

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 18, 1909.

## THE PROHIBITION WAVE.

We trust the people of Salt Lake City read the correspondence from various country points which is appearing in the columns of the Deseret News and other papers. On Saturday and Sunday several significant paragraphs made their appearance. One was that in Preston, Idaho, a monster petition bearing more than a thousand names, praying for town prohibition, was submitted to the city council, and the following paragraph says:

"Following on the heels of last night's city council doings, came the closing of the Hall & Bagley saloon this morning.  
"On Monday, Jan. 11, 1909, the county commissioners will be in session at Malad, and that body will refuse absolutely to grant any more licenses to conduct liquor business."

From Malad comes the following through a "News" correspondent:

"With the beginning of the new year, the sale of liquor was strictly prohibited, all the saloons are closed, and as yet there is no discernible change. Everything is as lively as ever, the town is not dead, but enjoying a period of recuperation. Public sentiment is highly in favor of the work of the city council, and to all appearances, the new county commissioners will take a decisive stand in favor of prohibition."

A correspondent from Franklin closes his letter with the following terse statement:

"Franklin is now a dry town. The board of trustees refused to issue a license for the sale of intoxicants."

In the Herald of Sunday we note the following from Ephraim:

"The bishops and head teachers of the Ephraim North and South wards are working hard for the cessation of the liquor traffic in Ephraim. A man from each district has been selected to make a house to house canvass to get the signatures of every man and woman who are in favor of closing the saloons of this city. Most of the citizens are willing to sign, and a large majority are in favor of state prohibition. Already steps have been taken to close the saloons. At the last city council meeting the license was raised from \$200 to \$300 per quarter."

All these staves indicate which way the wind is blowing. The prohibition agitation in Salt Lake cannot fail to exert a wonderful influence throughout the whole western country. Let the agitation go on.

## THE PENSION ROLL.

According to the annual report of the pension commission, no less than 54,269 names were dropped from the pension roll last year, through death and other causes. Of the dead only 34,323 were soldiers and sailor veterans. The others were widows or other beneficiaries. The number of pensioners is now 551,587, or nearly a million; of whom 658,071 are soldiers or sailors, 232,106 are widows or orphans and 510 are army nurses.

It has been estimated that the United States has paid more than \$3,000,000,000 in pensions. In all probability, \$2,000,000,000 more will be paid on this account before we are through with the pension list. No other country in the world ever gave such recognition to patriotism. No other country could afford it. It is pleasing to think of the tender care the country has bestowed upon the Veterans who in their youth offered their lives for the preservation of the Union.

But we cannot afford any more wars. They are too expensive. The indirect loss to our commerce caused by the Civil war has been estimated at four billion dollars. The loss through the destruction of property during the famous march to the sea by General Sherman, has been estimated at \$300,000,000. And that was only one incident of the war. The economic loss through the destruction of life is also appalling. Somebody has suggested the following calculation: Suppose that a million men perished in the Civil war. Place the earning capacity of each man at \$400 annually, and calculate the loss of the country in the untimely death of these laborers. Further, how much literary ability, how much statesmanship, how much philosophy, how much inventive genius was lost through the death of men long before the age of maturity?

Wars are too expensive. While we honor, and almost worship, the worthy Veterans who stood between the Republic and annihilation in the hour of its greatest crisis, and while we desire to make their declining years as comfortable as possible, yet we hope that there will be no more wars, but that the wealth and brains and muscle of the nation may be devoted to the development of resources, to arts and sciences, to education, good roads, and all that makes life worth living. Wars are too expensive and entirely unnecessary.

## WORK FOR IT.

Those who believe in the official restraint of the liquor traffic in this State should just now manifest their faith by their works.

There are many people whose convictions are strong in the direction of temperance, but whose outward activity in its favor is scarcely perceptible. The force of Carlisle's great maxim, "Do the duty that lies nearest thee," ought to be apparent at this hour to

every one who believes in lending a helping hand to the work of aiding victims of strong drink to break their fetters, and to prevent others from falling under the dominion of a master so pitiless as the liquor habit.

