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PERSECUTING THE HEBREWS.

An eastern contemporary notes the constantly recurring outbursts of persecution of the Hebrews in Russia, and observes that it is difficult for Americans to understand the underlying motives. No matter what goes wrong in Russia, all classes seem to regard the Jews as the cause of it.

The fact is that the people of Russia have been taught from their childhood to despise and hate the Jews. And it is not entirely, as has been represented in this country, because they are shrewd business men who understand how to amass wealth where others see but starvation. It is not entirely because they are money lenders exacting a high interest. It is more particularly because fanatics have taught the people that the Jews are under the wrath of God because of the tragedy of Calvary. A bitter hatred is thus instilled in the growing minds of the little ones that after years can never efface, and every Slavie Christian feels that he is doing a sacred duty when he takes the life of a member of the hated race.

It will not be denied that the bitterness is augmented by the fact that the Jews generally are successful in business. But the chief cause is of religious origin. It is an uncommon thing to hear simple-minded Russians, or Poles, members of the Greek church, tell one another of the cruelties of Jews practised upon children of Christian parents. Especially about Easter time are such stories rampant. The Jews, they say, are in the habit of capturing Christian children and killing them, because they use their blood for ritual purposes. Where such absurd stories are given credence it is easy for demagogues to cause riots and incite to disorders, during which they reap a big harvest of plunder.

The Latter-day Saints have been the victims of almost similar plots in this enlightened Republic, and it is therefore not to wonder at if the peasants of Russia are imposed upon in a similar way. The time is not very far past when a "Mormon" by many otherwise intelligent people was regarded as a monstrosity, owing to the vile stories constantly circulated by defamers, who thought they could further their selfish interests by character assassination. For that was the underlying motive, as it is today in all anti-"Mormon" plots.

Just now some Utah defamers are tearfully assuring their friends that they never meant any harm. They merely asked the people here to become law-abiding citizens, and to save themselves the trouble that would come upon them, unless they heeded the admonition. In their own estimation, they are angels, at this time. But the fact is that those old hypocrites were all the time telling the most vile falsehoods about Utah and the people, in order to inspire hatred toward the Church, under the cover of which they hoped to rob the people of every constitutional right. When they concocted stories about plots against the government, about "Danites" and reasonable oaths, they did so in order that their nefarious work should appear abroad as patriotism. With that end in view, they were exaggerating and misrepresenting, just as are the Russian agitators today concerning the Jews. It will not do for the old veterans of infamous anti-"Mormon" crusades, who have neither learned nor forgotten anything, to pose at this day as the guardian angels of the laws they themselves were disregarding. Their work and their motives are clear in the light of history, and will become clearer still. In the meantime, it is significant to note that persecution in Russia is not essentially different from that in any other country. It originates in the selfish motives of agitators. It is promoted by falsehoods and prejudices, and the result is that civilization itself is retarded. Russia is the loser by the persecutions instigated by bigots. So is every country that does not check its retrogressive tendencies.

WOMEN AT WORK.

A report of the Census bureau just issued, presents statistics of women at work in this country. It shows that the exact number of women working for a living in the U. S. as shown by the census of 1900, was 4,832,630, or very nearly five million. This is not counting Alaska or any of the island dependencies. The number does not include girls under 16 years of age.

The total includes 1,771,960 native white women whose parents also were natives; 1,060,744 native white women, one or both of whose parents were immigrants; 846,911 white women who were themselves immigrants; 1,119,621 negro women, and 11,388 Indians and Mongolian women. Thus the native white women of native parentage constituted 36.7 per cent, or more than one-third, of the total number of women who were breadwinners, the other classes being represented by the following percentages: Native white of foreign parentage, 22.6; foreign born white, 17.4; negro, 23.2; Indians and Mongolian, two-tenths of 1 per cent.

