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SALT LAKE CITY, - AUG. 26, 1909.

## NOBODY KNOWS.

There is a peculiarity about the re-  
opening of the slot machines in the  
saloons and cigar stores in this city,  
which is rather striking. None of the  
owners of the machines seem to know  
where the permission to bring them  
out again came from. There is per-  
fect unanimity among the operators  
as to that. To questions relating to  
that subject they all answer: "I do  
not know." They do know, they say,  
that they received word over the  
phone that it would be all right to  
set up the machines again, but  
they do not know, they claim, who  
gave that assurance. They are regu-  
lar Know-nothings as to that. Any  
mysterious voice on the phone was  
sufficient to awaken the dead machines  
to life.

Insinuations that the saloonmen and  
others have contributed money to the  
campaign fund controlled by "Ameri-  
can" party bosses on condition that  
gamblers and booze dispensers should  
be given more liberty than they now  
enjoy, have been made; in fact, the  
Chief of Police has been said to have  
actual knowledge of the existence of  
a corruption fund; but the "bosses"  
and the saloonmen indignantly deny  
such allegations. Can anybody believe  
that anything but the most immaculate  
civic virtue can result from palavers  
that may have taken place between  
those "bosses" and liquor dealers?

In the meantime, members of the  
Citizens' Improvement League, that  
fought the stockade proposition to a  
finish, have taken the slot machine busi-  
ness in hand. In this case the Mayor,  
we understand, is with them, and it  
should be easier to win out. But what  
has this City come to, when private  
citizens are under the necessity, time  
and time again, to sacrifice means and  
give time to run down business that  
is engaged in contrary to law and court  
decisions? What are the police offi-  
cers doing? Are they in the service of  
"American" party bosses instead of the  
people? If so, it is high time for the  
citizens to elect a government that will  
serve the people.

## CHEAP THEATERS AND "SHOWS."

In view of the large number of cheap  
theaters that flourish in this city, it be-  
comes worth while to ascertain, if we  
can, the effect of attending these places  
of amusement. Young boys and girls  
are said to be the chief but by no means  
the only patrons of these places.

It would be well for some special  
committee of citizens to visit all the  
theaters and report what they find go-  
ing on in them. We are informed that  
with rare exceptions the ordinary pro-  
gram of moving-picture shows includes  
some representation of burglary or  
theft, some suggestions of the flir-  
tations of a husband or wife, and some-  
thing grotesque, with a preference for  
representations of satanic magic. For-  
tunately, there is also much that is  
healthful and instructive, like repre-  
sentations of cavalry drills, or the de-  
parture of an ocean-liner, or the mak-  
ing of pottery. Undoubtedly the future  
will show a gradual improvement in the  
pictures offered. Nevertheless it still  
remains true that the public instinct  
for representations of what is criminal  
is very strong and will be catered to by  
commercial managers.

The effect of pictures of crime must  
be to fill the minds of boys and girls  
with morbid fancies. If it is claimed  
that some of these pictures are educa-  
tional, the answer is ample that  
crime does not deserve a place as a  
teacher.

As to the exhibitions called vaude-  
ville shows and "shows" is the vulgar-  
ly appropriate title—it is admitted, we  
believe, that these are a mixture of  
clever acrobatic feats, performing ani-  
mals, and many types of pleasing or  
amusing acting, with suggestions and  
sensational scenes which blunt the finer  
sensibilities of those who are suscepti-  
ble to them. Mr. E. H. Chandler, sec-  
retary of the Twentieth Century club  
of Boston, reports that, in his opinion,  
there is much that is coarse and de-  
grading in the talk of the vaudeville  
stage. "There is a cheap wit," he  
says, "which boys are fond of imitating,  
and which dulls the capacity for real  
humor. Many children who have learned  
much from the vaudeville stage lose  
their interest in simple and healthful  
forms of amusement. They are con-  
stantly craving the sensational. They  
easily lose the power for serious, intel-  
lectual work. In many cases this re-  
sults in leaving school before the age  
of fourteen because of the lack of in-  
terest in anything that the school has  
to offer." Mr. Chandler even declares  
that this social influence of the cheap  
"show" is destroying in many boys  
and girls their capacity for future effi-  
ciency as men and women and that  
the problem has therefore become serious.

