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BALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 15, 1902.

READY FOR BUSINESS.

The City Council committee are now organized and ready for business. It was not to be expected that everybody would be suited with the arrangement. There are indications in the appointment of chairmanships that both political and personal influences have had their sway. It would have been a graceful act to have given more prominent places to old members of the council, without regard to party or personalities. We presume, however, the President of the Council has acted with a view to all the circumstances surrounding the situation, and according to the best light and wisdom at his command. No matter how these arrangements may be looked upon by interested parties, all the members should endeavor to work together as unitedly as possible, keeping in mind that the welfare of the city and the honest, economical and prudent management of its affairs, are to be held high and far above all individual or sectional considerations. Perfection is not expected but improvement and advancement are looked for, and we hope to see the best expectations fully realized.

A GOOD BARGAIN.

The Board of Education has secured the old University buildings and grounds for High School purposes. The price is \$100,000, but the sum of \$12,500 having been expended on the property by the board, the actual cost at present is \$87,500. Mr. Joseph Geoghegan, representing the board, made a strong plea with Governor Wells and Secretary Byron Crook representing the State land board, to obtain a reduction in the purchase price. He was not successful, for the statements and arguments adduced by the Governor were too conclusive and convincing to admit of any change. The arrangement entered into to require the cash payment of \$27,500 and the balance of \$60,000 is to be paid by July 1, 1904, and the debt carries no interest.

We think the Board of Education has made an excellent bargain. For it has acquired title to the property on First North street that was formerly held by the Latter-day Saints College, which was transferred to the University, in addition to the square occupied by the University buildings. These form a very valuable acquisition, and the board is to be congratulated on securing these very suitable grounds and premises.

The High School of this city is now established in permanent buildings, and there is nothing in the way of its prosperity. The question of provision for the residents in the eastern part of the city is not involved in this transaction. For the present, the property acquired will answer the purposes necessary, and as time brings further requirements and means to meet them, other arrangements will be in order. Our educational system in this city is on a good and firm basis, and we have no reason to be ashamed of it or anything connected with its management. On and prosper!

BY WAY OF EXPLANATION.

We have received a letter from a well informed friend, dated January 12, 1902, complaining of incorrect information given through a morning contemporary, and desiring us to make some explanation for the benefit of people who may have been misled on the subjects spoken of. He says:

"The following appears in the Questions and Answers column of today's Tribune:
"Robinson-Mammott, Jan. 8, 'Editor Tribune:—Will you kindly inform me through your Questions and Answers column if at any time the Mormons troubled the flag of our country in the dust of the streets of Salt Lake, and did not Apostle Young advise the young Mormons not to enlist in the Spanish-American war?—A Reader.' (Answer:—) 'Yes, to both.'"
"Now, in regard to the first question, the answer undoubtedly refers to the time when Daniel H. Wells was released from the penitentiary, where he had been confined for contempt, and a large number of our people went to the penitentiary to escort him to the city, and if so, the answer is false, as you well know."

There is much more of comment in the communication which it is not necessary to reproduce. We are of the opinion that there was no intention on the part of the Tribune to misrepresent, or to state anything but what has been currently reported to be the facts in both instances; but it is necessary perhaps to put both matters in their true light.

When President Daniel H. Wells was escorted from the penitentiary to this city by a very long and enthusiastic procession, there were many flags and banners in the parade, and, of course, among them was the United States flag, which has always been held in honor

by the people of Utah, from the day that it was hoisted after the entrance of the Pioneers of 1847 when this was Mexican territory. On all public occasions when it was appropriate, the Stars and Stripes were hoisted aloft and graced the festivities held at important times and holidays, whether under the auspices of the Church or of the Territory of Utah.

On the occasion referred to, everything and everybody were "in the dust." The roads and streets on the whole way of the procession were ankle deep in fine dust, which was not stirred up by horse and foot and vehicle that a cloud of it overspread the entire pageant. There was at the time a very intense feeling on both sides. The "Mormons" were in high elation, the non-"Mormons" particularly the anti-"Mormons" exhibited the opposite feeling. High words were spoken, and the demonstration was looked upon by some as a hostile exhibition. It was useless to explain that there was no wish on the part of the friends of President Wells to make a defiance of the national authority, as was claimed by their opponents.

The honored guest of the day had declined to answer some questions in court, that related to secret and sacred things which he was under a pledge not to disclose. He was committed for contempt of court. He remained in prison for the time decreed and was welcomed home by his co-religionists, because he had been true to his obligations, to his God and to his religion. That is all there was to the procession.