The comparison between women at work for a living and the total number of women in the country is instructive. By the census of 1900, the total number of women 16 years of age and over in continental United States was 28,485,558. The number at work constituted 20.6 per cent of this total. In other words, 1

woman to every 5 was a breadwinner, that term being used to designate persons reported by the census as following a gainful occupation. The percentage of bread-winners among women varies widely in different classes and at different age periods. The influence of age differences is shown by the fact that while the percentage of breadwinners is 32.3 for women 16 to 20 years of age and 30.8 for those 21 to 24 years of age, it is only 19.3 for those 25 to 34 years, and becomes still smaller in the older age groups. In other words, more than 30 per cent of the women under 25 were at work, but hardly 20 per cent of those between 25 and 35, and considerably less than 20 per cent of those over 35. This difference is directly attributable to marital conditions rather than to age. The principal reason why the older women breadwinners is not that percentage of breadwinners is not that they are older but that more of them are married. The contrast between the marital classes is very marked.

Another important feature of the report shows that the proportion of bread-winners among women is increasing. At the census of 1880 the number of women 16 years of age and over reported as having a gainful occupation was 2,353,983. In 1900 it was 4,832,630, an increase of 2,478,647, or 105.3 per cent. In other words, the number of women at work more than doubled in this interval of twenty years. Of course the increase was in part the result of the growth of population. But this accounts for not much more than one-half of the total increase, and it is probable that there were over a million women engaged in gainful occupations in 1900 who would not have taken up such occupations if conditions and tendencies had remained the same as they were twenty years before. The increasing participation of women in industrial pursuits is indicated by the increase shown in the percentages. Of the women 16 years of age and over, 16 per cent were at work in 1880, 19 per cent in 1890, and 20.6 per cent in 1900.

Concerning the various occupations, five women were employed as pilots, ten as baggage men, 31 as brakemen, 7 as conductors, 45 as engineers and firemen, and 26 as switchmen, yardmen and flagmen; 43 were carriage and hack drivers; 6 were reported as ship carpenters, and 2 as roofers and slaters; as many as 185 were returned as blacksmiths and 508 as machinists; 3 were boiler makers; 31 were charcoal, coke, and lime burners, and 11 were well borers. Of course these figures have little economic or sociological significance beyond indicating that there are few kinds of work from which the female sex is absolutely debarred, either by nature or by law or custom. There were 125 occupations employing over 1,000 women each and 63 employing over 5,000.

Some would perhaps regard the increase in the number of women working for a living as a sign of their widening usefulness and independence. But the question is whether it does not rather prove that society is out of gear somewhere. If there are more men than women in this country, as the statistics prove, and as is naturally the fact, owing to immigration, it is a shame to the men if they cannot support the women in comfort, and permit them to devote their time to employment different from manual labor and just as necessary for the moral advancement and the education of mankind. A nation that permits, not to say compels, its women to go into the blacksmith shop, or the railroad yard, or the sweat shop, to make a living, has nothing to boast of, as far as economic conditions are concerned. When you see the women work in the field, helping a donkey to pull the plow, you know that you are in an uncivilized country. But it seems civilized conditions tend in the same direction, driving the women back to the field and the plow.

FAKE REPORTS.

The Boise Statesman of May 23 contains an item concerning newspaper work in connection with the Haywood trial, which should open the eyes of uninitiated readers to the folly of placing implicit confidence in the statements that appear in partisan organs for partisan purposes. The length to which such organs, under the manipulation of unscrupulous fakery can go, is almost incredible.

According to the item in the Statesman, there are a number of representatives of periodicals claiming to represent Socialist interests, in Boise, and they are divided in factions, on account of disagreement as to policy in reporting the trial. A serious quarrel, it is said, started when the correspondent for the Appeal to Reason published as a fact that Dr. Titus and wife, owners of the Socialist, were boarding in Boise at a Chinese restaurant and pointed out the inconsistency of their paying their money for meals put up by non-union workers.

This, it is said, declares that the Appeal to Reason is no more expounding and supporting the true precepts of the Socialist party than anything in the world. He claims that the reports sent by its correspondent in Boise positively buckle up with sensational untruths. He says that the Appeal to Reason is the most yellow sheet in the country and that it is printed to sell—not to help the cause of Socialism. On the other hand, "Titus is accused by the Appeal to Reason man with 'preparing to earn the reward of perjury by deserting from the army of Pettibone in their fight against combined capital.'"