If our life is to be one of both action and reflection, it cannot be realized by withdrawal from active participation in the movements of our own time. The man who is simply reflective and not active is sometimes characterized as "over-conscientious," and this attitude is often a mark of a real want of decision of character, such a man may be so spiritually good as to be good for nothing; whereas the truly good man, while adapting himself to the environment, will also strive to make it better. Such a man, remarks James Mackenzie, "does not simply try to keep himself unspotted from the world, but also clear the world from spot." He will not withdraw into himself and abstain from taking part in the modes of action around him; but will be "up and doing," always ready to

"Work for some good, be it ever so slowly."

Now is the time for all believers in true temperance to work for it.

## AS TO FOOD AND DRINK.

A Salt Lake Physician, not a Church member, the other day told a patient who sought his advice, that if he wished for a speedy recovery, he would have to keep the Word of Wisdom.

Upon inquiry as to what that means, the patient was told that he was to abstain from meat, tea, coffee, and other stimulants, and that that would be the most effective medicine in his case.

Students are beginning to realize the vast importance of pure, natural food to the physical well-being of man, as never before, because they are more intimately acquainted with the wonderful mechanism of the human body. They know more thoroughly its component parts, and its needs. And they are also beginning to realize that food has a great deal to do with the mental and intellectual qualities. As this truth dawns upon the world, it will be understood that the Word of Wisdom is as important, from a spiritual, as from a mere physical, point of view.

A writer in the London Times recently claims, with good reason, that many of the tyrants of the Middle Ages who, in the light of modern history, appear as monsters, were victims of disorders in the nerve system caused by an unnatural mode of living. Nero, he says, would probably, under modern conditions of diet and hygiene, have been nothing more dangerous than a faddist. As he was, he was the master of the world, with no one to prevent him from eating and drinking whatever he chose or from taking whatever other unwholesome pleasures he was inclined to. No doubt he exceeded in everything, and suffered from extreme irritability in consequence. Unfortunately, he could indulge his irritability without restraint. If, when he felt cross of a morning, he ordered a Senator to die, the Senator did die, and he heard no more of it. Moreover, there was always fear to work upon a tyrant's nerves, and some emperors became tyrants because of that fear. Domitian was a martyr to that fear, a good man of business, if he had been a stock-broker of today no doubt he would have worried incessantly about the state of the markets, and every one would pity him for his nervousness. As he was a Roman emperor, we think of him as a sinister villain who killed men for the pleasure of it.

There is a world of truth in this. If men and women knew how to eat and drink, how to breathe and to exercise properly; if they knew the value of outdoor life, they would be better both physically, intellectually, and morally. Daniel and his companions in captivity, after a period of rational living, were found to excel in knowledge and wisdom, as well as in physical appearance.

## THE IMPORTANT ISSUE.

All signs indicate that the question of the regulation if not the prohibition of the liquor traffic will be a prominent and lively one during the forthcoming session of the State Legislature. It is understood that a goodly number of the members are already pledged to take decided action on the matter, and the struggle promises to be in all respects a strenuous and exciting one. There is no doubt that throughout the nation at large sentiment against the saloon is gaining ground with wonderful rapidity. The liquor dealers and all their official publications agree in conceding this fact. They derive some comfort from the recollection that in the past they have survived many temperance and prohibition waves which threatened to sweep over the country. That comfort, however, is but transient when they recognize that no previous movement has been so well organized, or directed by such signal ability, such directness of purpose, such patient, persevering generalship as enabled the present "wave" to banish the trade from most of the territory of the United States south of Mason and Dixon's line, and from over one-half of the geographical area of the nation.

In the nature of things the influence of the success attending the movement in other localities would sooner or later have to make itself felt here in Utah. The wonder is that it has been so slow about it. In the illuminating campaign literature, in which the "wet" and "dry" states are depicted as "black" and "white" respectively, Utah enjoys the unenviable distinction of being nearly the center of the only remaining group of "wet" or "black" states in the entire Union. This is not because the people of Utah are heavier drinkers or more friendly to the saloon than other commonwealths. It is because they are conservative rather than radical in matters of legislation, and so far as pertains to a large part of them at least, because they hold that the observance of true rules of living in which they already profess to believe, would make unnecessary the

placing of anti-liquor legislation upon the statute book.

