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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 20, 1903.

THE VACANT OFFICE.

The resignation of Chief of Police Samuel Paul has raised a turmoil, once more, on the question of the lack of harmony between the Mayor and the City Council in reference to police appointments; also much discussion as to the reasons why Chief Paul resigned. No matter what may be stated on either side of the controversy, Samuel Paul is out of office and the place he occupied is vacant.

We believe the gentleman did the very best he could while in office, under the circumstances which surrounded him. At any rate there was peace within the police department, and its affairs were conducted respectfully and we believe honestly. Some of the city ordinances were not enforced with the vigor that was desired, except occasionally, but we have no doubt there were influences brought to bear which hindered the Chief from proceeding with the force that was necessary. During the last days of his official career, however, he manifested a determination to carry them into effect in a manner which certainly did not suit some persons interested in the matter. Chief Paul retires with the respect and goodwill of the majority of the citizens of Salt Lake, and we wish him success in the business affairs which will henceforth command his entire attention.

The attempt on the part of certain individuals and newspapers to anticipate strife between the Mayor and the Council, evidently proceeds from a desire on their part to run counter to the expressed wishes of the majority of the people of this city, voiced repeatedly by the majority of their representatives in the City Council. The idea, which is repeatedly put forth, that the council or a majority thereof, is in duty bound to confirm every appointment and endorse every official action of the Mayor, is childish in the extreme. The very intent of the law is to put a check on the one-man power which some unwise people in this city desire to see established. It is expressed in the endeavor to push a bill through the Legislature vesting such power in the Mayor. We do not believe a sufficient number of the representatives of the people will force such a measure upon the people of Salt Lake and Ogden. It would be an outrage upon them. It would be in direct hostility to the principle which has governed in the enactment of all the city charters, that have been upon our statute books from the beginning of the Territory and continued in the State.

Those persons and papers to which we have alluded have started the contention anew, by suggesting the name of a candidate for the office of Chief of Police which has been turned down every time it has been put forward. There is no need for the Mayor to precipitate another squabble by presenting that name again, either officially or by quiet and underhand wire-working among the members of the Council. If there is any such revival of contention in this matter, it will have been started, not by the City Council but by the Mayor or his friends and supporters.

One thing should be clearly understood; that is, the rights of the Council are as important and as clearly defined as those of the Mayor. It takes the confirmation of the Council to legalize any nomination that the Mayor will make. The proper thing to do is to refrain from attempting to press upon the council any obnoxious appointee, but to select some competent person, regardless of personal friendship or political obligation, who will fill the office to the public credit and advantage, and with the approval of the body which the law has endowed with the power of confirmation. There will then be no trouble, or strife, or ill-feeling in regard to the filling of the vacancy in the police department that now exists.

DON'T INCREASE THE LOAD.

The report of the committee on education of the Commercial Club, which gave figures as to the receipts and expenditures of the Board of Education, and protested against the raising of the school tax limit, was given out as adopted by the Board of Governors, and all the papers designated it as coming from the Commercial Club. To haze over this, because the whole club has not passed upon it, is raising a rumpus in a trifle. It does not affect the question now under investigation.

Figures do not lie. But in the manipulation of figures many people lie under mistakes. Estimates are frequently faulty, and arguments based upon them are often but waste of time. In the present controversy one fact stands out clear and distinct; and that is, the burdened people do not want an increase of taxation and their representatives in the Legislature should see it in all its bold relief.

Another thing that should appear without a cloud is, that after all the endeavors to raise the limit of the school tax in this city to seven mills, six mills seems to be ample to meet all that is claimed as essential. If so, why put the power in the hands of the board to levy seven mills on the taxpayers.

The attempt to bring to bear resolutions passed in meetings where but one side of the question was presented, by interested persons to a few individuals, and press them upon the legislators as the sentiment of the public, is most contemptible, and was well exposed by Mrs. E. J. Bartley who is reported as follows, in her address before the committee of the Legislature:

"I live in the Grant district, I attended the mass meeting and I know that it was not a fair representation of the taxpayers of the district. The notices of the meeting were carried home at noon by the children; as many children do not go home for dinner their parents get no notice at all. None of the notices were in time to attend. Thirty-five women were at the meeting and five voted against the increase of tax. I am opposed to the bill."