Nearly all teachers in high schools  
have noticed that in recent years the  
wonders, the beauties, and the mys-  
teries of physics, chemistry, astronomy,  
geology, botany, and physiology, which  
only a few decades ago set the think-  
ing world and especially the young stu-  
dents aflame with enthusiasm, no longer  
even interest boys and girls. List-  
lessness, indifference, and lack of ap-  
preciation of the realities and a morbid  
craving for the fantastic and emotional  
characterize many of the young people.  
Are the cheap "shows" responsible?  
The mere physical effects upon the

eyes witnessing these gaudy, exciting,  
and often ridiculous and disgusting epi-  
sodes of the average moving picture ex-  
hibitions must be serious. The artificial  
light and the constant flickering  
can not be other than detrimental to  
even the best of eyes. Teachers find  
that dullness, and sometimes sleepiness  
during school hours are common among  
children who frequent the little evening  
theaters. As Mr. Chandler says:

"The 'early-to-bed' idea has not by  
any means been outgrown. The healthy  
child should get all the stimulus it  
needs during the daylight hours. Any  
child whose home is destitute of the  
quiet and peace needed for rest at night  
is a victim of serious injustice to its  
physical nature. This situation can-  
not be bettered by sending such a child  
to the theater. The late hours of the  
city show are altogether destructive of  
normal rest. Every school teacher can  
bear witness to the demoralization  
caused by evening entertainments."

Here, then, is a problem for parents,  
teachers, and municipal authorities. In  
the economic sense, all that is spent,  
whether in time or money, on any sort  
of exhibition that does not tend to in-  
crease either the efficiency, the moral  
fiber, or the capacity for real enjoy-  
ment, is waste and loss to its entire  
extent. Money spent for dissipation  
would have been better disposed of if  
thrown into the depths of the sea. The  
vulgar delusion of many people that  
spending makes money circulate and so  
helps the general prosperity is the one  
great fallacy with which poor people  
often seek to screen their folly in thus  
wasting their slender incomes.

But parents need not be deceived,  
neither should city councilmen be gulled  
by any such sophistry. Amusement is  
necessary for any community; but no  
community can long sustain cheap,  
trashy, unreal, and vulgar forms of it,  
without suffering serious losses in  
wealth, health, and moral power.

## "MORMONS" IN THE LEAD.

Professor Brimhall, of the B. Y. Uni-  
versity of Provo, speaking of the insti-  
tution over which he presides, says  
that the prospects for the future are  
very bright. Everyone connected with  
the school feels enthusiastic.

As an instance of loyalty, Profes-  
sor Brimhall mentioned that Dr. Ralph  
Chamberlain had refused an offer to  
occupy a biological chair at the Le-  
land Stanford Jr. University. This  
honored and remunerative position he  
declined to accept because he loves  
Utah and the school with which he is  
now connected.

It will be pleasing to many of the  
students to learn that Professor A. C.  
Lund is home in time to take up his  
work in the University again, after  
several weeks of study abroad.

Professor Brimhall, speaking of educa-  
tional matters, remarked that the  
time is past when the world can sneer  
at "Mormon ignorance." The services  
of educators reared in Utah are eagerly  
sought for east and west. "Mormons"  
make a mark for themselves  
wherever they go. They are recognized  
in educational, musical, scientific, and  
legislative circles, and the world is  
forced to admit that whatever else the  
so-called "Mormons" are, they are not  
ignorant. They are in a fair way to  
become leaders in intellectual pursuits.  
And that is as it ought to be. For they  
hold that intelligence is the glory of  
God.

## ABOUT SQUABBLES.

The New York Evening Post of Aug.  
20, has an excellent editorial on "New-  
paper Squabbles," in which it shows  
that they are no longer part of metro-  
politan journalism. Time was, the  
Post says, when not only Mr. Pott of  
the Eatonsville Gazette raged furiously  
against a brother editor, but when the  
conductors of the leading newspapers  
of great cities thought it necessary to  
hurl abuse at a rival and, on occasion,  
to have a personal encounter with him.  
The early history of New York jour-  
nalism is filled with stories of feuds  
and affrays.

