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SALT LAKE CITY, - NOV. 3, 1908.

THE ELECTION.

Before another issue of the "News" the voters of the Republic will have decided, at the polls, the overwhelmingly important question as to a successor of President Roosevelt in the exalted office of a Chief Executive of the Nation, and also the local issues before the people in the several states.

The power of voting is a great privilege. But it also involves great responsibility. The ballot can be used in the service of liberty, truth, justice; it can also be employed for the furtherance of selfishness to the injury of fellow-beings. If so used it marks the beginning of the end of national greatness, for he who rules the destinies of mankind will not suffer those who fail to realize their responsibility to retain the privileges granted. When favored nations are not true to their trust, they are cast aside, and their inheritance is given to another. The responsibility that goes with the privilege of voting cannot be exaggerated. A nation's fate depends upon the faithfulness of its citizens to true principles. By their votes they continue, or abolish, the sovereignty of the people. They further, or retard, prosperity. By their votes they affect not only themselves but all the members of the community. And, when it is remembered, that one vote may possibly change the result one way or the other, the importance of each individual vote may be, to some extent, realized.

The campaign, except locally, has been remarkable for the absence of the campaign orator. Speech making has not been a great feature. The leading candidates themselves have presented the issues to the nation. As between the respective parties represented by Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan, these have not been very clearly defined, while the Prohibition and Socialist candidates have presented the differences between the principles they advocate and those of other national parties more clearly and forcibly than in any previous campaign. As a result the Prohibition vote is expected to be larger than ever—between half a million and a million, and the Socialist votes hope to receive at least a million.

Locally, the national issues have been obscured, very largely, by the policy announced by speakers of a party without national standing, to get control of the offices for the purpose of strengthening them in their crusade upon the Church. Naturally, this has caused some bitterness of feeling, and even excitement. We shall soon know the result of the election, and we can at this time only express the hope that it will prove that the citizens loyal to American institutions and determined to uphold liberty of conscience and equality under the law are numerous enough to roll back from this State the flood of bigotry and corruption by which it is threatened.

ANOTHER REV. OUTBURST.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press of October 13 contains what purports to be a synopsis of an address on Utah conditions delivered at the Central Presbyterian church, on the 17th of October, by Dr. Robert M. Stevenson, president of the Westminster college, Salt Lake City. According to the reports, the reverend gentleman made a number of statements of such a nature as to warrant the conclusion that, either through ignorance or malice, he bore false witness against his neighbors. We know not whether, in the ethical conceptions of the reverend gentleman this is considered a very grave offense, but according to the infallible Word of the Lawgiver, "whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

Dr. Stevenson plead for sympathy for the rank and file of the Mormon people "on the ground that they are deluded into submissiveness, and he quoted the Tribune as proof of that, which is about as rational as it would be to quote the ravings of a delirious patient in proof of accusations against the character and honor of Dr. Stevenson.

The speaker, according to the report, elaborated on "the great influence the church exerts upon the politics of the people, and said that the church controls absolutely the votes of the Mormons." He then made an assault upon the school system of Utah in the following statement:

"The Mormons have three institutions of higher learning, and in these there are nearly 4,000 students. Every teacher is a Mormon and every pupil must take a course in the theology of the Mormon Church. The teachers of the public schools are recruited from these Mormon institutions not only in Utah but also in the entire intermountain region. Against this the evangelical churches have twenty-four mission schools, eight academies and one college. The Presbyterians control four academies and the college, the Westminster at Salt Lake City. This is the only Christian college for the 700,000 people in the intermountain region."

What do the people here who know the conditions think of that statement? "The teachers of the public schools are recruited from these Mormon institutions!" Is that true, or is it one of the half-truths which by reason of its being only half, is an unqualified falsehood? Further, "The Westminster is the only Christian college for the 700,000 people in the intermountain region." What about All Hallows college, not to mention any of the institutions of the Church? Dr. Stevenson is on record as

saying that that college is not Christian. Clearly the bigotry that stoops to assaults upon the Latter-day Saints' Church is only awaiting an opportunity of carrying its warfare against other churches.

