

DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING. (Sundays excepted). Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah. Charles W. Penrose - Editor. Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager. Subscription prices: One Year (\$3.00), Six Months (\$2.25), Three Months (\$1.50), One Month (\$0.50), Saturday Edition Per Year (\$2.00), Semi-Weekly Per Year (\$2.00). Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

WILD ACTION BY WILD MEN.

According to the dispatches, the Presbyterian general assembly, at Des Moines, Iowa, adopted some resolutions offered by S. E. Wishard, D. D. of Utah, which appeared in the Deseret News of Friday evening. They are to be presented to the United States Senate in the form of a petition for the removal of Reed Smoot as Senator from Utah. It appears that the assembly went wild over this movement and scenes of greatest excitement and demonstration accompanied the action of the body, composed of professed Christian ministers. It is not surprising that the religious dignitaries who went into convulsions at Des Moines became so wildly excited over their desire to interfere with matters of civil government, for it is not the first time that they have dabbled in affairs of state, while loudly declaiming against the "Mormons," on the ground that they were doing the same thing. Nor is it remarkable that S. E. Wishard, of mendacious fame, appeared as the author of the falsehood embodied in the document accepted "without a dissentient voice or vote," which is to be sent to the President and Senate of the United States.

A MOULDY CHESNUT.

Every now and again one of the anti-"Mormon" cranks and persistent propagators repeats the falsehood, often refuted, that the "Mormon" Church entered into a compact with the United States government so that Statehood might be secured on certain conditions. One of these, it is alleged, was that "no more political control should ever again be exercised over the rank and file of the Church." The idiosyncrasy of the notion that any kind of a "compact" would or could be made by the United States government with a church, ought to be perceived by the crankiest of those anti-"Mormon" lunatics. But they keep right on with their vain repetitions, no matter how silly they appear in the eyes of thinking people.

A NOTABLE CASE.

The case of Senator Burton of Kansas, which the Committee on Privileges and Elections is to consider with a view to making a report on the status of the Senator, is notable. The conviction is said to be the first under the statute under which it was secured. By the decision of the highest court in the land, the Kansas Senator has been declared guilty of acting as paid attorney for a business concern that was thought to be violating the rules of the postoffice department. According to the evidence, he accepted a position as general counsel of a St. Louis corporation, whose operations were under the scrutiny of the postal authorities. As counsel he exerted his influence to prevent the issuance of a fraud order against the company. In April, 1894, he was sentenced to imprisonment and a heavy fine. An appeal was taken and the decision reversed on the ground that the money received was not paid in St. Louis and hence the offense was without the jurisdiction of the district court. On April 13, 1905, the Federal grand jury reindicted him on five counts. The first three specified that Senator Burton made an agreement to accept \$2,500 to look after the interests of the company. Count No. 4 charged that he received \$2,500 as a fee, and No. 5 that he received an additional fee of \$500. A motion was made by the defense to quash the indictments but the court on Nov. 23 overruled the motion and the Senator was forced to defend himself. On Nov. 25, Burton was found guilty on all the counts against him. Attorneys for the defense then again appealed to the Supreme Court, which has just decided against them.

A United States Senator before the committee sitting on his case has made a report, is not only un-Christian but un-American, and contrary to common fairness toward a citizen under investigation. The falsehood of its assertions is balanced by the impudence of its effort to influence a purely political body, and its action should be viewed by rational people with equal detestation and contempt. TIME THEY SHOULD GO. The oft-repeated bunco trick seems to be still frequently played upon tourists with success. It is strange to readers of the daily press that anyone, however unsophisticated, who has ordinary sense, can be victimized in the manner adopted by certain crooks in this and other cities which have been so often exposed. It will be found on inquiry, however, that in most instances the victim was himself a party to a plan to victimize somebody else. This was the case with the alleged San Francisco refugee who was recently "flim-flammed" out of \$52 and who complained because the police did not get his money back for him. By his own admission he entered into a scheme to cheat a supposed fellow-sufferer from the San Francisco calamity, but who turned out to be a co-conspirator in the bunco business and aided in feeding the refugees.

THE TROUBLE IN NATAL.

Some of the English papers are at present accusing American missionaries of causing the insurrection in Natal. The Americans, it is said, led the natives to be independent and to govern themselves, and to this American principle it is due, they say, that the Africans have risen in revolt. From independence in church affairs they have learned to yearn for political self-government as well. The defenders of the American practice point out the injustice of the policy according to which a native must never be taught that he can have authority to manage his own church, but must be made to understand that a white man is always over him, and that he can have no religious authority save as it is delegated to him by a white man. It needs no argument to prove that this policy of keeping the natives in abject subjection is wrong. If the proclamation of the rights of man causes insurrection, let it come.

NOTHING NEW.