Later the assaults were purely  
verbal. When "Judas" and "Ananias"  
were being dung back and forth like  
missiles, not even the most imaginative  
reporter expected to see real bullets  
flying. But, says the Post, even this  
kind of newspaper quarrelling has now  
dropped below the horizon. It lingers  
in country journalism, where habits  
are more persistent and the personal  
element more pronounced; but city edi-  
tors have, for the most part, silently  
abandoned it.

There are, according to the paper  
quoted, certain reasons for this:

"People in general are better behaved  
than they used to be, and it would be  
a pity if newspaper men had not  
shared in the common improvement,  
and learned to repeat with satisfaction  
Col. Newcome's favorite quotation  
about emolument more. Then, too, the  
four estate has now acquired a  
dignity which it once did not possess,  
and feels under an obligation to sup-  
port it suitably. When editors had to  
fight for recognition at all, it was not  
unusual that they should occasion-  
ally exercise their vocabularies and  
their fists upon each other; but now,  
that their calling has acquired stand-  
ing, and they are charged with the  
conduct of large property interests,  
there is no need of their old offensive  
assertiveness and quarrelsomeness. We  
think also, that newspaper readers  
have had an influence. They have lost  
their taste for newspaper rows. Most  
of these are unintelligible to the pub-  
lic. A certain element, it is true, en-  
joys a fight, whether it understands  
the cause or not; but most editors  
have no fancy for furnishing the same  
sort of sport that a couple of news-  
boys would have by pummeling each  
other in the street or tearing out each  
other's hair. Hence the growing ten-  
dency to avoid mere newspaper dis-  
putes, and to adopt the Tennysonian  
rule, when venomously attacked, that  
the noblest answer to all such is per-  
fect stillness when they brawl."

With the sentiment expressed by the  
Post we heartily agree. Newspaper  
squabbles are out of date and con-  
fined to the very poorest class of  
journalism. But sometimes newspa-  
pers are called upon to defend a prin-  
ciple and to meet an unscrupulous an-  
tagonist in the interest of the people.  
Then clear, emphatic language is  
necessary. Still, a gentleman remains  
a gentleman even in controversy. He  
never descends to the level of the ruf-  
fan. The Post recognizes this fact,  
when it says:

"In a great civic struggle for righte-  
ousness, like that in San Francisco,  
editors must use plain language about  
their colleagues who go wrong; and  
we trust the time will never come  
when editors will be afraid to tell  
the truth about an unscrupulous and  
mischievous political agitator, even if

he happens to be nominally an editor.  
Such a direct attack cannot be called  
a newspaper squabble; it is merely a  
fight for political honesty."

## WAS STARVING THOUGH RICH.

According to an opinion expressed by  
Prof. Struempel, a Vienna doctor of  
worldwide fame, Mr. Harriman has  
been the victim of starvation and over-  
work.

One does not generally think of hun-  
gry millionaires as suffering from multi-  
tude and hard work. Those evils are gen-  
erally associated with unfortunate in-  
dividuals in destitute circumstances.  
But Prof. Struempel, after a care-  
ful study of Mr. Harriman's case came  
to the conclusion that he was suffer-  
ing from a systematic lack of nourish-  
ment, causing general physical weak-  
ness, and from nervous debility and ex-  
haustion due to overwork and under-  
feeding.

The physician recommended, the dis-  
patches say, the "rest cure." The pa-  
tient was told to lie in bed for hours  
every day, and to take a sufficient  
quantity of nourishing food. He was  
told to eat every two hours. He was  
also told to take sunbaths as a nerve  
tonic.

According to this physician, Mr. Har-  
riman did not suffer from organic trou-  
bles. With care he should be able to  
enjoy many years of health.

All of which proves that it is foolish  
to envy the rich. Money is not all there  
is to happiness. A poor man with good  
health, a loving family, and something  
to do at fair wages is better off than  
the rich man who is starving in the  
midst of plenty.

The widow's might is her experience.

Gun men should not play with edge

tools.

