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THE MOMENTOUS CONFLICT.

The statement made by Apostle Brigham Young in the Tabernacle on Sunday, that the influence of the Latter-day Saints was opposed to strikes and strife was true. Yet it may be said that there have been members of the Church who associated with workmen engaged in strikes. If so, these were exceptions. In the main the "Mormon" people have abstained from participating in those labor troubles, that have done so much to disturb society and bring about conflicts with capital.

The spirit of "Mormonism" is the spirit of peace. Yet it has a disturbing effect in some directions. It asserts many truths which are not accepted by the world at large. Because of that, it acts upon many people today as did the truths enunciated by the great Nazarene, when He ministered on earth about two thousand years ago. He is called "The Prince of Peace." Yet He had to declare: "I come to send not peace on the earth, but a sword. The father will be against the son, the mother against the daughter, and a man's greatest foes will be they of his own household."

Why was this? Because the principles He proclaimed came in conflict with the traditions of centuries. They upset the theories of the scribes and lawyers and doctors of divinity, and so enraged the chief priests and expounders of religion that they cried out in their wrath, "Crucify him!"

Yet the tendency of the teachings of Christ was in the direction of peace on earth, good will to all men. The influence thereof was to harmonize and soften men's hearts, and to do away with strife and contention and turmoil, and hasten the time when weapons of war shall be turned into implements of peace, and every one shall seek the good of his neighbor.

The same may be said of that which is now called "Mormonism." It is the same system brought anew to earth, and it has the same present effects and will have the same future results. Its culmination will be the extension over all the earth of the reign of righteousness and peace. Then "every man in every place will meet a brother and a friend."

Coming down to present conditions, it is true that Latter-day Saints imbued with the spirit of the work to which they are called, will refrain from engaging in those combinations that are hostile to capital, and that are so destructive of the interests that affect both employers and employes. Not that it forbids proper defense of human rights, or that it promotes cowardly submission to wrong, or that it causes men to cringe before their fellows, however wealthy or powerful. But that it recognizes the rights of all, seeks to establish justice and harmony and good will.

That there are wrongs to be righted which cannot be overcome without organization and a settled and united purpose, must be conceded by every candid and thoughtful mind. But that labor must of necessity be right and capital must certainly be wrong in every great dispute that arises between them, is an error that experience demonstrates to be palpable. The great difficulty in the way of settlement often is, that working people seem to think that they are always oppressed, and that capital is their oppressor and natural enemy, to be fought on every available occasion.

Working people have the right to combine for any lawful purpose. They may determine that they will not work more than a stated number of hours per day, or for less than a given amount of wages. But they may not take forcible measures to prevent other workmen from exercising their freedom to accept what they themselves refuse. Unions or other associations which endeavor to encroach upon the liberties of their fellows, are lawless and public enemies. No Latter-day Saint guided by the spirit of his religion, will do anything to curtail the freedom of other people.

If workmen have the right to organize in their own interest, employers have an equal right to combine for self-preservation and the protection of their property. They usually have the advantages which come from great wealth, and can hold out longer usually than the poorer classes, who strike for what they believe to be right or think they can achieve. In a protracted struggle, capital generally gains the victory. Therefore before any body of workmen engage in such a conflict, their ability to hold out as well as the justice of their cause should enter into their serious calculations.

The true solution of the problem which perplexes the world, and which occasion much sorrow and distress in future, will be found in "Mormonism"

when it is developed into full action upon its adherents. Mutual interests will weld the whole community together. Co-operation of efforts under competent and wise direction, will bring about the best results, and the profits will be for all according to their needs and requirements. That is not "communism" in its recognized meaning. Everything will belong to the Lord, and each person will have his "stewardship," according to his talents, gifts and capacity. Poverty will be banished, strife for possessions be unknown, the idler will not eat the bread of the laborer, nor favored persons monopolize wealth at the expense of others. Plenty will abound for all, and it will be distributed on principles of equity and necessity.

The religious element will be found absolutely essential in the development of that social system. It cannot prevail without the brotherhood and sisterhood of the Gospel. Also the power and authority of a divinely authorized priesthood will be found equally necessary, to direct and control all for the good of each individual, the progress and enrichment of the community and the service and glory of God.

This will bring in a new order of things on earth, and prepare the way for that blessed change, foretold by the prophets, when enmity shall depart and peace shall spread abroad and the earth shall rest from strife and woe, and all people shall unite in fraternal efforts to make this globe a heaven.