The alleged disagreement between the two factions is, however, of little general interest. Of more importance is the light thrown upon the methods by which papers of the class to which the Appeal to Reason belongs, are deceiving their readers and keeping up the agitation in which they find their profit. These methods cannot be too severely condemned. We quote the Boise Statesman:

"Mrs. Ida Crouch-Hazlett, editor of the Montana News, the organ of the Socialist party in that state, says, 'I am a "dog" in the Appeal to Reason. I would as soon describe the sheet. It is printed for selling purposes—not to help the party. It is making dupes of those who subscribe for it and it is doing great harm to the workers to whom the real issue is dear. By reading it more are being entirely false ideas of the party and its motives.'"

"Why don't you put it out of business?" was asked.

"It is too strong for us," she said. "I am an army of subsiding. We try Socialists have to grit our teeth and

stand the damage, hoping for something to happen to change matters."

"The correspondent of the Appeal to Reason was the other day approached and shown a story in his paper under his signature.

"Why do you write such rot as that was asked. You know it is a lie—not a thread of truth in it, don't you?"

"He glanced at the story and smiled a sardonic grin. 'A few little irregularities here and there,' he replied. 'You know I am out here to deliver the goods and I have to keep everything hot.'"

"The other day, when the stories of interviews with Harry Orchard came out, the correspondent to the Kansas paper announced to several reporters in the courtroom.

"You fellows thought you all had me scooped, but your interviews can't compare with the interview I sent my paper the other day with Orchard."

"Did you see Orchard?" somebody asked.

"I saw him in my mind," was the reply. "I saw him in my mind. I certainly did. In a swell interview—one that will make a sensation when it comes out."

We do not, of course, vouch for the accuracy of the charges here made, but it is, unfortunately, true that some public journals have no other conception of their duty to the public than to here credited to the Appeal to Reason man. They take "to keep everything hot," if it takes infamous falsehoods to do it. And they invent stories every day and send to their readers for "news."

The only way to treat publications that are caught in that kind of fraud is to withdraw patronage from them. You would not pay your grocery man, when you find out that he sells and for sugar, or mixes poisonous substances in your flour. You would not patronize anyone who should deliberately try to cheat you. Why should you treat differently a concern that deliberately sells you falsehoods under the label of news items, interviews, special dispatches, etc.? Even the best of newspapers, no matter how much care is exercised can make mistakes. Nothing human is perfect. But there is a wide difference between mistakes inadvertently made and corrected when discovered, and falsehoods invented to deceive people for partisan purposes. Those engaged in that kind of business should be treated as charlatans and quacks, as frauds and enemies of the public.

Telephone Strike over Linemen

Either straw hats or May is out of season.

Jeffries says that he will fight no more. The public can have no quarrel with such a pugilist.

Broken rails doubtless cause some wrecks. Bad management and recklessness cause many, many more.

A Spokane capitalist has married his housekeeper. It is cheaper than paying wages in these days of strikes.

It may yet be necessary to place sheepskin and beeswax in the chairs of the Haywood jurors to retain them.

In the matter of giving citizens good municipal government San Francisco is the first example in the world of how not to do it.

How glad the rain has made the hearts of the dry farmers. It gives assurance that dry farming will be a success this year.

Rudolph Spreckels is called "the uncrowned king of San Francisco." Does the maxim, "the king can do no wrong" apply to an uncrowned king?

"A Kentucky man and woman have just been married after a courtship of twenty-five years, carried on entirely by mail," says an exchange. It must have been carried on by male and female.

A St. Paul man has complained to the Interstate commerce commission about Pullman sleeping car rates being unreasonable and unjust. But he hadn't a word to say about the porter's extortions.

Senator Tillman has come and talked and gone, and the rights and privileges of no negroes have been infringed. To let fire-eaters eat fire is the best way in the world to appease them. Try to smother the fire and you will have an explosion.

Theodore Tilton is dead. In his prime he was a handsome as well as a brilliant man. The Beecher trial blasted his life and ruined the reputation of the great preacher of Plymouth church. For scandal the Beecher-Tilton trial was facile princeps. The present generation doesn't know what a real, live, all-pervading, up-as-free scandal is. The actors in it are all gone now.

