuade Elder Taylor to appear before the committee, but that the latter, for reasons that seemed sufficient to him, declined to go. Elder Taylor wrote to his fellow-Apostles:

"I acknowledge that I received a request from President Joseph F. Smith, by letter, to appear as a witness in the Reed Smoot case before the Senate Committee on Elections and Privileges, but I declined to do so because, while I recognize his right to direct me in Church affairs, I did not think his authority extended to civil affairs to the extent that I should expose my family to public ignominy as some of my brethren were before that body; and I still hold the same views upon that matter."

With regard to the difference of opinion held on the Manifesto, Elder Roberts explains that it requires time for the settlement of such questions as those involved in the system of plural marriage as once practiced in the Church. No proclamation is at first understood. Differences of opinion are bound to exist concerning matters of this description. And when the announcement was made in President Woodruff's manifesto of the discontinuance of plural marriages, and the advice was given that our people should contract no marriages contrary to the law, the question arose in the minds of some, whether that prohibition was not limited to marriages within the United States. The matter was discussed pro and con. Ultimately, however, the conclusion was inevitable that the manifesto forbade plural marriages in all the world; because the Church is not local but a world-wide organization; and when its general conference speaks, it speaks for the entire Church, in all the world. Hence, Elder Roberts argues, the conclusion was inevitable that plural marriages were everywhere forbidden; and when some men held tenaciously to the view that that was not the case, but that the Church fulfilled her agreement to discontinue plural marriages by abstaining from performing plural marriages within the United States—when that view was persisted in, there was but one thing left, and that was to conclude that such persons were out of harmony with the Church. Two of the twelve apostles held that view; they were declared by their associates to be out of harmony with their brethren in these matters; they tendered their resignations which were accepted; and since that time there has been no question in the Church, or out of it, as to where the Church stands on the subject of discontinuing plural marriages.

That does not sound as defiance of the law. How can submission be more complete? Elders Taylor and Cowley had a perfect right to their opinions, as has every man and woman under the flag of this Republic, and they acted as honor and duty dictated when they sacrificed their position for their convictions, seeing that they were unable to accept the views of their brethren. The Apostles' Quorum also obeyed the dictates of honor and duty, when they accepted the resignations.

We say, there is no possible excuse for the malicious accusation that Elder Roberts, in his address, hurled defiance at the laws or the general sentiment. In reply to those who would find condemnation, their fellow-men for their beliefs, as defended the right of Americans to hold whatever opinion seems best to them, as long as they do not break out into overt acts. No one but un-American bigots can find fault with that. The speaker said:

"Do you hold that you may enter the sacred precincts of the mind and uproot

our opinions? Your law gives you the right to punish overt acts; but you have no law and no right to enter the domain of conscience and interfere with what is held there as the truth. Hands off here! Our belief is our own. We have a right to our opinions. If you don't believe them that is nothing to us, we do. And if you have not succeeded in converting us, we can't help that. You have got all you deserve out of this controversy on our marriage system."

No American who has an understanding of American principles of liberty of conscience will dispute this position.

STORE UP COAL.

The warning to store up coal, to meet the needs of the coming winter, is timely. Undoubtedly, those who are financially in a position to fill their cellars with fuel will do so without delay, but many are not in that position. For their benefit the railroads and coal companies should co-operate while they have ample transportation facilities, and lay in a sufficient supply. The supposition is that the shortage of fuel will be more widely felt next winter than it was last. Whether this prediction holds good or not, now is the time to apply that ounce of prevention which is admitted to be preferable to a pound of cure.

Last winter's experience was not exactly suffering, but it was tantalizing, because, during the brief season the cold lasted, the consumers were constantly kept guessing as to what would happen if the supply should give out and no more fuel could be secured. Had the winter been severe, there is no doubt that there would have been a great deal of suffering. Providence kindly tempered the winds to the shorelands. Few would care to pass through another cold season with constant uncertainty as to where next day's heat is to come from. Now is the time to make provisions against that emergency. Late in the fall it will be too late, because railroad cars will then be needed for other purposes to a much greater extent than is the case now.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION.

The present commotion in Central America is said to have given rise to an agitation for a union of the Central American states under the protection of Mexico and the United States. The matter of a federation, a dispatch says, as the only means of settling the petty internal quarrels among the republics is said to have been brought to the attention of the President and to have met with his approval. In the meantime, juntas have been formed in each of the five republics. They will send delegates to a conference in Mexico to devise some plan for federation. The chief difficulty to union lies in Guatemala and the opposition of President Cabrera, of that republic, and it is believed he will not be able to hold himself in power much longer.

The entire Central America contains an area of only 206,000 square miles, with a population of a little over four million. Guatemala and Salvador are the most populous of the little republics. Panama is the country of most interest to the United States because it is virtually under the protectorate of Uncle Sam and contains the canal strip. The other Central American states are Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras. Undoubtedly a federation under the protectorate of the northern neighbors would insure peace among those states and that would mean an increase of material prosperity. The fear that the United States has sinister desires upon its weaker neighbors seems to be disappearing, and perhaps that is due largely to the masterly addresses of Secretary Root delivered during his South American tour last year. Central Americans have found that they can place their confidence in Uncle Sam. We hope the federation can be formed. Every measure taken for the unifying of the human family is a step toward the ultimate goal.