In these days of agitation for "equal rights" of women, it may be of interest to recall the fact that that question, so far from being new, is as old as history. According to translations made of cuneiform tablets relating to life in ancient Babylon, women were in every respect the social and political equals of men, whether they were married or unmarried. They could enter into partnership, buy or sell, lend or borrow, stand security, appear in court, just as the men could. Children were educated together. The only legal recognition of distinction in sex, we are told, was in the infliction of a heavier penalty upon a wife than upon a husband for the violation of marriage covenants. But she did not complain of this law, the scientists say. "She acquiesced in what may be called her psychological position without demur and without disgruntle." The further back we go and the deeper we delve into the annals of history, the clearer it becomes that the idea that man started as a monkey and gradually climbed up to his present height of civilization, must be modified. Civilizations have come and gone and again appeared, as far back as human knowledge can find its way. Questions that agitate the world today have been debated and answered, and forgotten, who knows how many times? It is known that the ancient Babylonians had trials by jury, compulsory education, postal service, companies formed for business purposes, and, for aught we know, they may have had trusts to grapple with. "There is nothing new under the sun." A better understanding of antiquity is very much needed. The old civilizations were not crowded out because of lack of education, or as a result of intellectual stagnation. The causes of weakness were entirely moral, and that is the great lesson which antiquity offers to our age.

GARDENS ON SHIPS.

The latest luxury added to ocean travel is a tropical palm garden. A New York paper says the Kaiser in Augusta Victoria has a unique feature in the form of an enclosure decorated with palms and ferns, and replete with the scent of flowers. In this paradisaic apartment there are seats for a hundred passengers, who may look out upon the wide, blue ocean, while seated in a tropical forest. Overhead is a rounded glass cupola, resting on carved pillars. Flower-covered trellises adorn the walls and the skylight is likewise covered with the same decoration. Our contemporary further describes the marvels of this floating garden: "On entering this garden area to be seen in opposite corners two grotesque, modeled after those at Versailles, swans held by children are spouting water into marble shells. Inviting and comfortable wicker chairs and sofas are all about the room. Silk pillows are placed here and there. In the afternoon coffee and tea are served in the room. The carpets are made of Persian material. Flowers fill the baskets and the trellised cases are distributed about the room. The background of green palms portrays a garden landscape with castles and fountains. At night a brilliant and attractive illumination is obtained by side lights and from the large chandelier in the center of the room. In the grotesque the slowly dripping water reflects the brilliancy of these lights." Babylonian historians have boasted of the "hanging gardens" of that once great and mighty city, but what were they compared to such a "floating garden" propelled across the expanse that separates continents? And what a marvelous development of ocean travel, from the time when it took months in uncomfortable tubs, to cross from shore to shore! It seems that there is really nothing left to devise for the comfort or safety of passengers, except

an infallible remedy against that "tired feeling" with which many are familiar and which remains a distinct recollection from the Atlantic. For what are palms and flowers, music and song, or the most exquisite luxuries of life to one who is the victim of mal de mer? It seems kind of odd to go before the country on a Toynne made issue. Most men are inconsistent but few of them have the courage of their inconsistencies. An Arkansas man tried to live on ice cream and died. But girls will take no warning from this. Many would-be competitors of the Standard Oil company have nothing but "pipe" dreams in the end. Not knowing whence it came, the McRittericks never thought of inquiring whether the money was tainted. Miss Annie S. Peck proposes to climb the highest peak in the Peruvian Andes. This is a high and noble ambition. It is appropriate that the Panama canal bill should be made the unfinished business of the senate, the canal itself being in such an unfinished state. If the water that is running to waste down the North Temple conduit were reserved, Salt Lake City's water problem would be solved. Some day this fact will be realized by our city fathers.

AT Z. C. M. I.

Professor Peabody of Harvard, who has just returned from Berlin, says that the Kaiser is the strongest friend of peace in Europe. If he is the friend of peace, he certainly is the strongest in Europe. The way in which the High School cadets drilled and went through the manual of arms yesterday is a credit to themselves, their military instructors and the city. Truly the hope of the nation is in the public schools. If the cost of living at present is compared to the prices of necessity ten years ago, it will be found that a dollar now is actually worth only 75 cents as compared with the dollar of 1896, or 1897. To that extent wages have shrunk. The plea that a workman should be allowed an opportunity to attend church every Sunday was advanced by Chicago union teamsters as an argument in favor of a six-day week. If granted the opportunity would it improve it?

AT Z. C. M. I.

"In my opinion," says Dr. Van Dyke, the best way to learn to write good English is to read good English. Books of grammar and rhetoric are of comparatively little value." First among which, of course, he places the Book of Forms. It takes time even to get a parliamentary harness to fit. The tugs may have to be shortened or let out, the same with the saddle and the back strap and collars do not have a perfect fit at first. The czar and the duma will learn this after while, and when they do, things will go much better in Russia. It is claimed that there are at present in Berlin 5,000 refugees from Russia, of whom 6,500 are Jews, and as they are practically without means there is serious danger of their becoming a burden to the community. The police authorities are said to be concerting measures in conjunction with Jewish philanthropists with the object of inducing the undesirable strangers to leave Germany for some other country. But where can they go, if they are entirely without means?

AT Z. C. M. I.

