

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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## DIGNITY OF LABOR

In the Louisville address of Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, he stated that organized labor proposed to continue its political campaign of electing its friends and of defeating those who are indifferent or hostile to the enactment of labor measures.

Political activity is clearly the right of organized or unorganized labor, and promises a more speedy and satisfactory solution of the problems affecting labor than do methods that so readily partake of fraud and violence as do the boycott and the strike. That the condition of labor has enormously improved during the last century is apparent from many sources of historical information.

A century ago, Burns wrote of the workman, the poor man of that time:

"What though on homely fare we dine,  
Wear hoddin' grey, and a that;  
Die fools their silks and knaves their wine.  
A man's a man for a' that,  
For a' that and a' that,  
Our toils obscure and a' that,  
Yet rank is like the gowd's stamp,  
The monie's mark for a' that."

Today the laborer is in no such condition. He has three good meals each day, with meat as often as he cares for it; more often, no doubt, than is best for his health. He is well clothed in his wife and daughters are not without silken apparel, while silk handkerchiefs and stockings are not unknown to him. Wine he has when he desires it; and like the rich fool in Burns' day, this mocker too often makes a fool of him. No longer are his "toils obscure," every person is more or less interested in the production and industrial vocations, and his work is the subject of innumerable legislative provisions for the protection and fair treatment of himself and comrades.

Later when Carlyle wrote that two men be honored, "and no third," namely, the worker with the hands and the worker with the brain—it began to be plain that those who think—and these are the hardest workers—should also labor with their hands in order the better to understand the way of the wage-earner, also that those who labor with the hands should likewise cultivate their minds, in the way that they might understand the order of the scholar, and at the same time apply to their work that intellectual effort which should vastly increase its efficiency and output.

In our day, the distinction between hand labor and mental application is only one of degree. All great thinkers delight in working with their hands, in order, chiefly, to rest from the more severe strain of concentration upon the problems which they are seeking to solve. All true workmen, all first class mechanics, must also be thinkers and investigators, if they would permanently hold their places and retain and advance their present rates of compensation.

This is labor advanced to a place of dignity and honor. It is no longer menial and bears no taint of degradation which anciently attached to it, even as lately as the middle ages. It contributes to the health, the recreation, and often to the inspiration of the scholar and student, while excellence in any of its legitimate forms is the surest means of progress and enlightenment to the laborer himself. In the fine view of Mrs. Osmond.

Labor is rest from the sorrows that greet us.  
Rest from all petty vexations that meet us.  
Rest from sin-proppings that ever entreat us.  
Rest from world-drears that lure us to ill.  
Work, and pure pleasures shall wait on us.  
Work—thou shalt ride over cape's coming billows;  
Lies not down, wearied, 'neath wave's weeping willow.  
Work with a stout heart and resolute will.

Rest not content in the darkness—a chod!  
Work for some good, be it ever so slowly.  
Cherish some flower, be it ever so lowly.  
Labor—all labor is noble and holy;  
Let thy great deeds be thy prayer to thy God.

## WAR AND PEACE

That war is better than peace is the latest argument of the "American" party. With a flourish of rhetoric it announces the following discovery: That since, according to the ancient Greeks, "strife is the father of all things," therefore peace would be a calamity to Utah, since it would retard progress and would hinder everything that goes to make a great city.

It is a fine philosophy, but it is true only in so far as it is correctly applied, namely, that opposition of some sort is the necessary condition of human progress.

But when, hiding under this maxim a thief steals from his neighbor, and brought before the bar of justice, explains how necessary it is that his neighbor should be robbed in order to develop the finer traits of patience and long suffering in his neighbor's character; when a Benedict Arnold, less noble than the original one, betrays a trust and then alleges that the betrayal will not injure the betrayed because it will give him a chance to add to his heroism; when a Judas betrays Christ in order that he may force Him to set up His kingdom straightway; when a newspaper attempts the character-assassination of those who are morally, intellectually, and patriotically the superiors of the scribbles who engage in such work, and then blandly explains that the strife aroused and perpetuated by slander is the condition of this city's progress—what does the plea amount to except a sheer admission that the "American" party is of criminal intent and lives only on strife?

