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THE DESERET NEWS,

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - JULY 10, 1904

A JOYFUL OCCASION.

That was a magnificent display of

hospitality and respect for the aged

which was exhibited at Spanish Fork

on Friday, for the benefit of the Old

Folks of Salt Lake and participated in

by those in the southern part of Utah

county. The Rio Grande Western rail-

way, too, was splendid in its courtesy

and kindness, in furnishing freely the

immense and finely equipped train,

which so safely and pleasantly con-

veyed the old people to and from

their delightful trip. The street car

accommodations in this city were as

perfect as could be desired. The Utah

Light and Railway company with its

courteous officers and carmen, deserve

a big meed of praise, for the manner

in which the great crowd was handled

and graciously carried without jar or

accident.

The Old Folks committee never con-

ducted an outing with better manage-

ment, and their aides and the Old

Folks choir are entitled to the everlast-

ing gratitude of all who were recipients

of their loving kindness. Everything

moved like clockwork timed by the sun.

The only unpleasant feature of the day

was the duststorm kicked up by the

south wind, and that would have been

stilled if it had been in the control of

the Nebo State authorities.

The Old Folks treat is a Salt Lake in-

stitution worthy of all commendation.

It has been patterned after in many

places, and we echo the wish of Pres-

ident Lyman, that it may be made an

annual entertainment in every city,

town, village and hamlet in these moun-

tains, and be limited throughout the

world. God bless the dear old people

who have weathered the storms of life,

and cause their last days on earth to

be peaceful and joyful; and may a full

reward come to those generous souls

who help to make them so!

WHO WILL RESPOND?

The Dr. Groves L. D. S. hospital is

nearing completion. It is expected that

it will be ready for dedication by the

October conference. This is a much

needed institution. A place where the

sick and afflicted among the Latter-

day Saints may find fitting care and at-

tention from physicians, surgeons,

nurses and attendants of their own

faith has been greatly desired, and this

splendid establishment will fully meet

the long-felt need. It will not, however,

be exclusive of anybody. But the build-

ing is one thing and its equipment is

another thing.

The munificent bequest by Dr. W. H.

Groves reaches the sum of about \$50,000.

The Church has met this by a still

larger amount. The fifteenth ward in

this city, at its dissolution and division

of funds gave \$10,000 to the hospital.

Senator Thomas Kearns has contributed

\$1,000 and so has Mr. David Keith.

Mrs. Julia Brison has generously given

\$200 and Mr. W. B. Barton \$100. The

latter amounts will go towards internal

furnishings, and it is in that direction

that further help is needed. Here is

an opportunity for the benevolent and

higher than in any previous year. On

this we propose a reduction of the tax-

rate.

Now, let us emphasize the statement,

we have not complained and are not

complaining about this. We do not

say it is wrong. We do not assert that

anybody's property has been over as-

sessed. If there is any objection on

that score, a remedy is provided by law

for its consideration. There should be

an increase in the aggregate value of

property, as the years go on, because of

increased improvements and the intro-

duction of new industries and estab-

lishments. So much for that, and it

is repeated because of the crazy and

malevolent attempts that have been

made to misrepresent both our state-

ments and our intentions.

The fact we have mentioned as to

the total valuation being incontestable,

what is the obvious reasoning that

arises from it? Is it not that probably

the county commissioners may see the

way clear to make a little reduction of

the tax levy? It has stood almost

steadily for seven years at four and

five-tenths mills; once it was four and

two-tenths; and once at five tenths. If

there is any good reason why there

cannot be any reduction, for consis-

tency's sake let us know what it is, in-

stead of setting up a lot of ravings

against imaginary "criticism" that has

not been made, and an array of figures

that have not the slightest bearing

upon the question presented.

We must again make explanation:

There is nothing partisan or political in

this simple suggestion of ours. It is

purely financial and economic. It is

in the interest of the taxpayers, and

we have particularly in mind the prop-

erty-owners who are not wealthy in

pocket. Is it a crime to suggest some-

thing that would be a little relief to

them? Is it "abuse" of anybody under

the sun to merely spring the question of

the propriety of reducing a tax-rate? We

do not intend to be silenced on this

question, either by the rash insinua-

tions of malice or the patent untruths

of ignorance. These have been hurled

at us without the shadow of reason,

because we offered a suggestion in the

public interest. Nor will that old, stupid

and petty trick of a morning paper

to make it appear that our purpose is

partisan, have the desired effect of

paralyzing the "News" or making cap-

ital for irrational partisans. When we

know we are right, we propose to go

ahead.

But the question is asked, why did

we not ask the Mayor and City Coun-

cil, the State Board of Equalization and

the School Board to make reduc-

tions. Well, the answer is that we

were treating simply on the question

of the county valuation and tax-rate.

