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DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by telephone with any department of the Descret News, will save themselves and this establishment a great deal of annoyance if they will take time to notice these numbers: For the Chief Editor's office No. 74,

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A NEEDLESS ATTACK.

The April number of the National Magazine contained a very fair article about Senator Reed Smoot with an excellent portrait. The Deseret News copied the article. In the May issue of the same magazine we find as the leading editorial on "Affairs at Washington," a well-deserved eulogy of Senator George Frisbee Hoar; but it is marred by a needless and untruthful attack upon President Joseph F. Smith, under the guise of an effort to show up the smartness and versatility of the Massachusatts statesman. We quote from it as follows:

"Senator Hoar's gravity is now and then lighted by a flash of fine sweet humor; but there was nothing humor-ous in the way he exposed the deflant lawlessness of the Mormon leader, sumlawlessness of the Morinon leader, sam-moned before the senate committee try-ing charges affecting Senator Smoot's fitness to retain his seat. It was a merciless inquisition, in which the witness was speedily reduced from a patronizing and semi-insolent attitude sheer dogged defiance, after being lit-erally forced by the senator's finesse as a cross-examiner to contradict himself repeatedly, exposing the sophistical na-ture of the 'inspired' teachings which he receives from heaven and passes on to his people. It made clear this fact: That whatever may be said of Senator Smoot personally, his associates in the control of the Mormon Church, or the chief among them, have been and are living in polygamous relations with their several wives, despite the pub-lished edict of the Church against such conduct. President Smith even went so far as to declare that national law so far as to declare that national law could not punish him, and as for the law of Utah, he had no fear of that. The ugly and un-American condition The ugly and un-American condition revealed by the Smoot inquiry may not result in his ejection from the senate, but it certainly should and will give new force to the demand for the exerclse of the Nation's authority in blot-ting out polygamy as practiced under the cloak of the Mormon Church." We should think that Joe Mitchell Chapple, whose name is at the head of the article quoted from, would endeavor to be accurate when writing the interesting chapters in his magazine on affairs at Washington. We are sorry to see such incorrect statements as those we have reproduced, for they cast a cloud of doubt on other matters of information on which he touches month. ly. The record of the proceedings as taken down by the official stenographer is no doubt within the reach of the Na tional Magazine, and so there is no solid excuse for the errors into which its editor has fallen, in an attempt to pander to popular prejudice and fall into line with the crowd in pelting the "Mormons, The truth is that no member of the committee on privileges and elections was more courteous and fair towards President Smith than was Senator Hoar. And after asking a number of questions which sometimes were a triffe puzzling in their manner of presenta. tion, he kindly put the witness fairly before the committee by summarizing what he understood to be the gist of President Smith's testimony. We quote the annexed, verbathm, from the official report.

later revelation, they will not desert the wives and the children to whom they had been married under the old dis-pensation, and that he himself has maintained these wives and their children in separate families, and has lived in the relation of husband and wife with them so that new children have

in the relation of husband and wife with them so that new children have been borne to him by all of them. I do not know that I have given the whole statement, but in substance. I think it would shorten and make clear this inquiry if we were to know whether you expect to controvert that statement in whole or in part. If I have in any particular misstated it, I wish Mr. Smih would point out the particular in which I have misstated it. Mr. Smith-I understand, Mr. Sena-tor, that you have stated the case as I

that you have stated the case as] understand it.

Now as to the attitude of Prest Smith before the committee: There is nothing in the entire report that indicates "deflant lawlessness" or a "patronizing air," or a "semi-insolent" manner, or a "sheer dogged deflance." Nor was he "forced to contradict himself repeatedly," or at all. Mr. Chapple cannot for the life of him point out a contradiction of the kind he mentions, or show wherein he frank statements made by Prseident Smith as to his own family relations were any different from what was generally understood, except by people who are completely ignorant

of litah affairs. The universal verdict of the gentlemen present at the examination was that, during the five days' fusilade ot questions that were fired at him, the witness conducted himself in a manner that was remarkable for its equanimity, evident truthfulness and candor. Even when interrogated about his private affairs in such a way that he could have legally, morally and justly declined to life. answer, he unhesitatingly complied and gave his responses without reserve. Only once did he show any resentment at questions levelled at him and this is his language as appears in the official report:

"Mr. Smith. I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, if you please, that it is very embarrassi g and trying to me to pub-

licly announce my private domestic af-fairs before this committee. "Mr. Tayler. As far as I am concerned, I do not care so much about that. You can proceed as you rlease. "Mr. Smith. I do it very reluctantly, simply because I am required to do so by this honorable committee. I re-gret it very much, and I wish to say that much to the committee, because my statements and testimony here are going to the world, and I do not want it understood, being compelled, as I have been, to give information and to make statements of opinion in relation to my friends, that I am in any sense a spotter or an informer. If there is anything, gentlemen, that I despise, i there is is an infamous spotter and informer, and I am not one of those. I wish to state that in order that it may go down

on record. The statement about President Smith's declaration that he was not amenable to the law is also incorrect. Here is what the witness said in reply to some questions from Senator Bailey; it is also taken from the official record:

"I should like to draw a distinction in the Senator's mind that there is a great difference in our judgment, in our feelings, between the law prohibiting plural marriages and the law prohibiting what is termed in the law unlaw ful cohabitation-a very great differ-ence. Plural marriage has stopped

lack of deportment, a lack of modesty, a lack of the finer feminine things which we learn to admire in women. They talk of their freedom and their advance, but let me tell you there is too much freedom for our sons and daugh-

ters." The fact is that the freedom of action which places man upon a higher plane than that occupied by the brute creation, and which makes man, finally, a fit companion for angels and heavenly beings, is a gift to which is attached the most grave responsibility, though few realize this. Many, therefore, make a wrong use of it. They use it to their own destruction, and that of fellow-beings. They become the Achabs, or Jezebels, or Neros of his-

tory, although they might have seen the directly opposite. We glory in civil liberty, and denounce tyrants and tyranny, but we yield, perhaps, in the family circle and

in private life, to the tyranny of evil influences, by which the moral freedom s enslaved and imprisoned. # It is no doubt true that at one tirse, through "blue laws" and compulsory

methods, the spirit of man was brought low, and hypocrisy was fostered and encouraged. It was necessary that a reaction should take place; but it is

also true, that this is going too far in many cases. There is little respect left for any authority, divine or human. Especially is the tendency to deny the divine influence on human affairs strong in our age. And yet, it is the highest wisdom to acknowledge the hand of the Almighty in "all things," not excepting the daily occurrences of Those who have thoroughly learned to regard as providential all events happening, such as poverty or wealth, sickness or health, and even

the afflictions and persecutions arising from malice of man; those who have learned that "to them who love God all things work together unto good." they are in a position to use their freedom right.

General Kuroki is a Yalu lu lu.	thus ass complexic
James Sharp. Requiescat in pace!	sented by tary base
Plenty of breakfast foods at St. Louis.	The ind victory as If the Ru
"Where am I at?" Kuropatkin to Alexieff.	the throw tary posi- Japanese, valuable
How are the mighty falling back-on the Yalu!	nition an of such anese wil sians hay
Herr Bebel should change his name to Herr Babble.	what the Japanese land, but
It looks as though Brazil and Peru might fight over a few Acre-s of ground.	taken pla be very recorded
What splendid moving pictures the	REC

army falling back would Russian make! Speaker Cannon positively refuses to have a boom. What are cannon for, if not to boom ?

"Oh that I had wings like a dove!

landing places for supplies for any troops that they may advance into Manchuria.

Los Angeles Express.

It is now the published Russian program to meet the Japs at a point on the Peking road in the interior, possi-bly at Feng Wang Chen, but with due regard for secrecy no intimation is giv-en whether or not there are to be more engagements for "pawns." The situa-tion becomes particularly interesting when the fact is recalled that General Oku left Japan in the latter part of March with the second army, and no-body in the newspaper world has heard a word from it since. With Kuroki tak-ing Russian pawns on the Yalu, the whereabouts of Oku becomes a tantalizing mystery.

Portland Oregonian.