If figures are reliable, it takes the immense total of four billion gallons of liquids annually to satisfy the thirst of the American people, and it all costs a billion and a half dollars. This nation spent in 1905 for cocoa something over \$5,000,000, for tea \$52,000,000, for coffee \$12,000,000, for wine, \$96,000,000, for whisky \$45,000,000 and for beer \$71,000,000. The quantities consumed are estimated to be in millions of gallons: Coffee 1,825, beer 1,535, tea 60, spirits and wine 135. The total consumption of these liquids was about 4,000,000,000 gallons, and the nation's drink bill over \$1,500,000,000.

AT Z. C. M. I.

The Pittsburgh Gazette has discovered "a contented woman" in the person of Mrs. Abbie Perham of Clinton, Ia. The lady is said to be 140 years old, and because she is perfectly happy and free from worry it is predicted that she will live many more years. "Aunt Abbie" has been visited by temperance advocates and suffragists, but they have not been able to convert her. To the latter she said: "Why should I want to vote, when I have six sons who always vote the way I tell them to? Do any of you count as many votes as that?" The old lady is happy and contented, and that is, no doubt, the secret of her vigor.

AT Z. C. M. I.

Heresy used to be regarded as a sin, and was thought to have its origin in human pride. In case of obtuseness, the heretic was handed over to the civil authorities to be banished from the world by death." Later, he was considered to be none the less a sinner, but was the victim not the author of error. Accordingly, he was punished by excommunication. But at the present time a man who is put on trial for heresy occupies, in the popular estimation, the place of an accused, and it is the church which is usually said to be on trial. There is still another and newer view: the attitude of a heretic is regarded as only a symptom of a tendency more profound than that of mere heterodoxy. With the disposition to subject religious experience to psychological analysis, the heretic has been put in the more extensive class of individualists who are opposed to collectivism, whether it be economical, moral, or ecclesiastical. The French sociologist M. de la Grasserie calls this moral and religious collectivism "socialism."

AT Z. C. M. I.

Phillips Brooks once said: "The saws things which were true in the days of Augustine and Calvin are true today; but the Augustine or Calvin who is to know their truth is very different from what he was in the fifth century." Therefore of that faith in which the two elements of the

truth and the believing man unite, there is no faith... Orthodoxy is a false crystallization which has forever to be broken and re-dissolved in life." On, to put the whole matter in his own graphic way, truth is not a deposit which a ship is carrying from shore to shore, but is rather a seed planted in the good ground. Millennial Star. Spiritual growth is promoted only by the same plan of principle and application. Unless faith in the Gospel is completed in the works of compliance to its requirements, the circuit is incomplete, there is no movement of the current, therefore, no power, no progress, no life. Many people daily with the truth. The Gospel appeals to them; their conscience tells them that it is true; but their wills are weak, and the prospects of a little suffering either of body or spirit make cowards of them. In time, soul callousness takes possession of them; they have eyes but see not, they have ears but hear not, they have the power to act, but do not. Such are truly to be pitied, for their condemnation waits not for the last great judgment, but it is with their weakening souls daily.

AT Z. C. M. I.

Through the fear of the powers of the air, through the reverence of totems, through the adoration of sacred symbols, humanity moved toward the worship of the God who inhabits eternity and in whom, pagan and Christian philosophies agree, we live and move and have our being. In their meaning and in the people who created them and in the strange point of view of three thousand years ago must the significance of the idols be sought. From the standpoint of the electrical age, of course, they are merely absurd.

AT Z. C. M. I.

Just for Fun. The Russian Easter. Washington Post. "I was in Greece last Easter," said the traveling Washington girl. "They celebrate Easter very differently there, it is almost spectacular." "The strangest part of it all to me was the Russian service. A young man who had been very nice to me asked me to go with him to the Russian church at night. I noticed that when he asked me everybody around us laughed. "I said, 'No, I don't want to go; I have been going to the churches all day. The mass of candles, the long standing—nobody in Greece ever sits down in churches, because there are no seats, you know—the smell of the incense have tired me out. I don't want to go, I don't feel as if I could stand it.' "He insisted, so I went. He had been so very nice to me that I felt that I couldn't persist any more in refusing. "When we started off to the Russian church I noticed again that everybody laughed at us. This was why: "The Russian service are the strangest you ever saw. They sing and sing. Then some of the people rise and say: 'Christ is risen.' Then the others answer: 'Christ is risen indeed.' "Then they all turn around and kiss the one next to them. "The young man turned deliberately around and kissed me, of course. "And that was why they had laughed."

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Mr. Goodthing—How does your sister Bobby? Her Young Brother—Well, it's a little too small; she has an awful hard time getting it off when the other fellows call.—Tid Bits. recent puns. Dr. J. D. Buck contributes to the June number of Tomorrow Magazine an article entitled "Points of Progress." William Lloyd writes radically of "Ethics of Sex." Carlos Montezuma, the talented Apache physician, makes keen criticism of Commissioner Leupp and the Indian bureau. "The History of Human Marriage" by Lida Paree Robinson completes its fifth serial number. There are many other features of interest.—2238 Calumet Ave., Chicago.

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