Platonic love is the soft drink of af-  
fection.

A not uncommon editorial note—  
I. O. U.

Transplanted family trees seem to  
flourish best.

Most likely the "machine" started  
the slot machines.

Politics and crowded hotels make  
strange bed fellows.

The Blue army of defense has not  
yet Red of its victory.

Aviators are not poets though much  
given to fancy flights.

President Taft is not coming west to  
grow up with the country.

Don't judge a tariff bill by the first  
few weeks of its operation.

Sutton's body is to be exhumed. Is  
this case never to be buried?

A public office is very likely to be a  
public trust for the office-holder.

There is little difference between an  
"after cure" and an aftermath.

The one hero of American history  
who always "stays put" is Old Put.

Blackleg among cattle is bad, but  
black legs among the people are worse.

The latest Des Moines plan seems to  
be a Greater Des Moines. Success to  
it.

The Juvenile court is still looking for  
quarters. Why doesn't it look for  
halves?

When a man seeks and doesn't find,  
he gets out of it by saying he hasn't  
sought.

If those engaged in the bee industry  
are as busy as the bees, they will be  
all right.

People who cannot afford a touring  
car can content themselves with a  
tourist car.

The Duke of the Abruzzi may yet  
find the north pole and plant it on  
Mount Everest.

Missourians, those people who want  
to be shown, think Saline county the  
salt of the earth.

Wisdom may come with years, and  
again it may not. Its coming is a  
most uncertain thing.

The parents' problem is not to get  
their children to honor them, but to  
obey them without a tussle.

There certainly has been espionage if  
not poeage at the McKees Rocks plant  
of the Pressed Steel Car company.

Census supervisors are warned by  
the President that they must keep out  
of politics. If they don't they will put  
their foot in it.

The "inner circle" seems to be lord  
of the fowl and the brute from the  
center all round to the sea of "Ameri-  
can" party politics.

Mr. Harriman's hand appears, to  
judge from the stock market, to be  
upon the throttle of the locomotive  
that is drawing the train of prosperity.

Aviator Paulhan had to descend be-  
cause his fuel gave out. Had he  
heeded the parable of the ten virgins  
he would not have met with this mis-  
hap.

HAIL TO BANK NOTE BATHS.

New York Tribune.

Secretary MacVeagh's reported in-  
tention to have banknotes and other  
forms of paper currency washed, fre-  
quently in a cleansing chemical solu-  
tion will be generally applauded. Clean  
notes have long been considered a  
luxury not attainable by the great  
majority of users, but in these new  
days of progress and antiseptic pre-  
caution they ought to become a  
thoroughly popularized convenience.  
The immunity bath experiment will  
be well worth trying.

NEW CLEW FOR DR. ELIOT

Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Dr. Eliot says he did not include the  
Bible and Shakespeare in his five-foot  
shelf because they will be read any  
way. But he might have said the  
same thing of hundreds of other books

not included in his foot-rule library,  
and hundreds of them more than any  
in his list. The doctor's selections may  
be more meritorious than meritorious  
from the popular point of view.

## GRADING LITERARY POWER.

New York Post.  
Dean Shaller Mathews says that the  
newspaper "shapes the popular mind  
more by its headlines than by its edi-  
torials." By the same token authors  
impress by the titles of their books,  
not by their contents, artists by their  
themes rather than by their execu-  
tion—and lecturers by their plaudits  
more than by their sense.

## AIRSHIPS CAUSE A SHUDDER.

St. Louis Republic.  
It is all right for the War Depart-  
ment to go ahead and do what it can  
with the flying machine. It may come  
in handy in war. But it isn't pleasant  
to think of what would happen to the  
aviator if a shot from the ground  
should knock out the motor or explode  
the fuel tank.

HURRAH FOR INLAND WATER-  
WAY.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.  
The national irrigation congress at  
Seattle adopted resolutions approving  
the deep water ways in the Mississippi  
River valley. This region must re-  
spond with the proper irrigation resolu-  
tions at the first opportunity.

## THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER

By George F. Butler, A.M., M.D.

