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SALT LAKE CITY, - JULY 3, 1907.

## RUN ON NERVE.

The tax-payers have a right to know just what the qualifications are of the men who are responsible for the financial conditions of the community. That the City is uncomfortably near bankruptcy is clear from the statement of Mr. Fernstrom on Monday night. That the situation is even worse than he depicted it, is probably a fact. Under the circumstances, the public is interested in knowing what the outlook is for the future.

It is not encouraging. According to a circulating rumor, some time ago the question came up in the finance committee of raising the salaries of certain employees of the City. One of the members of the committee pointed out how imprudent it would be to make appropriations when there are no funds to draw upon. The reply to this was that the City has been in as bad a position as it is now, but that some way out has always been found, and that this would be the case again. Asked what could be done, they admitted that they did not know, but they added, the City could be run a long time on nerve. What can the citizens hope for, when those who hold the public purse strings are so hopelessly incompetent and indifferent to consequences?

It seems pretty clear that some illegal juggling with the City funds has taken place, which, perhaps, some citizen may feel called upon to have investigated in court. But such juggling will not remedy the consumption of the purse from which the City suffers. Paying last year's warrants with this year's revenue, for instance, and then drawing on next year's income is no cure. The void will have to be filled some time, and the tax-payers will object very emphatically to any further increase in the already heavy burden, knowing, as they do, that their money has been squandered.

There is no need of running the City to the verge of financial ruin. In times past the taxes were endurable, and yet improvements were constantly made and the City had a comfortable surplus at the end of each year. This was the fact until the City government was captured, fraudulently it was thought, by a gang whose ambition it was to "down the Mormons." They did not succeed in that, but they made the City a hiss and a by-word, and the gang was finally "downed" by the citizens. The situation is similar now to what it was then.

## WHY CELEBRATE THE FOURTH?

That we celebrate the Fourth day of July as a reminder of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, is a narrow and inadequate view. Holidays and celebrations that merely look backward have only a historical significance. If we regard the day as commemorative only of the successful issue of the war of the Revolution, then the holiday has lost the best part of its meaning and is devoid of its truest import. Not many, indeed, even among our speakers in the smallest cities have yet been found so narrow and ignorant as to seek to hold up to ridicule that great nation, the mother of parliaments in the best sense, from which we have derived our language and traditions, our political ideas and institutions, and even the most important of our statutes. There is little of that spread-eagled among us in the West, at least, which Will Carleton so cleverly satirizes when he represents the orator of the day as declaring "What a heap of Britons our sires did kill."

In the little skirmish of Bunker Hill. For the vast majority of our speakers, all in fact, that it has been our privilege to hear, recognize that the wisest men of Great Britain in that day—Pitt, Burke, Burns, Barre, Glover, and others—not only sympathized with the Americans, but believed that they were right. "I rejoice," said Pitt, "that America has resisted. Three millions of people so dead to all the feelings of liberty as voluntarily to submit to be slaves, would have been fit instruments to make slaves of all the rest."

What were the rights, then, for which, as British subjects, the colonists contended—rights which, by the successful issue of the war of the Revolution, became part and parcel of American as, for the most part, they had been of English institutions? Of what does that liberty consist, which the framers of the Constitution undertook to secure for themselves and their posterity? Briefly we may say that the political liberties which as American citizens we enjoy under the Constitution and which are fully enjoyed even today in English speaking countries alone, are as follows:

1. Trial by jury. This is a unique British institution that does not exist in other countries of Europe. With us it is a thoroughly familiar fact that in all important cases no man can be deprived of life, liberty, or property, except by "the judgment of his peers" and by other due process of law. And when we contrast this broad and humane characteristic of our laws, with the arbitrary power that may be wielded by the presiding judge in most, if not in all, of the courts in European countries outside of Britain, we may well conclude that the jury system, while it has its abuses, is one of the

chief bulwarks of individual security against the aggressions of centralized power.

2. The right secured by the writ of habeas corpus. By this peculiar requirement of our legal system, any person arrested can have the cause of his arrest and imprisonment at once inquired into by a competent court. In most other countries, this right has been unknown, men may be, and often have been, imprisoned for years without even being informed of the charge against them. This has been the fate of many a political opponent of those in power, and while imprisonment for merely political offenses tends to fall more and more into disuse, it is by no means abolished in many of the leading nations. In several of the European nations of today a person may be banished from the country upon the bare suspicion of a magistrate.