But the following capped the climax of the falsehood:

"The Mormons are kept in dire poverty by the Church, as they must pay a tenth of all their earnings and in addition must contribute to many other functions of the Church, and this money is sent to the president, who renders no account to the people," said Dr. Stevenson. "The president has risen from abject penury to opulence in a few years, as he receives in tithes as much as \$2,000,000 a year. The Mormons suffer from the greatest poverty imaginable and lack incentive to work. The Church convives at the sensuality, profanity and the drunkenness of the people, and even of the apostles. The officials openly condemn the licentiousness of the people, but do nothing effective to put an end to it. Their denunciations being to deceive tourists."

Even Falstaff would have failed had he attempted to put so many gross falsehoods into so few words. The Latter-day Saints are not kept in dire poverty. As a rule they are as prosperous as the average citizen, and some are well off. But, if they are poor in worldly goods, is that a dishonor? Did the Master choose an earthly career in opulence?

The Latter-day Saints are not in the position that they "must" pay anything to the Church. Every contribution is entirely voluntary. The money the Saints pay for the support of the Church is not sent to the President, and it is not true that no account is rendered. The entire statement of Dr. Stevenson on the tithing of the Church is rubbish, as can be figured out from his assertions, first, that the Latter-day Saints live in abject poverty; secondly, that they pay \$2,000,000 annually in tithing alone. The Rev. speaker stands self-convicted. We need not refer to the alleged "profanity and drunkenness of the people" except to say that anyone who has lived in Utah and knows anything about the prevailing conditions knows that the Latter-day Saints, as a rule, are sober, moral, and orderly. We believe Dr. Stevenson will feel ashamed under the report of his address, when he sees it in print.

But, let us ask, is it not time to cease slandering Utah and telling falsehoods about her people for pious purposes? Is it not time to take a new course and work for harmony, good feelings and peace? We say shame on every Utah citizen who goes abroad with malice in his heart, but double shame upon the heads of the maligners who hide under a sacred title and in a pulpit consecrated to the gospel of the Redeemer! If there are differences, let them be aired and settled at home. A little patriotism and some statesmanship will do that. Slander will only do harm to all and good to none.

THE FATHER OF WATERS.

Fourteen years ago Congressman Lorimer decided to make the construction of a water-way from the Great Lakes to the Gulf or Mexico. The project was quite generally pronounced visionary and impossible.

After six years of construction work, the Congressional committee on rivers and harbors was induced to add to the appropriations for internal improvements the sum of \$200,000 to make a survey from St. Louis to the end of the Chicago drainage canal. When the survey was completed it appeared probable that the waterway from Chicago to the city of St. Louis could be constructed at a cost of \$31,000,000. Congress cannot afford, however, to vote so much money to one locality for this purpose. It became a problem to be solved outside of Congress. Three years ago Mr. Lorimer built a small boat and induced his fellow-members from Illinois to go with him on a trip of organization down through the valley in this little boat from Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. They passed out of Lake Michigan into the Chicago river, down into the Illinois and Michigan canal, through the Illinois river, and down into the Mississippi, traveling only in the day time, stopping at every hamlet, town, village, and city, and there organized Lakes to the Gulf Deep Water Way associations until they came to the great city of St. Louis, and there they were met by the leaders of all the commercial associations of that city.

The very next year the great Lakes to-the-gulf water way convention was held in the city of Memphis, attended by over 3,000 delegates, more than 150 members of Congress, eighteen Mississippi valley state Governors, thirty-two United States Senators, and the President of the United States, all assembled there to indorse this great project.

The resolutions passed by the recent water-way convention at Chicago strongly endorsed the project, which is now believed to be in a fair way for realization.