Have faith in yourself, in your own  
progress and possibilities and you can  
almost create your life as you will.  
You others, if you are your best friend  
or your worst enemy, Nature gives you  
the option; "It's up to you" to make  
your life a happy and successful one  
or the opposite. Life is but a suc-  
cession of opportunities; they are for  
good or evil—as we make them. Life  
is pleasant or unpleasant, hard or easy  
according to the way you look at it,  
the way you think of life. Thoughts  
govern action, and he who governs his  
thoughts is master of his destiny.  
Destiny is not about you, but within  
you. You yourself are the creator of  
your own fortune and your own des-  
tiny. Healthful, hopeful, optimistic  
thoughts are essential to strong minds  
and bodies, and to success. Cultivate  
these thoughts; help from within  
strengthens; help from without usually  
enfeebles.

Have faith in yourself. Some one  
has said that a man may succeed  
where others do not because he has  
but not when he does not believe in  
himself. Confidence in your own abil-  
ity means other men looking to you,  
the want of it, your looking to other  
men.

## JUST FOR FUN

"Here's a story of an Illinois girl who  
died after eating a newspaper."  
"Perhaps she foolishly restricted her-  
self to devouring the obituary col-  
umns."—Los Angeles Express.

"Pa, have you been up much in air-  
ships?"  
"No, never! Why do you ask?"  
"I heard ma tell auntie you were  
once quite a high flyer."—New York  
Herald.

She (complainingly)—You said I had  
a silvery voice before we were mar-  
ried."  
Ho—Well, I admit it's metallic still.—  
Boston Transcript.

He—Love is like a game of poker.  
She—How so?  
He—A man often wants a hand he  
can't get.—Philadelphia North Ameri-  
can.

"What has become of that soulful girl  
you used to rave so much about?"  
"This is a world of disillusionments."  
"How now?"  
"The last time I called she was eating  
limburger cheese."—Louisville Courier-  
Journal.

She—Yes, I will marry you, and share  
your sorrows.  
He—But I didn't have any.  
She—O, but you have been, have you  
married me!—Boston Globe.

"Why do you call your wife a jig-saw  
puzzle?"  
"Because, when she's once taken  
apart, she's so darned hard to put to-  
gether again."—Detroit Free Press.

Daisy—Listen to Erma reciting the  
"Wreck of the Hesperus." How terri-  
ble it must have been!  
Mabel—Yes, and some people can  
make it more terrible than it was.—  
Denver News.

Bess—That's a quaint ring you're  
wearing. Is it an heirloom? Tess—  
Well, it dates from the Conquest.—  
Cleveland Leader.

Lady—What makes these peaches so  
unusually high my man? Rooney, the  
Podler—Well, it's this way, mem; they  
come from the top of the tree.—Puck.

Fat Man—What! Are you going to  
let this small boy shave me? Barber—  
Let the boy have his fun for once. It  
is his birthday, sir.—Fliegende Blätter.

"Here is a telegram from papa," says  
the eloping bride. "He says for us to  
come right home and live with him and  
mamma." "I didn't think he would be  
so vindictive as all that," sighs the  
eloping bridegroom.—From Life.

"Did you ever have appendicitis?"  
said the insurance man. "Well," an-  
swered the skeptic. "I was operated  
on. But I never felt sure whether it  
was a case of appendicitis or a case of  
professional curiosity."—Washington  
Star.

Vicar (who does a little stock-raising)  
—How are you, Mrs. Jenkins? I'm  
sorry to say that I haven't seen you at  
church lately. Mrs. Jenkins—Yes, sir,  
that's so. I haven't been so regular as  
I used, but—(confidentially)—I don't  
'ardly dare, for no sooner see you  
'arcomin' out of the vestry after the  
choir but I think of that there pig as  
I owes you for.—Punch.

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SALT LAKE CITY

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faded hair. It makes you look old when  
you're not—it's unshiny and embarrassing.  
May's Hair Health will bring back the nat-  
ural color and beauty, and keep your hair  
bright, luxuriant and full of youthful vitality.  
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ders. Get a skin line and soft, 25c. drugstore. Send  
for free leaflet, "The Care of the Skin." The  
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