3. Individual security. No arrests can be made in this country except for crime committed at the time; and no premises can be searched or seizures of property made, without an express and specific warrant from a competent court authorizing the officer to act. This security of person and property against unreasonable searches and seizures is in sharp contrast with the practice in most of the countries of Europe.

4. A speedy trial. Unless the accused himself secures the delay, a speedy and impartial trial is the aim of our laws. In many countries, accused persons may languish for years in prison before being brought to trial.

5. Freedom of speech. A person may truly say what he thinks, and the truth of his assertion is generally a complete defense. He may express his opinion upon all departments of the government, without any danger, as in most other countries, of being fined, imprisoned, or banished for so doing. The press also is free. That is, there is no censorship of it by those in authority. Both individuals and newspapers are responsible for what they say falsely and maliciously in regard to others. Liberty of the press and freedom of speech do not mean license to vilify and falsely accuse.

6. Protection to persons on trial. A unique system as to the admissibility of evidence against persons accused of crime prevails in English speaking countries. Witnesses can tell only what they know, and not what they suppose or believe. They cannot always tell even what they have heard, and are not permitted to tell facts that do not bear directly upon the question of the guilt or innocence of the accused. In the Dreyfus trial, the witnesses were allowed a latitude that would not be tolerated in our courts.

7. Treason limited to overt acts. The crime of treason, hitherto vague and undefined, the resort of tyrants, the legal shield and weapon of cowardly assassins in all ages, is limited in this country to the overt acts of levying war against the government or in giving aid to those who are doing so. Even conspiracies to overthrow the government, unaccompanied by overt acts of levying war have been held by our courts to be something less than treason.

8. Equality before the law. All citizens here are politically equal. No title of nobility can be granted. The almost universal manhood suffrage makes of every adult citizen a sort of sovereign, the source of power whence government issues. Discarding old theories, such as the divine right of kings, we say that sovereignty ultimately and of right rests with the people, who may therefore change, enlarge, or contract the powers exercised by their servants, the officers of the government.

9. Freedom of religion. Religious belief and worship are not subject to legal interference in this country. There is no established church to support by taxation. There is no religious test for civil office or other public privilege. Those who seek to discriminate in civil affairs against others because of their religious faith and affiliation are untrue to the whole genius of real Americanism.

10. Civil power supreme. The military is subordinate to the civil organization. There can be little danger here that armed force shall overturn or permanently abridge any of the unique forms of liberty which the celebration of the Fourth of July should really symbolize.

"Grateful to Almighty God" for these blessings of liberty, we celebrate the day in order to perpetuate the freedom which in this happy land is not only the heritage of today but is the obligation of the present to future generations.

## A MENDACIOUS DEFENDER.

Our friends the ministers, being, as we suppose, truthful men, will hardly relish the attitude of their defender, the Tribune, in answer to our kindly meant words with these citations of the recent Address of the Church.

Let Saturday the Deseret News quote some of the sayings of one of the Reformers, Calvin, and of three modern theologians and preachers—Dr. Gardner Spring, the celebrated John Henry Newman, and the famous Mr. Spurgeon.

Many people now living in this country have heard the two last named men, and their theological works are at least as familiar and perhaps as generally approved as those of any other modern divines from which quotations might have been taken by way of illustration.

In the case of Calvin, we were careful to say that he "lived a long time ago, in the 16th century, in fact, no that his doctrines may be said to be 'too ancient to be recognized or tolerated by the churches of Christendom today.' We therefore quoted from several modern divines, to ascertain whether or not 'the modern representation of the supposed torments of the damned are any less awful and revolting than those of the Reformers.'"

On Sunday morning, with this article before it, the Tribune says, with characteristic mendacity: "There is one fact which entirely destroys the effectiveness of the attempted parallel. . . . He (Calvin) was born in the year 1509, while the Mormon leaders whose words have been reproduced all lived within a period covered by seventy-five years back."

Well, how far back is Spring, Newman, Spurgeon? Do they not come

"within a period covered by seventy-five years back?"

