

record these as a shadow on his memory.

It is, of course, impossible to tell what kind of a ruler the young czar will make. The indications are that he will follow in the peaceful footsteps of his father and perhaps under the influence of European ideas inaugurate a succession of reforms so much needed in Russia. His advisers will probably in the main be those of his father. Still he is very young—only 26 years old—and by the time he is able to assume personally the responsibilities of the throne, he may have surprises in store for the world. Princes sometimes do, and Nicholas Alexandrovitch as a czar may prove a different person from the gentle, pleasure loving czarovitch.

THE MONEY QUESTION.

The following communication was addressed to the NEWS by G. B. De Bernardi, editor of the *Labor Exchange*, Independence, Mo., under date of the 22nd inst.:

Editor Deseret News:

My fellow citizen and friend, E. Peterson, has kindly handed me a copy of the NEWS of the 12th inst., in which I read with deep interest the article on "Home Industry." Therein you lay down the industrial condition of the age—I may say, of the ages; and give its remedy. The industries have periodically been, and are today, in a deadlock for lack of cash, and one of your manufacturing institutions has demonstrated, how such "cruel absurdity and disgrace to the intelligence of those responsible for it," as you stigmatize it, can be averted: "As soon as the employees accepted the products of their work in compensation, relief began to be extended through a circle much larger than that composed of them and their families, and the institution is now in a flourishing condition." Then you exclaim, "Where would Utah be today if her working people, in the early years of her settlement, had refused to labor for anything but cash? The Utah we now see would not be in existence."

I am republishing an humble work of 300 pages to demonstrate what you do in a short newspaper article. Hence the deep interest I felt in reading it. But the fact that such demonstration should be needed in Utah strikes me forcibly. Its very foundation ought to be a living demonstration forever.

I discover but two points in said article which saddened me somewhat. One is the apology for the article itself; the other is the apparent gratification you seem to manifest that "the institution soon became able to pay more cash." Alas, the cash! It has proven "The root of all evils" the world over. It has been and is the most intense idolatry of the human race. It has in all ages, and all countries, smoked the workers out of the hive and carried the honey to the drones. It would have filled Utah with poverty and degradation from the early years of its settlement. Why should such an element of destruction be desired? A moneyless people have turned a desert into a Garden of Eden; the advent of money in Utah (like the serpent of old) will turn that Garden of Eden into a desert of want and woe.

Yes, modern civilization will yet learn something about finance, not, however, from the ancient and extinct Nephites, but from the modern first settlers of Utah, but I fear the lesson will have to

come through deadlocks, poverty and suffering.

Though stale and tiresome, I hope you will continue this theme in the NEWS.

G. B. DEBERNARDI.

The foregoing is accompanied by several copies of the publication of which Mr. De Bernardi is editor, and judging from their contents, he is engaged in advocating a co-operative organization whose aim is to dispense with money entirely, and effect exchanges between producer and consumer without it, by a system of tokens of value, to be agreed upon, and issued and accepted by, the members.

In publishing the article from which our correspondent quotes, it was not the intention of the NEWS to enter upon a discussion of the intricacies and metaphysics of the money question. This paper takes the position that the existing fiscal systems, practices and institutions of mankind are all wrong from the root. They are unjust, oppressive and unnatural. They clash incessantly, and at every turn, with true and elementary principles. They make of every man a foe to, instead of a friend of, his fellowmen. They add immeasurably to the difficulty of procuring the necessities, comforts and luxuries of life. Most of the strife and crime of the world are traceable to them, directly or indirectly, and relief from their evils would produce a state akin to redemption from the effects of the fall of Adam.

But this paper does not lend itself to the advocacy of any of the plans of fiscal or monetary reform, which are being promulgated by various writers, thinkers, classes and organizations in this and other countries. It does not place confidence in the merits nor ultimate success of any of them. As all of the religious teachers and bodies of the age were in error, and to a greater or less extent destitute of the true plan of salvation, until that knowledge was restored through the ministry of an angel to the great modern Prophet, Joseph Smith, so also are all the would-be financial reformers of the world at sea without a compass; and revelation from God is the only means by which man can be redeemed from the fiscal evils under which he labors and suffers.

While proper legislation and the right kind of organizations among the working classes may result in mitigating those evils somewhat, a complete redemption from them can be accomplished only by the same means that must be adopted to relieve the race of other consequences of the fall of man, viz., obedience to the will of the Creator as revealed through His Prophets in ancient and modern times.

To the Latter-day Saints has been communicated, by revelation from God, at least a partial knowledge of the plan and principles, by the carrying out of which the race will be redeemed from its present miserable condition in respect to money, and that which money procures. But time and the co-operating providences of the Almighty will be required to put in practical operation a system based upon that plan and those principles. In the interim the NEWS advocates co-operation in every form under which man seeks, by intelligent effort, to benefit himself and his fellow-man, and make it easier to live comfortably and happily upon the earth.

This paper has always been especially earnest in advocating the manufacture, within the community, of all the commodities that the community consumes, as far as possible, and the consumption by the people of the articles produced in their midst rather than those which are imported. These two propositions are largely inter-dependent, and they are natural truths which must be put in practice and adhered to by any people that would become truly and permanently wealthy and independent. In connection with them it may be said that the principal use of money in carrying them out is to facilitate an exchange between producer and consumer, and that any substitute for money that will do this as well, is, to this extent at least, just as good as money.

In many towns in Utah, the people have established co-operative organizations, and for their own convenience have issued scrip, which has circulated as money. While there generally have been disadvantages connected with the scrip system in this region, its benefits have more than offset them when it has not been subjected to abuses that were avoidable, and in many instances great good has been accomplished by a judicious issue and use of it. But experience has shown that such issue and use must be limited and guarded, and must be wisely controlled, or financial disaster may ensue.

One of the main propositions conveyed in the NEWS' editorial from which Mr. De Bernardi quotes, was that the workers in our home manufacturing institutions ought to be willing to receive, at least in part payment of their wages, the products of their own labor, or such other kinds of pay as could be obtained by exchange, instead of insisting upon cash. It is a curious fact exemplified in many cases that can be cited in this city, that men whose wages have for years been paid in "trade" are better off today than men of similar classes and habits, who have always had their earnings in cash. While cash is commonly considered far more desirable than "trade," it is far more difficult to save. Money is a most elusive and illusory thing; but bread, meat, potatoes and clothing are not. Money is easily squandered, while other kinds of pay are not; hence the great advantage in favor of the latter—an advantage which hundreds of families to whom we might refer in this city and Territory cannot be insensible to, because in their own experience it has been continually exemplified.

HEALING BY FAITH.

The religious world at present has to face a phenomenon for which its theories offer no adequate explanation. Reference is made to a growing practice of healing by means of faith and prayer. Prominent among the leaders of this movement is the Rev. John Alex Dowle, who last year opened a chapel in Chicago, to which, according to accounts, great numbers are flocking daily, many of whom are cured of various diseases and deformities.