The deep water way is practically complete from Chicago to Joliet through the courage and enterprise of a single city of Chicago, which has, by the expenditure of \$55,000,000, created a deep water way across the main divide between the waters of Lake Michigan and those of the Mississippi. The state of Illinois, assuming that the federal government will take the responsibility of completing the water way to the gulf, is about to co-operate to the extent of \$20,000,000.

One of the resolutions endorses a broad plan for improving all the water way—a plan that should consider the conservation of the natural resources of the country in their relation to commerce and navigation, should extend to forest preservation, reservoirs, maintenance of the level of our great lakes in such a manner as not to interfere with their navigation and commerce, and should consider floods and their prevention, together with irrigation and drainage, a plan that should take account of bank reclamation, levee building, and other means of protecting the bottom lands and increasing their productivity, and should contemplate regulation of terminals with a view to rendering rail transportation and water transportation complementary and jointly useful to the people of the country.

We believe that the people gen-

erally will approve this policy.

With the final harnessing of the "Father of Waters," the Mississippi, for commerce by transportation, the interior valley, comprising practically half the people and half the area of the United States, there will be given to the shipbuilding industry "a mightier impulse," to use the language of the resolution, "than could be given by any subsidy other than the moderate expenditure required for the permanent betterment of channels."

Good water transportation means increased trade, industry, and population for the entire region affected by the proposed improvement.

A vote of thanks is due the weather man.

The campaign liar will now become a promoter.

A strapping big fellow isn't necessarily strapped.

In the words of Gen. Grant, "Let us have peace."

Long-headed men usually have pretty round heads.

What the people now need is a week of the rest cure.

Every Boston spinster has her Hubby and her hobby.

The canned oratory can be held over for the next election.

To make a uniform bill of lading—put brass buttons on it.

The November and not the October states are the important ones today.

"Americans" in name only; in all else haters and traducers of Utah and her people.

Lots of pre-election claims will have to be resurveyed to square with post election facts.

"Hips are out of style this year," says the Boston Globe. Last year they were almost out of bounds.

One of the nuisances of tomorrow will be the constant repetition of "I told-you-so."

General Apathy was not in evidence today no matter where he may have been in the campaign.

After tomorrow everybody can step down off the platform and go about their regular business.

Edith Wharton's novels are becoming more and more French, her last one having been written in French.

The people of this city are bled and gouged more by the local combines than by the great trusts of the country.

Mr. Hearst has done one thing in the campaign that no one else has done. He has achieved distinction as a man of letters.

One trouble with these whirlwind campaigns is that they leave such a path of destruction the day after election.

A Theosophical lecturer says that Miss Elkins is a duchess reincarnated. But that fact does not help matters at the Quirinal.

And will the solicitude for the welfare of the laboring man be as great during the next four years as it has been in the last four weeks?

Coal advanced twenty-five cents a ton; and the teamsters get it all. What a grasping lot those teamsters are! And what a lot of innocent lambs the coal barons are!

AMERICAN COAL FOR SPAIN.

Report of Consul General at Madrid. The possibility of introducing American coal into Spain on a large scale has long been a subject of great interest, and American coal companies have been kept regularly and carefully advised as to the situation at Barcelona. The prices of British coal last year were higher than in any year since the boom of 1900. The year began with a price of about a shilling (24 cents) per ton over the previous December, and steadily increased until the beginning of September, when rumors of financial difficulties, first in Egypt and later in the United States, had a disquieting effect. One having started down grade prices fell rapidly, and although some qualities are still relatively high in price the market at the time of writing is demoralized and purchases are only made to fill immediate requirements.

Hard times and panics have no influence apparently upon the yellow metal nor the ability of the world to devour it, but they affect the white just as they do the red and gray metals. Silver, like copper and iron, has become largely a thing of ordinary commerce instead of a money medium. But since it is chiefly used in the arts and sciences, silver's value fluctuates rapidly as do other commodities when the demand increases or falls suddenly. That is why a general business depression hurts the price of silver just as it does the value of copper and iron.

WHERE OUR SILVER GOES.