It was asserted by some violent and cursing partisans, inflamed by passion and strong drink, that the "Mormons" "trailed the flag in the dust." It is possible that in the waving of flags and banners something might have occurred to give the appearance of a lowering of the stars and stripes. If so, we are certain that it was unintentional. The most diligent inquiries made immediately after the charge, failed to disclose anything to justify the accusation. If anything approaching to the act took place, we are certain and positive that it was through some inadvertence. To say that it was deliberately and intentionally done is to state that which it totally untrue. The people of Utah have always honored the flag of our country, and it is not right that any impression to the contrary should be created or perpetuated.

The other story was started in a misconception of the whole tenor of the speaker's address. Apostle Young made some remarks in the Tabernacle, deprecating the intense warlike spirit which had laid hold of many of our young men in their vengeance figured with some as strongly as patriotism. He simply put a check upon this extreme and ardent feeling, and advocated the spirit of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, referring to the special calling of the Latter-day Saints to proclaim it to the world and carry out its precepts in their lives.

In the course of his remarks he referred to the climatic conditions and diseases prevalent in Cuba, in the swamps of Florida and in the Philippine Islands, and expressed the opinion that there was more danger to our young recruits from those sources than from the misdeeds of war. His remarks were construed as against the movement to enlist men for the service of our country, and complaints that were made were at once met by the First Presidency of the Church, with words of encouragement and support to the recruiting officers and to all who wished to enlist in the service of the government.

Experience has demonstrated the correctness of Elder Brigham Young's prediction. The victims of disease during the Spanish war greatly outnumbered the fallen in battle. He said nothing against the righteousness of the cause of the United States, nor anything that could be reasonably interpreted as a desire to hinder the campaign for the cause of liberation from Spanish oppression.

These explanations are due under the circumstances. We do not make them for the purpose of opening, or continuing, a controversy upon subjects that belong to the past. All classes of our community, with the exception of a very few implacables, want to dwell together in peace. We all wish to build up this State and to promote its interests. We desire the welfare of our country and the glory of its flag. Disputes over old differences are not profitable. They should not be revived. At the same time there are tender spots left from old wounds and these are easily irritated. It is better not to refer to those former causes of strife, but when they are alluded to incorrectly, it is only natural that something should be said by way of rejoinder and explanation. This is our only reason for responding to the request of our correspondent.

ORIGIN OF MAN.

A somewhat novel theory of the origin of man is set forth by Prof. McGee, the vice president of the American association. According to him, there is not a single fact in support of the theory of a common origin; on the contrary, as far as observations go, they point in an opposite direction.

In proof of this assertion, the professor argues that mankind is not differentiated in either physical or psychological aspect, but converging, integrating, blending, unifying, both as organisms and superorganic groups. The population is increasing, but the races are not. On the contrary, the number of distinct people is decreasing, and racial boundaries are slowly but surely melting away. Races have not come up, tribes have not multiplied, but distinct peoples have coalesced, dialects and languages have blended into common tongues. Peoples are pre-eminent in proportion to the complexity of their blood and culture. And the conclusion drawn from these facts is, according to Professor McGee, that the development is convergent instead of divergent, and the theory of polygenesis is better supported than that of monogenesis. In other words, we are asked to suppose that man first made his appearance on earth in numerous places, each ancestor having no relationship to the other,

and that from this multitude of origins relationship has been created by blending and mixing of blood—a process that will continue until the unity of the human family shall have been completed.

This attempt to account for the origin of mankind fails to take any notice whatever of the evidence furnished by human traditions and languages, which is supposed to furnish very strong ground for the doctrine of a common origin. But this cannot be ignored in an investigation of this important subject. If it is true, for instance, that traces of the language, culture and literature of the ancient inhabitants of the Americas, are still found in the civilizations of Africa, Asia and Europe, the presumption is in favor of a common source of all these civilizations, and the nations that have sprung up under their influence. That mankind was "made of one blood" is a proposition better substantiated than the opposite. The very fact that blending and unification now unquestionably are going on, should be a proof of original unity, for how can elements mix, blend and become one, if there is no affinity whatever between them?