It is pretty evident, however, that those of them who believe in total abstinence and in the duty of the state to protect the weak, are now thoroughly awakened and are going to make their strength and influence felt. The proceedings of the Legislature will be watched, therefore, with uncommon interest. The motives governing the votes and the conduct of the members will be most closely sought after and scrutinized. The average legislator is frequently too guileless to realize the suspicion to which he sometimes quite innocently subjects himself.

It behooves the members of the Legislature to be careful. The grave public question before referred to will be championed by men who do not propose to be beaten unfairly. Every county, town and hamlet in the State is aroused, and the people have a right to expect that their wishes shall be respected and made operative. They may overlook and forgive an error in judgment if based upon sincere conviction. But no Utah legislator should disregard his constituents' demands and allow himself to be even so much as suspected of the taint of an unworthy motive.

Darkness covers the mind of the night rider.

"The World is mine oyster," says Mr. Roosevelt.

Swinging Indian clubs is a flourishing industry at all times.

Massachusetts thinks much more of its Crane than of the stork.

The House proposes to tell it to the marines in spite of the President's order.

When the cat's away the mice will not play if they know when they are well off.

Prohibition offers a splendid opportunity to test the initiative and referendum law.

When one sits down in a dentist's chair he feels like he was entering the portals of death.

Even in the matter of building good roads Heaven helps those who help themselves.

When Chief Forester Pinchot is attacked he can always bring his forest reserves into action.

Father Gunn has been playing "possum." At least he got a dispensation to eat "possum" on Friday.

Carrie Nation has been having some trouble in England. Carrie usually finds what she goes after.

Our government is one of checks and balances but somehow when added up the checks do not seem to balance.

Does the White House regard Senator Tillman as a timber wolf because he wished to buy timber lands?

Thornton J. Hains must bear a charmed life. For a second time he has been tried on the charge of murder and acquitted.

It isn't necessary to go to the mountain tops to take high moral ground. Among the things that are going up is the thermometer.

Senator Tillman may not have lost his cunning but the public has lost its interest in him. As a "thriller" orator he has become a back number.

Descendants of the signers of the Declaration of Independence are going to incorporate themselves. This will be a declaration of exclusiveness.

Aeroplane pilot Orville Wright had a very narrow escape in a railroad wreck. Henceforth, if wise, he will stick to his airship when he goes traveling.

"The way to a man's heart is through his stomach," the old saying has it. The Georgians have touched Judge Tat's heart. "Well, certainly I do like 'possum,'" declares the judge.

As a "boom" advertisement the proposed investigation of the New York World's charges of scandal in connection with the Panama canal purchase will be almost as good as an order excluding the World from the mails. It is simply a case to them that hath shall be given.

Thornton Jenkins Hains is reported to have said that the verdict in his case paces the "unwritten law" far above the written law of the state of New York. If it has, then the sooner the "unwritten law" is hauled down and the written law placed above it, the better for civilization and mankind in general.

## Culled From Exchanges

The total death-rate in the Mediterranean by earthquake is about one-seventh of that in America annually from tuberculosis.—Butte Inter-Mountain.

Uncle Sam is trying to get back 25,000 acres of coal lands alleged to have been taken fraudulently from him in Utah. Uncle is getting good and tired of being an easy mark.—Chicago News.

Speculation in stocks, says Henry Clews, is a science. Some people feel that it is an experience.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

Taft is not only reducing his own weight, but doubtless that of a number of office seekers. Worry will do it.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The case of Mr. Andrew Carnegie shows clearly how careless a man with an income of \$1,000,000 a month can become in discussing other folks' tariff profits.—Washington Herald.