The endeavor to extend the school year to ten months instead of nine is in our opinion not well timed. There are months in the year when the weather here is totally unsuited for school studies, and the regulations elsewhere do not apply in Utah. The whole question an aptly stated by opponents of the tax-raising bill, is local and should be settled locally. The city and the county authorities can fix the matter without tinkering with the general school law, which has been patched and changed and repealed and renewed, until every book of laws from session to session is burdened with the alterations.

Let it alone for awhile, and for pity's sake don't open the door any wider for the assessor, to pile further burdens on the backs of the small property-owners, whose names now swell the big list of delinquents on the tax-rolls and many of whom must let their places go to sheriff's sale!

THE ST. LOUIS FAIR.

A liberal appropriation for the St. Louis fair is all right. Utah cannot afford to be absent from that exhibition, which promises to be one of surpassing magnitude. Our State must be not only represented, but given the very best representation possible.

Among the wonders that will be seen at that fair is a two-acre map of the United States, the state lines to be marked with gravel paths. In the reservation of each state will be shown the economic plants produced by the state. Plants that do not grow normally in the St. Louis latitude will be forced under glass.

Another feature of the exposition will be the reproduction in actual size of a great number of historical places. France will reproduce a section of the Garden of Versailles, including the Grand Trianon and five of the beautiful chateaux erected by Marie Antoinette. Germany will reproduce Martenbourg on the Rhine. Louisiana will reproduce the Cabildo, where the formal transfer of the Louisiana territory from France to the United States took place April 20, 1803. Mississippi will reproduce Beauvoir, the home of Jefferson Davis, president of the confederacy. Virginia will reproduce the rotunda of the University of Virginia. The Burns Cottage Association will reproduce the cottage of Robert Burns at Ayrshire and Stirling Castle. The cabin of President Ulysses S. Grant at Old Orchard, the cabin where President Abraham Lincoln was born, in Larue county, Kentucky, will also be reproduced.

Of great interest among these reproductions of famous places is one of Jerusalem. Part of that city, we are told, will be shown, surrounded by its wall and showing the Church of the Sepulchre, the temple area with the Haram esh Sherif, the Mosque of Omar, Solomon's stables, the Golden Gate, the Via Dolorosa, with its fourteen stations, the Ecce Homo arch, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Jews' walling place and the tomb of David.

Another exhibit of importance is that of a model city, prepared by the Municipal Art and Science association, showing ideal public buildings and utilities and their ideal arrangement; embracing models of the leading thoroughfares of the leading cities of the world, showing their paving, their lamp lighting, street signs, parking, trees, the facades of houses and their arcades; showing by sectional views their subways for street cars, and for wires, sewage, gas and water.

The show, as planned, will be one of the most complete. No state in the Union can afford to be absent. They should all be represented in as magnificent style as their resources may permit. The Louisiana purchase was one of the greatest events in the nation's history. The celebration of it should draw together in a family reunion, all the states in their best holiday attire.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE.

From the 20th of this month to March 3, Pope Leo will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his reign as Roman pontiff. Congratulations are coming from all parts of the world, even from non-Catholic quarters, for Leo is recognized as one of the few great old men this century has produced.

The pope was born on March 2, 1810. It is generally observed that great men have distinguished mothers, and the case of the pope is no exception to that rule. His father, the bishop of the city, was not remarkable, but his mother was a woman of marked force of character, a modern type of the Roman matron. Her chief cares were her children and her household.

Leo, as soon as circumstances would permit, devoted himself to the study of theology. In his 25th year he became a priest. As a novice to the Bel-gian capital he revealed great diplomatic powers, and promotion quickly followed. In 1846 he was made bishop of Perugia. Seven years later he was appointed cardinal in the Consistory. From this vantage ground he managed so skillfully that in 1878 he was selected to succeed Pius IX.

The broad views of Leo may be judged from what he said of Reman, when a promise brought him word of the death of that famous rationalist. "Reman," he said, "has proved that his doubt was sincere, and therefore he will be judged by his sincerity, which, if it is thorough, may absolve him."

