

poor people may not have been the cause, properly speaking, of the decline of the state, but there can be no doubt that the conditions that make such ostentations possible are favorable to the development of the disease germs that sometimes prove fatal to the body politic.

It is the right of everybody to accumulate wealth by honorable and proper pursuits, if he be gifted in that direction. But his riches are after all a trust, the proper use of which is for the benefit of fellow-beings. He who puts it out indiscriminately only for his own pleasure, to outdo everybody else, is sure to create envy and hatred. He helps to draw a line of class distinction, on the other side of which the hardships of life are felt all the more bitter. He aids in the work of extinguishing the noble feeling of patriotism among the less favored multitudes of society. The sans-culottes of France were willing enough to gather the crumbs that fell from the tables of those that could spend their millions in feasting, but while doing so their envy and their hatred became intensified, and finally the torch was applied.

Human nature is human nature everywhere and at all times, and the vain and ostentatious parading of silk, velvet and precious stones is never calculated to serve any really good purpose, particularly at a time when there is a marked uneliness among the so-called lower strata of society.

### THE GATHERING DISPENSATION.

A correspondent asks the News to state whether the Mosala dispensation was known as a gathering dispensation, and if it was not, how it was that "the keys of the gathering of Israel from the four parts of the earth, and the leading of the ten tribes from the land of the north" were committed by Moses to the Prophet Joseph Smith in the Kirtland Temple. Regarding the latter suggestion, it may be remarked that the fact that Moses was selected as the divine messenger to deliver the keys of the gathering, or the authority over that work in the last days, does not imply that he engaged in the work itself at a former period. There was no gathering of Israel from the four quarters of the earth, or leading of the ten tribes from the land of the north, during Moses' day, for the scattering had not taken place. And in the Mosala dispensation following the departure of Moses from Israel, there was nothing to characterize it as a distinctively gathering dispensation, such as is the case with this latter time. The present dispensation—the dispensation of the fullness of times—is the gathering dispensation in the Gospel plan pertaining to this earth; in it all things are to be gathered, both those which are in heaven and those which are on earth. Not only is Israel to be gathered as a people, but principles, powers, and dominions—all dispensations—are to be gathered in one. This never has been done since the days of Father Adam, because it could not be; hence this, and this alone of

all dispensations, is to be characterized as the gathering dispensation, to which the Prophets looked and prophesied.]

### A SPECIES OF BOODLEISM.

There has been in the senatorial campaigns in various states again this year a species of boodleism that sooner or later will come under the righteous wrath of respectable citizens. This is the manner in which senatorial candidates expend money in wine, liquor, cigars, back fares, banquets, etc., in order to secure the votes of legislators to send the aforesaid candidates to the United States Senate. In this particular Utah has been no exception among several others that might be named. It is the common observance of the people that members of the legislature in different states are the recipients of special "favors" at the expense of the candidate whom they are supporting; and it is getting to be common comment that the "price" of some of those members is the "stuffing" they get in food, drink, etc. It may be that nothing like bribery is thought of in this connection; but when, in addition to what may be called the legitimate expenses of a candidate's "headquarters," where adherents may advocate his superior qualifications for a high office, and be directed in their campaigning, he spends thousands of dollars on members of the legislature, it looks a good deal like buying the members who accept such favors.

As illustrating the manner in which this business goes on at the expense of the candidate's purse and the honor of the legislators affected, may be cited the recent election of Judge Turner as United States senator from Washington, to succeed Senator Squire. In response to queries, Senator-elect Turner said his campaign for election had cost him, for railway fares, hotel expenses, oyster-suppers, cigars and customary liquid refreshments, \$4,300. That is, the cost to him of the office was the amount named, of which a large portion was for oyster-suppers, cigars and liquid refreshments with which to win the legislative vote.

It may be putting a legislator down pretty cheap to think that his vote can be bought, in a sense, by a series of banquets, with wine and cigars ad infinitum till the senatorial contest is over; but the fact that such means are resorted to, that a would-be senator's campaign is costing him four, five or six hundred dollars a day, and that contests are prolonged to extend the "feeding time," is paraded before the public in a way that gives evidence of the cheapness. It is not suggested that there is any thought of actual bribery connected with this custom which has grown up in the several states, but people who note and deplore the corruption associated with politics find it difficult to decide that a vote secured by cash payment is any more corruptly obtained than when the consideration is oyster-suppers, wine, cigars, and a "high old time" generally. In this State the sentiment, as shown by a statute, is to punish severely the giving of valuable consideration to secure a vote for any person at any election;

and some time the people's representatives will come to learn that one of their duties is to rebuke the species of boodleism which legislators now submit to in a vicious custom of accepting free and unlimited hospitality from candidates in the manner described.

### LIQUOR LICENSE INCREASE.

The prevailing sentiment among the taxpayers of Salt Lake county will endorse the action of the county commissioners in increasing from \$600 to \$900 per annum the price of a liquor license. It is generally conceded that a move of this sort tends to mitigate some of the evils of the traffic; to make saloons more respectable, if the word is not wholly out of place in such a connection, and to lessen their number; and at the same time it augments the public revenues.

Commissioner Hall did not lose prestige in the estimation of a majority of his constituents by favoring a still higher rate of license; but a fifty per cent increase was pretty stiff for one effort, and Mr. Hall's views can be appropriately considered later on. The high license doctrine is pretty generally believed in throughout Utah, and in a great many towns it merges into prohibition; all of which is creditable rather than otherwise. The county commissioners are in line with the views of a large majority of the people of the county in their recent treatment of the saloon question.

### ALFALFA TEA.

There has been some talk recently of the probability that the leaves of lucern hay can be dried and made into a tea preferable to that imported from Asia for a table beverage. Suggestions of this character, and favorable accounts of experiments made, usually have been looked upon as jests, but the Denver Field and Farm in its last issue takes a serious view of the proposition as follows:

There is no joke about making a very acceptable quality of table tea from alfalfa leaves, and hundred of western people are going to prepare some of the leaves the coming summer. It is estimated that the people of our country demand from the oriental tea trade about 78,650,000 pounds of tea a year. This immense expenditure of millions of dollars annually for this one article, when supplanted by the alfalfa leaf, which is produced so luxuriantly all over the arid and semi-arid districts of the west, and under conditions which have established our climate and soil as the home of the alfalfa plant, will go far toward solving the question of advisability of government expenditure in the reclaiming of the arid lands.

THE ADVENTURES of the now famous Princess de Chimay give an idea of the moral standard at present adopted by some of those moving in the highest circles of the world. The latest is contained in a published interview with Rigo's wife, in which the latter is quoted as saying that she has received a letter from the princess urging her to agree to a divorce, in order that the princess' child may not be born out of wedlock.