AN EVIL AND A REMEDY.

An exchange gives a dismal picture of the conditions that called for the enactment of the pure food law. "The increasing mortality of infants," it says, "resulted from giving them milk preserved by formaldehyde, which is used to embalm the bodies of the dead. Candy contained terra alba, talc, chrome yellow and shellac. There were alum and sulphate of copper in bread. Pepper was made of sandalwood, red sawdust and sand. Aniline dyes poisoned jellies and preserves. Maple syrup was made of glucose, cane sugar and hickory bark. Nutmegs were made of sulphur, sand and clay. A blend of sulphuric acid and hydrochloric acid was sold for vinegar. Many brands of coffee were made of dried hog's liver and chicle. Acids were painted on hams to give them the appearance of smoked meat. There were deadly doses of opium and alcohol in syrups for babies. In fact, the criminal adulteration was found to embrace 30 per cent of the food, drinks and drugs used in the United States."

And the worst of this is that the pure food law is said to fail to accomplish its purpose. If the statements made are true, the situation is even worse than it was before. Dishonest manufacturers now can file a guarantee that their goods are pure and up to this unanalyzed testimony the government furnishes them with a serial number and permits them to print it on their labels, together with the statement that the stuff is guaranteed under the Pure Food Act. This seemingly official placard tricks the consumer into buying foods and drugs which he might hesitate to use if they did not bear this misleading legend.

Some day people will realize that the only way to become independent of dishonest manufacturers and vendors, as well as of oppressive trusts, is by intelligent co-operation for the production of the necessities of life. There seems no escape from the oppressive prices and adulterated goods except in co-operation along lines suggested and practiced by the first settlers of Utah.

One June does not make a summer. Publicity has no effect whatever on the weather.

Dr. Willey says that pie is bad. Not if it is well made.

That threatened presidential dark

horse is a bete noir to several candidates.

Idaho's Orchard is bringing the state more fame than its apples are.

Schmitz can at least boast that excessive bail was not required.

Strange that Mrs. Eddy should have a competency and not be competent.

Emma Calve has been winning prizes as a farmer. Calves are her specialty.

"John Sanderson, may I John," is the way they put it in Pennsylvania.

Schmitz looks upon his twelve peers who were jurors in his case as "undesirable citizens."

Secy. Taft quotes Proverbs with as much ease and accuracy as Secretary Wilson quotes crop reports.

Mr. Grover Cleveland says "sportsmanship is an unwritten law." But it isn't the same as dementia Americana.

In the Haywood trial counsel for the defense gets on the offensive almost every time McFarland's name is mentioned.

Shaving the moustache off is to a man seeking to hide a gray beard what hiding its head in the sand is to an ostrich.

San Francisco cannot possibly suffer half so much from its mayor's enforced absence in jail as it did from his presence.

Pennsylvania bought the furniture for her state capital at so much "per foot." A steel-yard was used to measure the amount.

The University of Missouri has a chair of poultry. This should afford the professor who holds it an opportunity to feather his nest.

Henry Clay is the only man who ever said that he would rather be right than President. The indications are that he will continue to hold that proud, unique position.

The ease with which the "forts" around New York destroyed two great battleships in a sham warfare is most reassuring. It shows that a big navy is not such a terror after all.

The Washington Post is authority for the statement that the President always carries a big revolver. And here his detractors have been asserting that he always carries a big stick.

The attitude of the powers represented at The Hague peace conference towards discussion of the question of limitation of armaments may be briefly described as one's afraid and t'other dacent.

SQUARE DEAL FOR RAILROADS.

Railway Age.

The President has much to say about the few dishonest and lawless railway officials who have reflected discredit upon their much more numerous honest and law abiding fellows. It is regrettable that while he was on this subject he did not have something to say about the extremely few State Legislatures and commissions that have treated the railways with any semblance of fairness and the many that have bilked them remorselessly because it happened to be the popular thing to do. Railways and railway officials should be required to give investors, shippers and public a "square deal." Whatever legislation is necessary to compel them to do this should be enacted. It does not seem unreasonable to suggest that public authorities in return should give railways and railway officials a "square deal." Unfortunately, the principle that it is just as criminal for the public to hold up railways and railway investors as it is for railway managers to hold up investors and the public has not been incorporated in the public's code of morals governing railway regulation. The public and railway regulating authorities bestow so much sympathy on investors who have been robbed by stock manipulation that they have none left for investors who are robbed by unfair legislation.

A POLITICAL COMEDY.

San Francisco Call.