ANOTHER VICTIM.

Burning at the stake—a form of torture which human civilization has long ago condemned as barbarous—is becoming a pastime of the mob in certain parts of this country, in spite of law and courts, and the revolting details are telegraphed all over the country for the edification of the reading public, and the worst is that the stories of such unspeakable crimes circulate hardly without any mark of disapprobation. The public conscience is gradually being deadened to the horrors in which the mobs seem to revel.

The latest victim of such an outrage upon law and society, is the negro who was murdered near Savannah, Ga., on the 11th of this month. He was accused of an unspeakable crime, but he protested his innocence, and no measures were taken, as far as appears in the dispatches, to prove his guilt. His slayers were simply murderers, whether or not they are ever brought to answer before the bar of human justice.

What makes the case still more unjustifiable is the fact that the governor of Georgia a few days ago proved that such terrible acts of lawlessness can be prevented, when the officials have a disposition to do so. A negro of Georgia a few days ago proved brought from Atlanta to Canton, Ga., for trial. The governor, on learning that an attempt would be made to take him from the hands of the officials, ordered out three companies of militia. The culprit was safely conveyed to Canton, was tried, convicted and sentenced to death, all in forty minutes. He was then conveyed back to Atlanta.

It cost the state about \$500 to protect this prisoner from mob violence, but all law-abiding citizens will admit that his law was well spent. The incident shows how flimsy is the pretext that the mob acts, because there is no prospect of speedy justice or adequate punishment for certain crimes, if the courts are depended upon. It shows that lynchings often are the outburst of barbarism, but thinly covered by the veneer of civilization. It may be madness, but if so, it is dangerous to the state in which it occurs.

If state officers would act promptly and emphatically, there would be fewer lynchings. Very often these are preceded by ugly rumors which must reach them. If from the outset they would employ the power entrusted to them for the vindication of the law and the maintenance of the dignity of the state, there would be no mob rule. It might cost, at times, \$500, or \$5,000, or more. But that would be money well spent. The moral deterioration from one illegal killing of a human being cannot be measured. To prevent it, no cost is to be considered. Unless the practice is stopped, the country will sooner or later be stained with blood. The harvest will be according to that which is sown.

FOR CHINESE EXCLUSION.

The California state federation of labor has now taken up the matter of Chinese exclusion. In an address on the subject, it points out the evils of Asiatic labor, and asks for signatures to a petition to Congress, to re-enact the exclusion act, before its expiration on the 5th of May, 1902.

The address divides the evils of Asiatic labor in industrial and moral. It holds that in the competition between Chinese and American laborers the latter must necessarily be displaced. The Chinese standard of living, the address says, being lower than that of the American, and the wages and other conditions of labor necessary to sustain these respective standards being proportioned thereto, it is inevitable that if competition is unchecked the higher standard must give way to the lower. In the end the American worker must accept Chinese wages or resign himself to the alternative of idleness.

This tendency, it is claimed, is already apparent. The Chinese have passed from the field of purely manual labor to the mechanical and mercantile industries, and now not even the highest activities are immune from personal loss on account of this "degrading and hopeless" species of competition.

The moral evils are said to be hardly less pronounced. The Chinese, it is pointed out, bring with them, cultivate and hand down from generation to generation laws, customs, vices, and even diseases, peculiarly their own; they establish in the midst of our communities a social organism based upon the principle of race preservation and defiant of all restraint, moral, legal or executive. In effect, "Chinatowns" are in extra-territorial jurisdiction, admitting the American only to contaminate him, and making his influence felt in the

surrounding society with the same result.

But the Chinese are not the only Asiatics to be feared. According to the address, the Japanese are as much of a menace to our industries and morals. Their standard of wages, it seems, is lower than that of the Chinese. Their mode of living—that is, their assimilableness—while apparently affording a point in their favor, is in reality an added reason for their exclusion. By adopting American dress they are enabled the more insidiously to enter the industrial life of our people, while retaining throughout the inherent characteristics of their race. "It is a question as to whether the American or the Asiatic race shall dominate on American soil. Both races cannot exist perpetually on even terms; one or other must give way. In the existing state of things, with unrestricted competition between the peoples of the two races, the Asiatic will conquer the Caucasian, by the fact that while the former may be inferior as a man, he is superior as a machine."

The address states that in the past ten years the number of Japanese in California has increased from 1,300 to 15,000. This is taken to portend serious results to all classes of American labor. The immigration of Japanese is supposed to be on the increase, and thus a danger is threatened, which calls for legislative action.