The testimony of history is that the earth was peopled from common ancestors, and that their descendants departed in different directions. Gradually tribal, national, and racial differences appeared. But it was not the purpose of the Father to permit this disintegration to continue forever. On the contrary, His plan was to bring to unity and harmony all things both in heaven and earth. In the fulness of time provision was made for the gathering again of that which had become separated, for the destruction of the separating walls of caste, nationality, distance and so on. It is this gathering that Prof. McGee has observed. It is a special feature of our own age. But to conclude that it has always been going on, is not sound reasoning. It does not necessarily follow. Scientists would do well to consult, on all such questions, that which has been revealed to man from a divine source. For as far as that is given for guidance and information, it is perfectly safe, it does not conflict with any known fact or demonstrated truth.

A CENTURY OF PROGRESS.

The progress of the United States during the past century, as illustrated by official statistics, is well worth contemplating. The country expanded from 827,844 square miles to 3,025,600, exclusive of Alaska and the island possessions. The population increased from 3,368,483 to 76,303,387. The net ordinary receipts of the government show a gradual growth from \$10,848,749, to \$267,240,852, while the expenditures increased from \$7,411,379 to \$447,553,458. The customs receipts, which at the beginning of the century were \$9,089,933, increased to \$233,164,871. The public debt grew from \$82,976,294 to \$1,180,961,092. Imports of merchandise were valued in 1890 at \$91,232,768, and in 1900 at \$849,941,184, while exports increased from \$70,971,730 to \$1,204,483,082.

Such figures speak volumes for the possibilities of this country under institutions that give all a chance to exercise their talents and abilities in whatever direction inclination, training or genius lead. A great part of this progress is due to people who have come here from countries where they would have no chance whatever to display their abilities. The country has, indeed, been a place of refuge, and it has profited by the generous policy it has displayed. Through this policy it has become foremost in wealth and power, and among the first in influence in the great family of nations.

Now that he has been enlightened on the "Elijah matter" Mr. Booth-Clibb, once of Salvation Army fame, has decided to place himself at the disposal of Dowle, the unconquerable religious fakir.

Wonders of wireless telegraphy and the coming permanence of the system are being demonstrated each day. The story told by officers of the steamship Wilhelm der Grosse confirms some of the assertions made by Marconi.

President Schwab of the United States Steel corporation is careful to cable a denial of the rumor that he did some heavy gambling at Monte Carlo. The "whole push" at the swell gambling den is a mere bagatelle as compared with the big game in which Schwab and his friends indulged when they formed the steel trust.

Another plan for an Isthmian canal is to be proposed to the Senate committee having these waters under consideration. Now that there is a prospect that the United States will build such a canal to connect the "highways" of two great oceans, there are plenty of people who are quite willing to pocket some of the profits which are bound to accrue from the prosecution of a work of such magnitude.

Notwithstanding the fact that she is under a bond, in the sum of \$2,000, to keep the peace, Mrs. Carrie Nation is credited with having attempted another smashing expedition. There are many "scolds," but they usually confine their disagreeableness to their own households. Not so with this lady—she is of the public variety. For downright persistent meanness Mrs. Nation is easily without a parallel. At best a common scold is contemptible. In "Ye scolds of olden times" they used to duck 'em.

Dispatches say that Gen. Bruce Hamilton came within an ace of catching Gen. Rotha. Many men have come into similar proximity to a fortune, others have just so narrowly escaped death. It reminds one of the saying that "a mile is as good as a mile," and doubtless that is very true. The man who nearly made a fortune in walking because he can't pay car fare; the man who narrowly escaped death still lives to "jaw" his wife; and Bruce Hamilton is still looking for Rotha.

The passing of George H. Phillips marks the toppling of another throne, for he was "corn king." "Chickens will come home to roost" is an aphorism that seems to have been confirmed in this case. George did not hesitate to "squeeze" many unoffending people in his late corn deal, and now it seems that the compulsion has been returned

with interest compounded. He has been hounded such a bunch of "demands" as completely put him out, and his influence in the pit looks like a cipher deprived of its rim.

Andrew Carnegie warns young men against the "deceptions in wealth's allurements." There have been very few wealthy men who have not constantly advised "the other fellow" to abandon any ambition he may have for the possession of a large and comfortable income. The persistency with which this "preaching" is indulged in would lead to the thought that possibly self-preservation were the foundation of it all. Is the rich man afraid that some young fellow in his neighborhood, in an effort to achieve wealth, might take some of his?

"For us who are gathered here in this well appointed and beautifully decorated chamber, under the glare of these electric lights, it is perfectly proper to agree that anarchy is abominable. We would be false to our surroundings if we did not. We are all well dressed and pretty well to do financially, and it is of our nature for us to take the position of the party in possession."—Recorder Goff in a speech at New York.