The results of Japan's May day celebration are absolute mastery of the Yalu estuary, a foothold upon the Mukden road, increased prestige and a confirmation of the confidence that be-gets success. With the sea swept of the Russian flag and with possession of the Yalu's banks, Japen has at one stroke advanced her base from the heart of Korea to the extremity of Manchuria, and should she make her slogan "On to Harbin," her line of communication will be no longer than the distance of her army from Chiu Tien Cheng.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

With the main army fairly across, the second act of the war will begin. Whether it has already begun will not be known until it is ascertained how much truth there is in the dispatches from several neutral sources telling of a battle on the Yalu. Reports from two points place the Russian force at 30,000 men. If that is the limit of Russta's available strength on the Yalu the passage of the river by the Jap-anese can be readily understood. Yalu

San Francisco Chroniele.

The expulsion of the Russlans from the right bank of the Yalu opens that estuary to the Japanese warships and transports and will doubtless compet the Russians to withdraw from a large ection of the eastern coast of the Liao Tung peninsula to avoid being at-tacked in the rear, thus facilitating the landing of Japanese troops and war munitions and supplies at various points favorable for aggressive opera-tions. The Russian defeat on the Yafu umes a much more serious n than that which is reprea mere change of their mill-

Pueblo Chieftain.

direct effects of this Japanese are likely to be very important, ussian idea of strategy includes wing away of important minitions, and the donation to the , without serious resistance, of field guns, small arms, ammund prisoners, the more there is strategy, the better the Jap-ll be pleased with it. The Rushad a good deal to say about y were going to do to the when they met them on the now that the encounter has different from what has been on the sea.

CENT PUBLICATIONS.

The principal contents of the National Geographic Magazine for May include: Geographic Magazine for May include: A superb map of Alaska, 36x42 inches and in three colors. "How the Rich Fisheries of the United States are Pro-tected and New Fishing Grounds Dis-covered and Created," by Dr. Barton W. Evermann (Illustrated); "The Ge-ography of Alaska," by Alfred H. ography of Alaska," by Alfred H. Brooks; "Termination Land-The End Antarotic Co

by Edwin



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Senator Hear-I would like to know at some convenient time from Mr, Tay-ler what in Mr, Smith's statement he expects to contradict and what of it he sceepts? I understand that Mr. Smith's

statement is in substance this: That he and his church accept cer-tain divine revelations which have come to them, including him as one of its presidents, in the past that one of those divine revelations was an in-junction to polygamy, to plurality of wives; that he interprets that injunction not to mean that it is binding on all men under all circumstances, but that it is like similar injunctions to persons who believe in mc. ogamy, and that that is shown by the fact that that that is shown by the fact that only 3 or 4 per cent in old times of that communion lived in polygamy: that thereafter, and after the practise of polygamy had been declared an of-fonse by the civil law, there was an-other revelation suscending—I will not other revelation suspending-I will not use the word retracting, but not for the future requiring-polygamy, and that from that time forward his Church has ceased to inculcate it, and has regarded the practice of polygamy, with the ex-ception I am about to state, an offense, ception I am about to state, an offense, and has obeyed the civil law: that there have been since then no plural mar-rlages under the sanction or with the knowledge of the Church or a society, but that he himself and, according to his belief, other persons in high places of authority of the Church, and with his full approbation, I suppose, have said that while they would contract no more plural marriages and would re-

more plural marriages and would resist with all their influence and all the authority of the Church, any new one. while the Church has never sanc-

but I choose, rather than to abandon my children and their mothers, to run my risks before the law. I want to say, too, that it is the law of my State-it is not the law of Congress-under which I am living and by which I am punish-I am living and by which I am punish-able. It is the law of my State and the courts of my State-have competent jurisdiction to deal with me in my offenses against the law, and the Con-gress of the United States has no business with my private conduct any more than it has with the private con-duct of any citizen of Utah or any other State. It is the law of my State to which I am amenable, and if the officers of the law have not done their duty toward me I can not blame them. duty toward me I can not blame them. I think they have some respect for me.

If the editor of the National Magazine does not understand that there is now no law of Congress applicable to Utah on the question at issue, but that the State laws are ample for the purpose, he is not well-informed. And we should think, from his reputation as a fair and able writer, he would want to correct his assertions about the "Mormon" President, and apologize for an attack that is very unfair to that gentleman, and does not add one iota to the brilliant qualifications of Senator Hoar nor to the esteem in which he is held here as elsewhere,

AUSTRALIA, TOO.