The querist, jumping to the conclusion

that we were "abusing" the county

board in asking a mild question, acts

like the urchin who cries, "Why didn't

you slap Billy and Johnny and Sammy

as well as me?" But replying seriously

to a silly question, we say: The bur-

den of debt upon the city with the

current expenses, render it unlikely that

there will be a lower tax-rate at pres-

ent. The rate for the State tax is fixed

by law, and the uninformed interrogator

shows his ignorance in his question,

as the State Board has no more au-

thority to change the rate than he has.

As to the Board of Education, every-

body who knows anything about the

matter is aware that, notwithstanding

the false statements of the querist, the

amount obtained from the last levy was

insufficient, and private contributions

were necessary to provide funds to

finish the school term. Our contem-

porary had better get somebody who

knows something to write up the rav-

ings of a disgruntled partisan next time,

if it wants that kind of padding for its

columns.

Now, let there be no mistake. We

have uttered no words but those of

eulogy of the present county com-

missioners. We have not attempted to

find any fault with them; we have

objectives of the Japanese, makes it

ominous of impending events of great

importance. If all signs do not fail

there will be great news from Port

Arthur in the not very distant future.

A VALUABLE WORK.

A work will issue from the press of

the Deseret News about the beginning

of August, which will be of unusual in-

terest and usefulness to the theologi-

cal classes in the Church schools and

universities, the quorums of the Priest-

hood, and the Latter-day Saints gen-

erally. The subjects treated are on

Priesthood and Church Government,

which are taken up in detail, and ex-

plained and supported by copious cita-

tions from Church standards. A synop-

sis of its contents will be found on an-

other page of this issue of the Deseret

News. The author and compiler is

Professor Joseph B. Keeler, of the Brigh-

am Young University at Provo, who

has devoted much time, talent and la-

bor in its production, and whose name

will recommend it to the students. Al-

though it is not prepared in the form

of an ordinary treatise on the subjects

set forth, nor as an introduction of

anything novel or startling, it is new in

the sense that it arranges and presents

in proper order and in a manner not

undertaken before, the principles and

written authorities for them that enter

into the important subjects suggested

by the title. From a close scrutiny of

its pages as they have been set in type,

we are able to commend the work heart-

ily to all who take an interest in the

organization and discipline of the

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints, and especially to the classes

and quorums that make those impor-

tant matters a comprehensive and de-

tailed study. We think that Elder Keel-

er has produced a work which will

prove of immense value to all who de-

sire to become fully acquainted with

the universally admired order of gov-

ernment in the "Mormon" Church.

Those pickets are a fence for intimid-

ation.

A word to the Baltic fleet; Let well

enough alone.

The butchers are striking for neither

home nor country.

The strikers refuse to butcher even to

make a Roman holiday.

As the Japs are saying nothing prob-

ably they are sawing wood.

Beef is so high now that it isn't nec-

essary to keep it until it is "high."

To Santos-Dumont all Americans will

say, "Come back across this stormy

water."

Mr. Bryan seems to find it utterly im-

possible to cut off his phonograph ap-

pendix.

General Miles has congratulated

Judge Parker. In so doing he has fallen

into line.

The Japanese may have the key to

Port Arthur but as yet they have not

unlocked the door thereto.

It does not follow because Vice Pres-

idential Candidate Davis' middle name

is Grassaway that he is a vegetarian.

A train robber is an amateur when

he fails to make a "haul." When it

pays him he becomes a professional.

Let the strikers be moderate and re-

member that as they meat it out to

others so shall it be meat out to them.

Secretary Hay is to be decorated

with the Grand Cross of the Legion of

Honor. As Mark Twain said, "Few es-

cape it."

Secretary Paul Morton says that the

United States should have the largest

navy of any country in the world. Time

did not permit him to tell why it should.

Judge Parker has broken silence. To

a delegation of neighbors who called

on him he said: "There are no friends

like the old friends." A truth disputed

by no one.

The wind storms are exceedingly dis-

agreeable and hard to endure, but thus

far this season each one has been fol-

lowed by a day or two of cool, deli-

cious weather. And so it is that "it is

an ill wind that blows nobody any good."

A jolly old cove is Speaker Cannon.

Speaking of his approaching visit to

most attractive garb. That is the ex-

planation of the transformation that

takes place in a woman who is a moth-

er. She may be plain otherwise, but

when she bends over her babe in an ec-

stasy of mother-love, she becomes beau-

tiful. And in proportion as we give

place to unselfish love, we become

attractive. There is no masquerade

love to work miracles in a homely face.

There is no facial specialist who can

begin to do as much to make a plain

young man or woman attractive, to

overcome deformity or hide blemishes,

as the magician love can do. To hate

is to become hateful. To love as Christ