It is probably true that no pope in later history has wielded greater influence than Leo. He has put the Catholic church in touch with modern progress in every branch. One of his latest measures provides for a Bible commission to ascertain what is false and true in "higher criticism," and to give to the world the result of its researches. He has modernized the Vatican, modernized the church.

The relations between the Vatican and the Quirinal have been anomalous ever since the royal house was excommunicated by Pius, but the separation has been more pro forma than in reality. It is stated that there is telephone connection between the palaces of the pope and the king, and that the operators at either end are kept quite busy. That tells the tale. Publicly the pope is an exile, and the king is a heretic, but the two cannot get along without one another. The state needs the church, and the church needs the arm of the state to lean on. It is thus with all state churches.

"LET UP ON SMOOT."

The Atlanta, Georgia, Constitution of Feb. 4, has the following editorial under the foregoing title:

"The people of Utah, through their legislative representatives, have duly and constitutionally elected Reed Smoot a senator of the United States. This was done in the face of an outburst of disapproval from strong and widespread influences—the same influences that prevailed against Congressman-elect Roberts, of the same state, after he applied for his seat. But while both objectionable men are members of the 'Mormon' Church, it cannot, it is said, be proved that Senator-elect Smoot is or ever was a polygamist. If this be true, the whole attack upon him falls to the ground. The fact that he is a high dignitary of the Church of the Latter-day Saints does not weigh in the slightest degree against his eligibility, on moral grounds, to the honor to which he has been called by his fellow-citizens."

"As the Boston Herald observes: 'Mr. Smoot has peculiar opinions on the subject of religion, but they are nobody's business but his own. The only plausible objection to him that we have seen on this point is that he acknowledges a paramount allegiance to the Mormon Church over the American government. The Hartford Courant reminds that this used to be said of members of the Roman Catholic church in know-nothing days. We see no more reason to believe that it is true of Mormonism now than it was of Catholicism then, and it has long been abandoned as a charge against the latter.'"

"It is deeply to be regretted that any considerable number of Americans should be so blind to the genius of American institutions and the spirit of Americanism that they would single out a member of a sect against which they are violently prejudiced and attempt to proscribe him as a foreign American citizen, and through him the people of his sect."

"If the American republic, traditionally stands for anything, it is freedom of worship, God, or to refuse to worship God, as the citizen may elect in his conscience. So long as Mr. Smoot violates no law and keeps within the moral pale, his satirical credentialed as good, from that standpoint, as those of any member of that body."

"It is to be presumed that the people of the state of Utah are competent to select their own representatives, since they were deemed by Congress fit for statehood. There is a disposition in certain quarters to again covet and encroach upon the point of persecution. If members of that sect, through their tenets or otherwise, violate the common law, the remedy will be found in legal prosecution. From all that we can learn, Mr. Smoot is an exemplary and law-abiding citizen."

The same paper published the subjoined letter on Feb. 7th, under the heading of "Justice to Smoot":

"Editor Constitution: Your editorial of yesterday, entitled 'Let up on Smoot,' deserves more than passing notice. In this time, when there is so much trucking to policy and power, such a strong and independent voice to drift with the stream and never to run against the current, it requires a degree of moral courage to go against the current of popular prejudice. In the editorial referred to you have boldly struck out against the stream of popular prejudice and have dared to assert their scope and of especially deep import to the man who is so old-fashioned in his belief as to think that to be entitled to exercise liberty of thought himself he must be so for others to exercise liberty of thought."

"It is hardly possible to find one whose religious views are more at variance to those of Apostle Smoot than are mine. Yet, because he and I do not agree in such matters, should I say, therefore, he is not entitled to a seat in the United States Senate any more than he should say that those of my views are not?"

"Let no injustice be inflicted upon Mr. Smoot. The hand that strikes such a blow usually lives to be stricken in kind. As you say, it is American and contrary to the genius and traditions of this country to proscribe Mr. Smoot as a free American citizen and through him the people of his sect because of a prejudice against his religious views."