Of late years we have heard a great deal about the decrease of the bifthrate among the older nations of the world. Lately the same evil causes apprehension in Australia. This is regarded as remarkable, because that is a new country. There should me plenty of room, and plenty of opportunity to make a good living. The country should present the same characteristics that have been observed in countries devastated by wars, or epidemics, namely, a tendency to extraordinarily large families. But the opposite is said to be the case.

A government commission has just been investigating the decline in the birth rate. In New South Wales, in particular, the facts are considered alarming. In ten years the birth rate has fallen off at the rate of 10 in 1,000 and the commission therefore observes: "Defective health, defective morals and defective character are already manifesting themselves as a warning of a more marked deterioration likely to en-

As far as can be ascertained, the decline in the birthrate is a world-wide condition, at least as far as civilization extends, and it even appears that cou. pled with "race suicide," in our civilization, goes race murder, as seen in the gradual disappearance of races with which we come in contact as conquerors. As long as these conditions prevail, we cannot blame the not civilized races, if they look with alarm upon the advance of our civilization. We cannot blame a power like Japan for staking all upon an effort to stem a tide that looks threatening to the non-Christian world, that has learned to

sue.

TOO MUCH LIBERTY.

think and reflect,

A New York clergyman of the Episcopal church in a recent sermon stated that there are signs of freedom getting beyond control; "not alone among the young men," he said, "but tioned or solemnized one since that among the young women, there is a the ports at the mouth of the river as

by the American/ Wilkes," by Edwin Swift Balch; "Lessons from Japan" (il-lustrated); "Inoculating the Ground" for then I would fly away, and be at rest." Kuropatkin, (illustrated): "Inoculating the Ground" (illustrated): "The Crosby Expedition to Tibet" (illustrated): "Our Present Population;" "The Carnegle Institu-tion;" "Geographic Notes" (illustrat-ed): "Geographic Literature."—The National Geographic Society, Hubbard Memorial Hall, Washington, D. C. The situation in the Santa Fe shops at Topeka may be described as one

goeth another cometh. In Russia the price of meat has risen twenty-five per cent. The beef trust

must be operating there. A recent sale of Washington's books

shows that they are held in rather higher esteem than his example. The Japanese are a very hospitable people. They are ready and anxious to

receive the Russians with open and loaded arms. Justice Gaynor has decided that Sunday baseball is legal in the borough of Brooklyn. Its legality will tend to diminish its popularity.

The Philadelphia mint has gold to melt if not to burn. Twelve tons went into the refining pot yesterday and twelve more go in today,

"Your touch grows dearer, sweetheart, day by day," sings a poet in Town Topics. She must have touched him for ice cream and baseball tickets.

The Czech composer Dvorak pronounced his name as if it were spelled "Dwoschark." But he was the only man in the world who could pronounce

It is quite probable that the Roman Catholic church will survive, though somewhat weakened, the savage attack made upon it in the Methodist conference at Los Angeles.

In the Atlantic, Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson describes the negro as "intensely human." He might have gone further and described the whites who torture and burn him as intensely inhuman.

The bicyclists continue to make the sidewalk on South Temple from the Eagle Gate east a bicycle path and race track. Either the bicyclists or the pedestrians should be kept off it; for them both to be there at the same time

JAPANESE VICTORIES.

Kansas City Star.

is dangerous

While it may be true, as claimed by a While it may be true, as claimed by a London paper, that it was not the inten-tion of the Russians to fight a decisive battle on the Yalu, but to make their main line of defense further back, it will hardly be denied that the position of the Japs is much stronger than it would have been had they awaited the convenience and the plans of the ene-my.

Boston Herald.

So far, the Japanese have been re-markably successful, both in fighting and in concealing their plans; it is therefore only guesswork to attempt to commanders will take. One thing, how-ever, is certain. The Russians were plainly determined to make a stand a the Yalu and thus prevent an invasion of Manchuria from the southeast, This they have been unable to do, and the Japanese therefore will be able to use