A Washington correspondent says that President Roosevelt is anything but a stickler for official etiquette, the etiquette that promulgated the custom that the President extends invitations but does not receive any. This correspondent says that he "goes to private houses whenever the spirit moves him and feels that in doing it he shocks the Constitution and the 'unwritten law' no more than when he postpones a cabinet meeting to jump hurdles in the presence of a photographer's camera. None of the Ten Commandments is broken in either case." One of the chief causes of the President's popularity is this very unconventionality. He feels that social usages are made for man and not man for them.

TILLMAN CRITICIZED.

San Francisco News Letter.

The Young Men's Christian association has inaugurated a series of lectures, to be given by well known public men. So far the idea is a good one, and the speakers most laudable. But on their list of speakers is Senator Tillman of South Carolina. Every one knows that Tillman only talks on one subject, and that it is only charitable to suppose that his utterances on that are the result of monomania. He professes to discuss the negro question, but he uses such intemperate language, and is so one-sided in all he says, never offering any solution of the great question, but simply abusing the negro race indiscriminately and in most intemperate language. How can an institution like the Young Men's Christian—Christian, mind you—association lend itself to a propaganda of that character?

SALARIES OF GOVERNORS.

Savannah News.

Illinois is going to have the highest paid officials in the country. The new

salary bill just passed by the legislature raises the salary of the governor from \$6,000 to \$12,000 a year, which will make him the best paid of American governors. New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania pay their chief executives \$10,000. Massachusetts and Indiana pay \$8,000. Most of the other states pay \$5,000. Vermont pays the smallest gubernatorial salary, the amount being \$1,500, or a clerk's hire. New Hampshire and Delaware pay on a salary basis. South Carolina pays \$3,000. Texas and Connecticut are \$4,000 states, although Texas is more than fifty times as big as Connecticut. Georgia is in the \$5,000.

A HUMANE PLAN.

Savannah News.

The New York legislature has passed a bill providing that all old horses that have worn themselves out in state or municipal service shall become pensioners of the state or municipality, and not to be sold in their declining years into drug stores and hardship drawing hacks or drays. The bill contemplates the turning out of the old horses to grass on farms at the expense of the corporation which they formerly served. The idea is humane and has public approval.

FATE OVERTAKES MR. RUEF.

Portland Oregonian.

In making his confession Mr. Ruef evidently acted contrary to the advice of his lawyers and proved that he was wiser than they. When a man knows that he is guilty and knows that everybody else knows it, fighting seems a trifle superfluous. At the critical moment when Ruef arose to begin his plea of guilty, the lawyers withdrew from the case, very much as rats desert a sinking ship. Concerning them one can only observe that it would have been greatly to their credit had they deserted the case before they accepted it, so to speak. Nor can one admire them much for urging Ruef to continue a hopeless defense which could only create contempt for the technicalities of the law and prolong a useless agony.

JUST FOR FUN.

One of Many.

"There is a great deal of talk about you as a presidential possibility," said the friend.

"I know it," answered the great statesman.

"Doesn't it make you proud?"

"Not especially proud. But I own I should have felt elated if I had been overlooked in so general a distribution of glory."—Washington Star.

"Miss Kitty," said the new doctor, "your trouble is merely indigestion. We can fix that. By the way, have you been doing any dieting?"

"I don't know," answered the little girl. "The other doctor has been making me eat all sorts of things that I just hate."

"Then you are dieting, all right."—Chicago Tribune.

Only Doing His Duty.

O'Hagan—O! have found the man that hit me with a brick as O! was passing the alley, Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy—And what did you do with him?

O'Hagan—Nothing. 'Twas all a mistake—the man was only doing his duty. He thought O! was a constable in plain clothes.—Smiles.

One on Uncle.

Uncle Joe—Well, Johnny, you are getting quite a big boy now. How old are you?

Johnny—Six.

Uncle Joe—And what are you going to be?

Johnny—Seven.—Illustrated Bits.

Has Done His Duty.

The Prince of the Asturias has done his duty to his country and his parents by not being a princess.—New York Mail.

A Point Explained.

Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake declares that the American eagle, "that great bird which surmounts our national insignia," is a female. Perhaps that explains why so many men squeeze a dollar before letting it go.—Kansas City Journal.

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