Philadelphia Press. China and India remain the leading customers of the silver mines, but both these Asiatic lands have greatly curtailed their purchases in the past couple of years. Just now the bazaars of India are perhaps the leading customers of silver in the entire world. India's absorption of silver has been one of the strange occurrences of the past century. Silver flows to the land of the Hindu and disappears, just as gold at the rate of over \$400,000,000 a year is now being swallowed up by mankind.

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IN THE ADIRONDACKS.

Forest and Stream. A few weeks ago smoke was observed—where did it come from? Some said Minnesota, other Michigan, still others said there must be a fire somewhere in our own forests. Day by day the smoke increased, and then news came of several Adirondack fires. Still little was thought of it. But the smoke increased, the air became heavy, thick, vitiated, its vitality burned up, and the heat correspondingly increased. Even the sun was partially obscured, and all nature trembled, as if awaiting a catastrophe. Physical depression resulted; in many cases it became mental. The fires were all around—spreading, approaching. Some hamlets were

destroyed. This was not reassuring. The fires increased in number, they were coming nearer. Men felt their inability to cope with them. Non-religious men said, "We ought to pray for rain." Some did it. On Sept. 28, it came; moderately during the afternoon—more at night. People smiled as they met. Some sang the Doxology. The fires could now be controlled, the air was clearer, the long strain was over.

JUST FOR FUN.

Thirst for Knowledge.

"I will wait a few moments," said the lecturer, who had delivered an eloquent and instructive address on "The High Mission of Women in Our Modern Civilization," to answer any questions that may be asked."

"There's one thing I'd like to know, Mr. Croxton," spoke up a despectic-looking man with a thin, straggling beard. "Where do they get the names for all these breakfast foods?"—Chicago Tribune.

Washington, Footballer.

"Say, pa, Gen. Washington and his army were good football players, weren't they?"

"Why do you think so?"

"Because my United States History says that Gen. Washington and his army fell upon the Hessians at Princeton and killed a lot of them."—Town and Country.

Supercogatory.

Mother—Johnnie, you left out part of your prayers. You didn't say "God bless Aunt Hattie and make her happy."

Johnnie—Why, mover, I don't have to put that in any more. Aunt Hattie's engaged!"

A Good Prescription.

Boreleigh—Yes, Miss Doris, I suffer dreadfully from insomnia, y' know.

Miss Doris (suppressing a yawn)—Did you ever try talking to yourself, Mr. Boreleigh?—Boston Transcript.

A Coach House of Gentility.

Mrs. Knicker—Where do you keep your auto?

Mrs. Newrich—in a mirage, of course. —New York Sun.

A Word from Br'er Williams.

Satan done quite gwine aroun' like a roarin' lion. You don't know wen he's comin' dese days, 'twel he get you.

De wants er de vain man is few. It only takes a lookin' glass on a loud bray er he make him happy.

Folks is always singin' 'bout Jordan's stumy banks bekaze dey got dey eyes shut, en can't see de sunshine in de strum.

It don't take much ter make dis ole worl' happy. Look how it sings in springtime, wen spring des throws it a rose!

Use ter sigh kase you can't see what's ahead er you, kase of you could see it you'd fall over yose'f turnin' back.—Atlanta Constitution.

Memorized.

Instructor—Mr. Smith, kindly name the bones of the skull.

Student Smith—Well, sir, I've got them all in my head, but I can't think of their names just now.—Bohemian.

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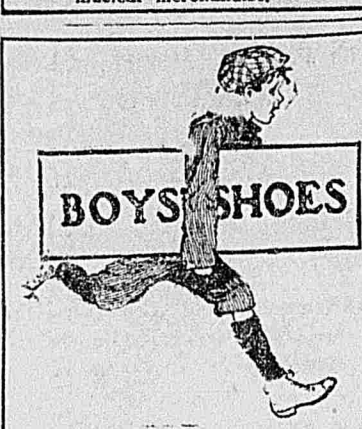
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