Besides, our contention is that the modern churches are not necessarily bound by what their former leaders have said. And we merely claim for ourselves the same right that we accord to all others. The Tribune urges this right for the members of all other churches; but declares that the Latter-day Saints shall be held to believe whatever doctrines their avowed enemies may affect to find in, or to deduce from, sermons or periodicals, even when that which they quote has been officially repudiated.

This was all that Nero ever claimed as against the Christians whom he caused to be burned at the stake or flung into the arena to be devoured by wild beasts. His charge against them was that they believed in another government than his—in the so-called "Kingdom of God"—and that they must necessarily be disloyal to Rome. He refused to allow them to interpret their own belief or to explain the meaning of the sayings of their Fathers. He chose to regard their belief in the "Kingdom" as treason to his own government, and refused to permit any but their enemies to explain the meaning of their doctrines, sermons, and practices—precisely the thing which the Tribune is contending for in the case of the Latter-day Saints.

Apart from its absurdity in this age of the world, the answer of the mendacious defender and inciter of the critics of the Church reveals the spirit of Nero and the intolerant bigotry of the middle ages.

## BAD GOVERNMENT.

Dr. George Hodges, in a baccalaureat sermon preached at Columbia University, New York, spoke, among other things, of the curse of bad municipal government. That is a theme that should interest every citizen of this country. As quoted, he said, for instance:

"In many a city the town hall is garrisoned by rebels who from the shelter of that fortress are terrorizing and plundering the people. These mercenary politicians are as hostile to the public good as any man who ever marched in the uniform of an army across the field of battle. By diverting the taxes of the people from civic maintenance and improvement to their own gain they are actually killing as many people in the course of a single year of their maladministration as are killed in the progress of a considerable war. They are poisoning men and women in the city streets and foul tenements for which they are responsible. They are corrupting the souls of the youth by the vices which they support and encourage for their own profit."

The evils referred to are especially prominent in the larger cities, where graft rules supreme, but they are felt in any city, no matter what size, where the conditions are similar.

One reason why corruption is permitted to occupy places of government, is, as the speaker maintained, cowardice. He said:

"You will find cowardice where you least expect it, among business men who are afraid that the politicians will injure their business, among philanthropists and educators who are afraid that the politicians will cut down their appropriations, you will find men more willing to risk their lives than their property for the common good."

This is true. If citizens were determined to do their duty as citizens, the graft and corruption would not be found in positions of trust.

All aerial roads lead to terra firma.

Mark Twain is no innocent abroad this time.

Who wants coal this kind of weather, anyhow?

It is prosperity that increases, not salaries.

The thermometer is going up almost as fast as coal and strawberries.

There'll be a hot time in the old town tomorrow, patriotically and otherwise.

That Automobile Grand Prix race was, so to say, a Dieppe of death.

San Francisco's model government is not a model of all the civic virtues.

The Nicht-Nicht seems to be the champion fingo yellow journal of Japan.

In war it is the man behind the gun; in peace it is the man behind the bat.

No office ever sought a man half so much as the officers are seeking John D. Rockefeller.

The modern college graduate is described as one having small Latin, less Greek, and no English.

How fitting that Dr. Hornaday should be managing the display of heads and horns.

The biggest Texas fish story yet is that in the Lone Star state as many men as women attend church.

It would be a good thing for the country if the "unwritten law" were made a written law and then repealed.

If it had not been a peace conference there is no telling what would have happened when Mr. Carnegie and Editor Stead met at the Hague.

Orchard isn't getting an immunity bath or a certificate of character, but the defense in the Haywood case is doing much to make his record less black than it appeared to be at first.

The mob being still unwhipped, General Funston will positively refuse to permit any of the soldiers at the Presidio to participate in the parade in San Francisco tomorrow. The parade will go on, just the same.

It is said that J. Pierpont Morgan can become a prince of the Holy Roman Empire, if he so desires. We had an idea that that institution came to an end August 6, 1866, when Emperor Francis abdicated its crown.

Mr. Harriman has ordered that accidents on all the roads in his system shall be promptly, accurately and fully reported to the press. It is a most common sense and revolutionary order and totally at variance with railroad tradition and practice. May

there never be any occasion to put the order into practice.

Watch the ice man; it pays. The first day a lady ordered ice she remarked to the ice man that the piece did not look as though it weighed fifty pounds. He assured her it did. She did not accept his assurance, but said she preferred to weigh it. It was weighed. It was just ten pounds short. Watch the ice man; it pays.

## IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE.

Springfield Republican.  
There is food for thought in the coincidence that on the very day that the United States launches a so-called scout cruiser, the Chester, whose speed is not to fight but spy, and whose speed is 24 knots, England launches a first-class fighting ship, the Indefatigable, with a speed of 25 knots. A scout vessel with less speed than a fighting ship she might be called to spy upon is somewhat of an absurdity. It would be cheaper to haul the Chester up to the mud flat than to send her scouting an Indefatigable. The coincidence illustrates two things: The extent to which England is advanced over the rest of the world in warship building, and the millions which are wasted on ships that are obsolete when launched or soon after. A merchant vessel which falls behind the record of the day of its launching is still useful, but a war ship that once becomes obsolete represents little more than so much junk.

## WARNING FOR THE BOYS.

Chicago Tribune.  
The Chicago health department repeats its statement that tetanus and lockjaw when given in time, is an absolute preventive of lockjaw. It is unfortunate that this information, which is of so much value to the boys who are to play with their crackers and other explosives on the Fourth of July, cannot be brought directly home to them. They do not get the health department bulletins. They are not great readers of the newspapers and miss most of the good advice given therein. If they would be made to understand that Fourth of July wounds, no matter how trivial they may seem, may be fatal unless promptly and properly treated, there would be a much smaller death roll. Whenever a boy's finger was cut by a bit of a percussion cap or burnt by a cracker, he should report the injury and proclaim himself ready for an injection of tetanus anti-toxin. The department of health of New York City is having printed a "consumption catechism" which is to be distributed among the school children. Those who can be persuaded to read it will be benefited. It did not occur to the Chicago health department to print a brief "lockjaw catechism" and distribute it among the children in the public and parochial schools.

## LEO XIII'S HANDKERCHIEFS.

Lady's Pictorial.  
Many people have read of the beautiful layette presented by Pope Pius X to his godson, the Prince of the Asturias, but the historical interest attaching to part of it is not generally known. When giving the order for the layette it occurred to his holiness that something might be done in connection with it with some exclusively fine new cambric pocket handkerchiefs that had belonged to the late Pope Leo XIII, and which had in the course of events come into the possession of his successor. Accordingly, after consulting with the proper quarters, these handkerchiefs were fashioned into some of the dainty little garments that help to swell the little one's wardrobe, and so during the next few months the heir to the Spanish throne will be at least partly clothed in what had once been the property of the great and good pope who twenty-one years ago assumed the duties of grandfather to the royal infant's own father, Don Alfonso XIII.

## JUST FOR FUN.

Willing to Try It.  
"Well, demanded the stern-visaged woman at the back door, 'what do you want?'"  
"Why," replied the tramp, "I seen you advertised 'tab' board' in dis morning's papers—"

"Well,"  
"Well, I tought mabe yer wuz giv' in' out some samples."—The Catholic Standard and Times.

Don't Follow It.  
Dr. Snodgrass—Well, Blinks, you're looking much better already. Of course, you followed my prescription?  
Blinks—If I had, doctor, I wouldn't be feeling as well as I do.

Dr. Snodgrass—Sir?  
Blinks—No; it fell out of the third-story window.—Chicago News.

Chance to Prove Himself.  
She—I would never marry a man who was a coward.  
He—About how brave would it be necessary for him to be in order to win your approval?

She—Well, he'd have to have courage enough to—or—propose.—Chicago News.

The Cook's Grievance.  
"You say you must leave, Mary, because you are tired of the way the food is cooked. Why, you cook it all yourself."

"That's just it, ma'am, I was told you made splendid pastry, and I've been waiting all these months to taste a bit."—Flegende Blatter.

Insisted on Light.  
"And you will have gas, madam?" inquired the dentist as a stout, elderly woman entered his office.

"Well," she replied, with a doubtful glance at the doctor, "you don't suppose I'm going to let you tinker about me in the dark, do you?"—Exchange.

The champion absent-minded man lived at Babylon. On one occasion he called upon his old friend, the family physician. After a chat of a couple of hours the doctor saw him to the door and bade him good-night, saying, "Good-night. Family all well. I suppose 'My heavens' exclaimed the absent-minded beggar, 'that reminds me of my errand. My wife is in a fit!'"—Pick-me-up.

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