But it is true that "strife is the father of all things," that the Civil War was a blessing to this nation; that the massacres of the Huguenots and the tragedies of the Inquisition were really the expressions of a beautiful inner harmony of progress, while to the victims they appeared to be the incarnation of evil; if the Tribune philosophy is true, then war is not "hell," as Gen. Sherman declared it to be, but heaven, as viewed by the writer of the Tribune's Sunday editorials.

## ARGUING FOR BATTLESHIPS

The international context in the building of more and greater battleships by every nation is sustained by arguments that are not always easy to answer. For example, the statement of Commander Sims in 1904 seemed to prove that the way of economy lies in the building of larger ships. He said:

"A fleet of ten 20,000 ton ships, each having a broadside fire of eight 12-inch guns (or eight 14's), would cost about \$100,000,000. A fleet of twenty smaller vessels, each having a broadside of four 12-inch guns (or eight 14's) and the usual intermediate guns, would cost about \$100,000,000. It requires less men to man the main battery guns of an all big gun ship than of a mixed battery ship. For example, it requires less men to serve the 12-inch guns of the Dreadnaught than the four 12-inch and the sixteen 4-inch guns of the Missouri.

No doubt, if the only item of expense were the guns, it would be cheaper to build larger ships. But the people can see that the appropriations for a navy are rapidly increasing, so that there must be something wrong in the argument that the larger the ship the less the cost.

According to the old story, an Irishman about to buy a stove, was shown one which the dealer said would save half the coal, at which the customer could he would buy two of them, then, and thus save all of it. And so with the battleships; it might be relatively cheaper to build a few large than many smaller ones, but the only absolute cheapness will be realized when they are not built at all.

The report is that the Wyoming and the Arkansas will be 28,000 ton battleships. These monster fighting machines, if promises are fulfilled, be completed in little more than half the time it used to take for construction of the older type that ranged in size from 12,000 to 18,000 tons. The latter ships sometimes took five years to complete, and some critics said they were obsolete before they were launched.

And this, we think, is the trouble with all of them. Every stroke of their engines lowers their efficiency, every new invention discounts their various scientific devices. They represent that much money thrown into the sea, and except in so far as they may be necessary to the national defense, they are loss and waste to their entire extent.

A battle-ship-fleet doesn't get much of a figure in society.

## THOSE PRIESTLY PLOTTERS

"It takes a great deal of cheek," exclaims the anti-"Mormon" fanatic, the hierarchy put forth its political plots with a demand that all political parties shall get off the course and leave the priestly plotters a clear field in the coming municipal election.

The "priestly plotters" thus far in evidence, however, are Geo. N. Lawrence, who acted as chairman of the Citizens' mass meeting, and Councilman Hall, Frank B. Stephens, and Nephi L. Morris, who were the other speakers.

We suppose that not even the rabid sheet from which we have quoted would maintain that Mr. Lawrence, who, we believe, is inclined towards freedom in political theory, could by any possible stretch of even an "American" imagination be viewed as a "priestly plotter" or in even the remotest degree as one under the influence of the "hierarchy."

## THE ARMY AS A SHOW

There appears to be no prospect of any change in the policy of the war

## THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER

By George F. Butler, A.M., M.D.

Many of us are victims of prosperity and competition in business and society. We live at high pressure; letters and telegrams keep us constantly alert. Express trains or automobiles hurry us away from home in the morning and back again in the evening, and the pressure of competition is so great that few men think that they can afford to take their work easily or to modify the constant strain of it by breaks of a day or two at a time. Add to this excess in eating and in it any wonder that your apprehension is no longer acute, your power of concentration diminished, and that you are peevish and irritable; that you are melancholy and troubled with sleeplessness or an abnormal tendency to drowsiness; that you are constipated and have a bad taste in the mouth in the morning and feel the need of stimulants to cheer and brace you up? Many people suffer from too much business or society and not enough health. When such is the case, they should cut out business and society for a time and come down to earth and milk and first principles. There is little escape for one who drugs himself into business or society. When the strings of your system are screwed up too tight you must bring the rest of the instrument down to a lower key or get out of the orchestra for a while. Take a rest and change. Get plenty of sleep; eat less; relax.