That is the whole thing in a nutshell, so far as conditions are concerned—the oppressed complain against them and consider those who gain by them to be the oppressors.

PHILIPPINE LEGISLATION.

New York Evening Post.

Senator Lodge's Philippines bill, which is to serve as a basis of discussion for the Senate and the House, is rather remarkable for what it fails to say than for what it says. It is, in effect, an enabling act, a kind of vote of confidence in the Taft commission, to which it grants most of the powers requested in Commissioner Taft's recent report. "We trust our commission," is the implication of the bill, "especially in all such troublesome matters as the government of Philippine communities, the disposition of public lands, the purchase of church property—in short, all these things we turn over in full confidence to our trusty commission."

New York Mail and Express.

The Philippine tariff is an emergency measure, and the majority in the Senate should insist upon a reasonable limitation to its consideration. The separate measure for the administration of the archipelago is also of pressing importance. It will carry into effect many of the recommendations of the Philippine commission, which are imperatively necessary for the commercial prosperity and political welfare of the archipelago. This measure has received thorough consideration in the committee of both House and Senate. It will also afford a theme for general debate, but action ought not to be long delayed by the belated arguments of the anti-imperialists, now thoroughly out of date.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The Copper bill is unquestionably much the better of the two. It is not prejudicial, because it would delay the installation of the new system until January 1, 1904. By that time it is to be hoped that the insurance companies would be completely subdued, and the bill would certainly conduce to this end. It would be an earnest of good faith which the Philippines fail to discern in our promises that we are going to do the right thing by them, and they would be highly gratified and placated at the prospect of having a legislature of their own. The bill is emphatically a peace measure.

Worcester Gazette.

The bill for the temporary government of the Philippines which Senator Lodge proposes, is one which will be of great value to the islands. It contains many necessary provisions for the peaceful government of the inhabitants and the development of the resources, without giving opportunities for the natives or the government to be taken advantage of by the unscrupulous. Perhaps the most important of all the provisions is that relating to franchises. It was at first suggested that no franchises be granted in the islands, but it was deemed unwise by those who had the best interests of the Philippines at heart. Unless capital could be assured that it would be amply protected it would be impossible to induce it to go there and take up the work which must be done.

New York Evening Post.

The need of a flexible bank currency is experienced with peculiar force in the Philippines. At present the people have no paper currency, except the notes of the Spanish-Philippine bank, which are of small and decreasing volume, and such paper currency as may come to the islands in the pockets of visitors. How extensively paper would be employed if suitable agencies for issuing it should be supplied, may be seen from a comparison with the situation in Hongkong, where, notwithstanding the large supply of Mexican silver in circulation, not less than 10,000,000 pesos in notes are in daily use.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The National Geographic Magazine for January opens with a lecture by John W. Foster, ex-secretary of state, on "The New Mexico." It is a very entertaining address on the progress of that country during a period of twenty years. The numerous illustrations to the interest of the article. This is followed by a brief article on the "Commerce of Mexico and the United States," by Hon. O. P. Austin. The "Argentine-Chile Boundary Dispute," "Recent Decisions of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names," "Geographical Notes," "Geographical Literature," and proceedings of the "National Geographic Society" are also of interest. A valuable supplement is a map of the Philippine Islands—McClure, Phillips & Co., New York.

In the January Era a serial story by Joel Chandler Harris, entitled "Gabriel Tolliver," begins. "Mining Women of Colorado" is an illustrated article that will command interest. There are several stories and excellent poems, literary notes and news, a historical and genealogical department. The Era is in every respect a high class publication.—Henry T. Coate & Co., Philadelphia.

In the January number of the International Socialist Review, a number of writers discuss Socialism from many points of view. The story, "The Charity Girl," is continued, and in the editorial department "Socialism Abroad." The World of Labor, a list of labor topics are considered.—54 Fifth Avenue, Chicago.

The Black Cat for February, it is announced, will present five prize stories of more than usual interest. They are: "A Hair-Breadth Escape," by Margaret Steele Anderson; "The Pink Umbrella," by Evelyn Sneed Barnett; "Force of Circumstances," by Mary F. Leonard; "The Golden Treasury," by Mrs. A. R. Martin; and "Ladies' Night," by Alice Caldwell Hegan. The Black Cat promises to surpass its own record, this year, as the story telling hit of the literary world.—Shortstory Publishing Co., Boston.

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