The views here set forth are largely held in the Pacific states, where the people have come in contact with Asiatic laborers. In the East the "peril" is not generally regarded as great or imminent. But in all probability Congress will continue the exclusion act. The reasons that prevailed for its enactment, still exist. To apply it to the Japanese as well, is a different question. Japan is a member of the family of civilized nations. It is a power, capable of retaliation in some form or another. Congress may well hesitate to make special exclusion laws for the Japanese, as it would do, were the question to exclude the citizens of any European nation from our shores. In all probability, exclusion laws aimed at the Japanese, must be so framed as to cover undesirable immigrants from other countries too.

WORLD'S INDEBTEDNESS.

According to figures published in the Bankers' Monthly, the total national debt of the world now amounts to the fabulous sum of \$31,201,759,600. It has increased steadily during the past hundred years. In 1793 it was but \$2,433,250,000. In 1812 it had grown to \$7,299,750,000. Forty-two years later, in 1852, the amount was \$13,352,875,000, and twenty years later, in 1872, it had practically doubled, amounting to \$25,249,901,000. The estimate for last year, 1900, showed a still further increase of \$3,000,000,000. Much of this is due to wars, but the debt increases in times of peace as well as war.

France is said to have the heaviest debt. In 1850 it was \$1,192,292,500. In the twenty-year period to 1870 this more than doubled, standing at that time \$2,678,575,000. In the next twenty years it was doubled again, the figures for 1890 being \$5,300,691,814.

Then comes Russia with a debt of \$3,167,320,000, having grown from \$608,212,500 since 1850. Great Britain is third, though her debt shows a decrease from the figures of 1850, which were \$4,082,596,803, while now they are \$3,000,926,304. Italy comes fourth, with a debt of \$2,583,983,780, a net increase of \$2,389,328,750 in forty years. Austria stands fifth, with \$1,897,255,140, a net increase for the forty years of \$1,093,942,640. The United States is sixth, the figures for 1890 being \$1,067,711,257, a net gain for forty years of \$1,044,239,453.

When the national debt is considered as to its annual cost on a per capita basis, it is found that Australia is carrying the heaviest load, the per capita average of debt being \$263.90, to meet which there is an annual charge of \$10.14; France is second, with an indebtedness of \$150.60 per capita and an annual charge of \$4.20; Paraguay's figures are \$143.80 and \$4.62; Argentina, \$129 and \$6.80; Spain, \$95.50 and \$4.46; Netherlands, \$90.70 and \$2.70; Italy, \$81.10 and \$3.58; Belgium, \$75.60 and \$2.83; United Kingdom, \$75 and \$2.75; Canada, \$60.60 and \$2.55, and the United States \$14.52 and 44 cents.

The figures account sufficiently for the poverty of the laboring classes of many countries. National debts have to be met by the people, and generally the burden rests heaviest on those who are least able to carry it. As long as the world has such an enormous national debt, there can be little hope of independence among the wage earning classes, who are called upon not only to pay a large share of the interest charges, etc., but also to maintain costly government machinery.

Mr. Nation wants a divorce from his wife. How dare he?

Just now King Edward's favorite hymn is, "When I Can Read My Title Clear."

War clouds are said to be hanging over Central America. Do they portend a storm of leaden hail?

When wireless telegraphy becomes established everywhere, how will it be possible to "wire" a friend or firm?

When told that the Celtic has the greatest beam of any ship in the world the Irishman beams all over in sympathy.

A Catholic priest of Frederick, Md., complains that there are too few marriages. Certain it is there are too many divorces.

The Chicago Record-Herald says that Professor Triggs of the University needs a long vacation. And it might have added, the longer the better.

Spain has decided to do without a navy. This is a wise decision for it, the war with the United States she showed that she could not do anything with one.

When Rear Admiral "Bob" Evans, called ex-Secretary of the Navy Chandler an "insect," it should be understood

that that is "Bob's" way of calling him the big bug of the navy.

Mr. J. P. Morgan's daughter is in Colorado hunting mountain lions, lynx, wildcats and coyotes. New York papers picture her as shooting a large bear. The bear stands broadside and seems to be patiently waiting to receive his death shot from the modern Diana.

The killing of mosquitoes with kerosene opens a wide field for the Standard Oil company to operate in. Think for a moment of its possibilities. There is nothing more widespread in this world than the mosquito pest. The use of oil in this direction has possibilities as great as Col. Sellers saw for eye-water among the orientals.