It is interesting, as well as instructive, to watch the evolution of the Japanese. Having mastered the arts of war, they are now taking hold of the arts of politics with as much energy and as little scruple as if they had been taught by Abe Ruef. Of course, in politics the first thing to do is to get up a "conspiracy." The Japanese have already acquired one that is of the black and midnight order. First of all, they are after Aoki's job. Aoki is not an arboreal reminiscence, although he sounds scarcely human, but, in truth and in fact, he is an ambassador. We do not know whether this conspiracy is equipped with a \$5,000,000 corruption fund to make it respectable; but, after all, that is as easy as lying. As the great protagonists of this remorseless warfare we find, embattled in the low combat, the Jiji and the Hochi, which are not, as the uninitiated might suppose, terms of endearment nor yet of profanity, but one of the names of newspapers lined up and bitter for the fray. The ink flies and sputters. It might be a brace of monkeys practicing before a looking glass. The comedy is very well done. They have all the properties of the political stage, the past-board conspiracy, the free born liar, the man with a soft job, the basket for his head and the headman, like some inflated engine, at the door. It might even be that Burns—not the celebrated sleuth—had seen his wish fulfilled: "O read some power the little girl to use to herself" as liars see us.

THE JAPANESE QUESTION.

Boston Transcript.

Translated into terms of the political vernacular of the Western world, the latest phase of our relations with Japan appears to be simply this: The Japanese opposition is pushing the issue to the front, denouncing the ministry as either uninitiated or incompetent, and the Japanese ambassador at Washington as unequal to the duties of his post. Do we not recall a similar situation in the United States about twenty years ago, when the administration was denounced at mass meetings because it did not twist the British lion's tail until he howled again for laying his paw on naturalized American citizens who in Ireland participated in the Home Rule agitation? Was not James Russell Lowell, one of the trustees of Americans, held up to scorn on these occasions for not being able to see how the same agitator could be an Irishman in the United States and an American in Ireland?

TO HELP OTHERS.

Kansas City Star.

Even those who criticize President Roosevelt for his tendency to take a hand in things of directly pertaining to his office must admit that he usually

hits some nail that should be driven and that his blows count. And why should not a President make the most of the influence his office gives him for the broad benefits of his countrymen? It is well enough to extol national virtues, but a president should not be a habitual "joller." Leave that to the cheap politicians. The homely virtues are the more enhanced by calling attention to the homely faults. Mr. Roosevelt has proved his sincere interest in the welfare of the laboring classes, but he is not blind to the inconsistency that demands an eight-hour law for the man and contemplates in silence the 14-hour drudgery of his wife. No other women in the world have a better lot than American women have. But the average lot might be a good deal higher if all workmen were as zealous in simplifying and lessening domestic labor as they are in lifting the strain from their own shoulders.

JUST FOR FUN.

Revengeful.

A singer who recently passed an evening at the house of a lady, stayed late. As he rose to go, the lady said: "Pray don't go yet, Mr. Bassor; I want you to sing something for me."

"Oh, you must excuse me tonight; it is very late, and I should disturb the neighbors."

"Never mind the neighbors," answered the young lady quickly, "they poisoned your dog yesterday."—Exchange.

THE JOB FOR HIM.

"Did I understand you to say that Heeler has gone on the platform?" asked Coakley.

"Yes, the Gang put him there," replied Coakley.

"Nonsense! He can't speak!"

"He can say 'Fares, please,' and 'Move up front!'"—Philadelphia Press.

A SAVING.

"What's the use of searching for the North Pole, anyway?"

"Why it would save thousands of dollars. It wouldn't be necessary to send any more expeditions to look for it."—New York Telegram.

FORTUNATE.

Minister—I was surprised to see your husband walk out of church while I was preaching.

Wife—Oh, don't mind that. You know, he's given to walking in his sleep.—New York Telegram.

DRIVEN TO IT.

"Claude—They say that Miss Justine is going into a convent for life."

Jack—Yes; she has promised to be a sister to so many of us that she is going to adopt it as a profession.—The Tatler.

AND STICK TO THE SUBJECT.

"It is the nature of women to be a delusion to men," growled the old cynic.

"Yes," merrily replied the young enthusiast, "and it is the nature of men to hug their delusions."—Baltimore American.

AT THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC.

Teacher (desperately)—Mary Jones! When her ladyship speaks to you, do try and look a little more agreeable.

Mary Jones—Please teacher, there's nettles where I'm settin'—Pick-Me-Up.

AS REVISED.

"Mother, may I go out to skate?"

"O, yes, my little Pete. Put on the rollers and stand up straight—But don't you move your feet."—Chicago Tribune.

SMELL IT?

"Where is your automobile department?" asked the man, entering the big department store.

"Follow your nose," replied the clerk near the door.—Yonkers Statesman.

HER REFERENCES.

"Have you any references?" asked the lady who was overjoyed to get her.

"No, ma'am," she replied; "OI have wan trunk and wan saddle, that's all."—Chicago Record-Herald.

THE GIRL WHO KNEW.

"I must not permit myself to grow too fond of you," she said.

"Why not, dearest?"

"If you let me keep on being foolish about me."—Chicago Record-Herald.

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