"It would seem that, inasmuch as this country has in the past been a haven and refuge for so many driven into it by reason of religious persecution, that toleration in religious matters would have a strong hold here. But in view of the ranting ebullitions of the Pharisees, who cry the cry against Mr. Roberts and now who raise it against Mr. Smoot, we see at least that there are those among us who believe in liberty of thought for themselves but not in liberty of thought for others—being tolerant tyrants and despots, who, if given the power, would crush the life out of every one who dared to exercise the right which they believe according to the dictates of their own minds and consciences."

"Such editorials as you have written on the subject will hush the howling mouths of many of the weaklings who are beating Apostle Smoot simply because the crowd have raised the cry; and I believe that this is the strongest of this element will be made less bold."

"WHEELER WILLIAMS, Columbus, Ga."

What Macedonia needs is an Alexander.

The more checks on the banks the less checks on prosperity.

It is to be said in favor of the law that it is not "so sudden."

Leaves have their time to fall. So have people on slippery sidewalks.

Will the powers talk Turkey to the Sultan or merely talk through their hats?

Mr. Cleveland persistently refuses to be harried by Mr. Bryan. And there you are.

Germany and Venezuela have resumed diplomatic relations. And now

the hearts of the Kaiser and Castro beat as one.

New York should be an Order of Acorns. Its meetings should be held under a spreading oak.

In the matter of downing, the omnibus statehood bill is as obstinate as Banquo's ghost.

The running down of a trolley car, loaded with high school pupils, at Newark, N. J., takes the place of the daily railroad wreck.

It seems to be easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the omnibus statehood bill to pass through the Senate.

Radium has gone to nine hundred thousand dollars a pound in London. Anthracite coal and beef will now have to go way back and set down.

It is to be said in favor of the present Legislature that it has not passed an overwhelming number of laws. It is a good record to make and should not be spoiled.

The ex-chief of police thinks with the constable in "The Pirates of Penzance" that "a policeman's lot is not a happy one when constabulary duties are to be done."

The pope's jubilee, or the twenty-fifth anniversary of his elevation to the papacy, begins today. Although very aged we say to his holiness, Health and long life!

John Mitchell has refused an offer of four thousand dollars to lecture. His consideration for the public puts him in the class of distinguished citizens and benefactors of his country.

If the Panama canal and Cuban reciprocity treaties are not ratified before the expiration of the present Congress, Mr. Roosevelt will call the Senate in extraordinary session. Now will the senators be good?

As a further illustration of the question of the American birthrate, the vital statistics of Massachusetts are important. They show that for the year there were 25,516 births of native and 35,370 of foreign parentage. And yet the marriages of the native-born couples exceeded those of foreign-born by more than 2,000. The deaths of the native-born were 33,885 and of the foreign-born 13,900. It seems therefore that the native stock is dying out, and is not being replaced proportionately.

Someone, it appears, has endeavored to create the impression that the escape of the Crown Princess of Saxony was the fruit of the reading of Leo Tolstoy's works. When the count was informed of this fact he immediately wrote to the New York World and denied that anything he had ever written could be interpreted as a justification for such conduct. Tolstoy believes in the sacrifice of personal pleasure and happiness for the benefit of others. The Crown Princess sacrificed the happiness of others, especially her children, for what she thought was her own pleasure. Her conduct was the opposite of that taught in the philosophy of Tolstoy.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In Pearson's Magazine for March appears an important article on "The Revolution of an International Spy" concerning the Dreyfus case. The number also contains a well written article on the Venezuelan trouble. Among other features are the following: "Fishing Through Ice" in the Baltic Sea, "A School for Explorers," by Mr. Wm. Fitzgerald, tells how the Royal Geographical Society of London teaches those about to travel in remote parts of the earth what to take with them, how to take it, and gives much other information for their guidance when out of touch with civilization. D. M. M. Clifton Somerville gives a graphic sketch of the exhilarating sport of ski-running in the Alps. Ma Husted Harper contributes a most interesting article on the life of Susan B. Anthony. Four bright short stories, two serials and eight clever articles on topics of live interest, make up a number which holds the interest of the reader from frontispiece to finish.—New York.

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