Isn't General MacArthur putting it on pretty thick when he says: "The presence of America in the Philippines is simply one of the results, in logical sequence, of great material prosperity, and in remote consequences is likely to transcend in importance anything recorded in the history of the world since the discovery of America?" There have been some pretty big events since the discovery of America.

General Miles wants some of the features of the Buffalo Midway modified while the West Point cadets are there. This management refused to do, but offered to produce a play, "Hazing on the Hudson," one thrilling scene being the merciless pounding of a plebe by a dozen first classmen. Real tobacco sauce was to be used in some scenes. Thus far no entente cordiale has been reached.

If France were to purchase one of the Greater Antilles would it be any infraction of the Monroe doctrine? That doctrine is a declaration against the extension of the monarchical system of government to this hemisphere, while France's government is a republic like our own. Nor would the purchase of an island be the same as taking islands for colonization purposes. It is a very interesting question.

What a strange story is that of the theft and recovery, in part, of the gold bars from the Selby smelter. There is no reason to doubt the story of the man Winters that he alone planned and executed the robbery. His confession and the recovery of nearly half the stolen bullion show that he was truthful in his account of the affair. How strange it is that a man could do what he did, and do it so successfully and then at last break down. Had he had companions in crime he would most likely not have broken down so soon, for they would have given him support. There is little doubt that the detectives who had the case in hand bulldozed him into confessing his crime. As conscience makes cowards of us all so it may have done in this case.

THE VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP.

Mail and Express.
It is to be hoped, and it may be expected, that the Vice President will have a jolly time hunting Colorado coyotes and that his adventures will be of that foggy and happy sort of which it may be said, "They have no history." The coyote is a more picturesque creature than the mountain lion and has a larger place in literature, but it is, however, no less timid and cowardly in its nature, and Col. Roosevelt is reasonably safe from reprisal on his hunting trip. We hope he is safe also from the vain imaginings of universal correspondents and the distorted humor of the hostile cartoons. The chapters of the "Terrible Teddy" series were closed last winter with the entire approbation of the American public. Why open them again?

PEACE-LOVING BOERS.

Boston Herald.
"The peace-loving Boers" have of late been making quite a little disturbance in the prison camps of St. Helena. Trouble was occasioned by a large number of the prisoners taking the oath of allegiance to Great Britain. The other Boers then tried to do everything in their power to make these backsliders, as they call them, uncomfortable, and they have even gone so far as to do them bodily injury. For the protection of these peace-loving camps have been established, surrounded by a barbed wire entanglement, and the most dangerous of the Boer agitators have been confined in them. At the same time the government officers have found it necessary to issue a rule, as there would certainly be a sanguinary conflict if any number of the two parties were allowed to meet.

CHINESE EXCLUSION.

San Francisco Argonaut.
The New York Tribune of June 20 contains an account of the methods by which the pro-Chinese campaign is being prosecuted. After several weeks of preparation, the petition to Congress was circulated in New York, and it is proposed to circulate it in every city where there are resident Chinese in this country. It is written in Chinese, but when the Chinese signatures have all been obtained it will be translated and presented to white sympathizers for their signature. The petition, as published in the Tribune, is quite a lengthy affair. It suggests that Lincoln, the martyred President, struck the final death-blow to racial prejudice in this country; that the exclusion act is in direct opposition to the principles of the constitution; that the argument that the immigration of the lower classes from foreign countries has a tendency to degrade American labor has been advanced against the Irish, the Italians, and the Hungarians, as well as the Chinese, while the latter, of all these, are self-supporting; that the argument that the Chinese are transients is without force, since the very fact that their residence here is merely temporary has been forced upon them by the laws of this country; that the United States is seeking closer and more friendly relations with China, and yet at the same time discriminates against the natives of China; that they appeal to Christian enlightenment, in the appreciation of which they yield to none, for the repeal of an arbitrary and unjust statute.

American Federationist.
There are some employers of labor, some writers and thinkers who realize the danger which would come with a wholesale influx of the Asiatics into America, but the greed, avarice, and shortsightedness of large interests which want to employ cheap labor is much more in evidence and apt to be more influential than the unselfish protest of the patriotic few. To protect ourselves against the selfishness of employers who will have cheap, alien labor at any hazard, it is necessary to have this prohibitive legislation. During the past year we have had new experience with the Chinese, and these are calculated to warn us of the graver dangers implied by their wholesale immigration into the United States.

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