Officials on the isthmus report that there are plenty of laborers for the canal. It also seems that there is still plenty of coal for the laborers. In spite of the efforts of the last three years.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

"The Winning of the South," by

William Howard Taft, promises to be quite as interesting a volume as "The Winning of the West" by Theodore Roosevelt.—Omaha Bee.

Now, when the great armored ships of war can be swiftly sent to Italy on errands of mercy, peace and good-will there will probably be less objection to the enormous expenditures of the nations in building them.—Philadelphia Record.

Statisticians inform us that the cost of living has increased 250 per cent during the last 100 years. Still, it will have to be admitted that living is worth a good deal more than it was 100 years ago.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Mr. Carnegie does not believe in an income tax, but does believe in an inheritance tax. Evidently, he believes he would rather not be around when the tax collector calls to relieve him of his money, anyway.—Washington Herald.

It may not be incompatible with the public service for President Roosevelt to forward the papers in the case, but it might prove to be incompatible with constitutional soundness in instances.—Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.

The supreme court of the United States has decided that Mr. Harrison may keep silent, and in this case Mr. Harrison knows that silence is golden.—Omaha Bee.

Eminent citizens not mentioned for a cabinet position need not feel slighted. Their time will come.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Mr. Roosevelt is not studying stage effects. He doesn't seem to care whether he gets a complimentary recall or not when the curtain goes down.—Chicago Tribune.

In passing on the Pullman case, the interstate commerce commission would make a hit by requiring the company to furnish blankets instead of lap robes in both the upper and lower berths.—Omaha Bee.

It is said that the Standard Oil income has increased some \$20,000,000 during the past year. This being true, it can easily be seen that the payment of that \$20,000,000 fine was not retarded by reason of poverty, but on principle.—Portland Telegram.

The California legislature is to have six chains, according to present reports. If the coming legislature is like some that have gone into California history, it will take several times six chaplains to have any good effect.—Tacoma News.

Now that a use has been found for the vermiform appendix, there should be no further question of the return of prosperity.—Buffalo News.

Mr. Jerome, district attorney of New York, has joined Isaac Williams and Wu Ting Fang on the water wagon. At this rate the driver's seat will soon command a premium.—Philadelphia Times.

"The upper berth is really preferable to the lower," says a Pullman official. Which, we suspect, is why he always occupies a lower.—Washington Herald.

Surrounded by concealed cameras, phonographs, detectors and harrowing experts, how shall a poor grafter make a living?—New York Post.

John D. Rockefeller now threatens a benevolence trust. Compared with all the other articles is a rarity, indeed, and ought to be easy to corner.—Philadelphia Trust.

## JUST FOR FUN.

The Lowest Terms.

A man purchased some red flannel shirts, guaranteed neither to shrink nor fade. He reminded the clerk forcibly of that guarantee some weeks later. "Have you had any such difficulty with them?" the clerk asked. "No," replied the customer, "only the other morning when I was dressing, my wife said to me, 'John, when did you get that pink coral necktie?'"—Success Magazine.

"Yes," said the bankrupt, "I lost my fortune reaching for an ideal." "Very interesting. And what was your ideal?" "A better fortune than I had."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Employer—"When you went to collect that bill from Mr. Tightwad did he answer you with acrimony?" Office Boy—"No, sir; he didn't give me any kind of money."—Baltimore American.

"Were you frightened when you made your first speech in Congress?" "At first," replied the ardent young statesman. "Afraid of your audience?" "No. Afraid I wouldn't get a chance to make it."—Washington Star.

Trump—"Say, boss, can yer tell a feller where he kin get ten cents for a bed?" Old gentleman (dealer in second-hand furniture)—"Certainly, my good man. Bring the bed to me, and if it is worth fifteen cents, I'll buy it."—Judge.

They had been married only four weeks and he was lifting her up on his broad shoulders to the lower branches of the giant oak.

"Am I heavy, dear?" she asked. "No, sweetheart; I feel like Atlas," he responded, gallantly.

"But Atlas had the whole world on his shoulders."

"Well, dear, you are all the world to me."

And the squirrels ceased searching for acorns to bark their approval.—Boston Traveler.



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