## JUST FOR FUN.

Another Worry.

The kind lady had just handed the hungry hobo a sandwich and a hunk of pie. "Poor man!" she said sympathetically. "Are you married?" "No," answered the h. h. "I got dis hunted look from him" chased from place to place by der perlice."—Argonaut.

Green Brakeman.

The brakeman was a novice, and on his first run here there was a very steep grade to mount. The engineer always had more or less trouble to get up this grade, but this time he came near sticking. He almost lost his head. Eventually, however, he reached the top.

At the station that crossed the top, looking out of his cab, the engineer saw the new brakeman and said, with a sigh of relief:

"I tell you what, my lad, we had a job to get up there, didn't we?"

"We certainly did," said the new brakeman, "and if I hadn't put the brake on we'd have slipped back."—Washington Star.

An Awful Come Down.

"The climax to his wooing was very romantic. He proposed to her on the verge of a mountain gorge."

"What did she do?"

"She threw him over."—Baltimore American.

Wise Father.

"This popular fiction is all rot. In real life the girl's father seldom objects to the man of her choice."

"You're wrong there. He often objects, but he usually too wise to say anything."—Kansas City Journal.

Practice Makes Perfect.

"First time you've ever milked a cow, is it?" said Uncle Josh to his visiting nephew. "Well, y' do a darn sight better'st most city fellows do."

"It seems to come natural somehow," said the youth, flushing with pleasure.

"I've had a good deal of practice with a fountain pen."—Seattle Week-End.

Painless Patients.

"Will it hurt?" asked the patient, as he sat down in the big chair.

"Don't you know that I advertise myself as the painless dentist?"

"Yes, but what I want to know is whether you can guarantee me as a painless patient?"—Washington Star.

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WHY CANALS ARE ABANDONED.

Herbert Knox Smith of the Department of Commerce and Labor is credited with the statement that the government has at one time or another built some 4,000 miles of canals in this country, of which more than one-half are now abandoned. That property worth \$50,000,000 should thus go to waste grieves the hearts of opponents of deep-water ways, who use the caducity of old canals as an argument against new ones.

As a matter of fact, in many instances railroads have purchased control of canals and closed them in order to remove competition. In other cases, rivers which were formerly joined by canals have been allowed to fill up until navigation was impossible. In all cases railroads have stopped at nothing to destroy existing waterways and prevent new ones.

A striking instance of this exists not far from Chicago. For many years a pretty little river had been navigated regularly for many miles. Finally an electric road was constructed parallel to the river. No sooner was it in completion than the railroad purchased the steamboat and had it ashore. Then, to make sure competition, by water would not be possible, logs were driven into shallow spots in the river in order to obstruct the channel.

When a railroad will take such liberties with a natural navigable stream, the abandonment of artificial canals need furnish no mystery incapable of explanation by the little patient research of Chicago Journal.

THE ARMY AS A SHOW.

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army in various "shows." The assignment of troops to public functions have the character of a local celebration is justified in many instances, such as that which occurs at Albany in the Hudson-Fulton celebration; but there appears to be no reason why the army should be made a wide-show for various tournaments, such as have taken place, or are to take place this year at Dallas, Tex., Des Moines, Ia., and Omaha, Neb. Some of these events are money-making schemes, and the presence of the regular military force lends official dignity to the occasion, just as it proves a valuable asset for the managers of these affairs. Last year, at St. Joseph, Mo., the regular troops were placed in an enclosure, to which admission was charged—altogether an unnecessary and unjustifiable proceeding, to which the war department should not have lent its aid and sanction for a moment. The assignment of troops of the army to places where there are celebrations of any sort should be regulated by the importance of the work and the justification of a representation of the national government.—Washington Herald.

THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL MAY YET HAVE TO DECIDE THE QUESTION WHO DISCOVERED THE NORTH POLE.

"Roosevelt safe," sounds more like a message from British East Africa than from the arctic regions.

To have the announcement of a second discovery of the North Pole made is more relief than a relief expedition.

Coal six dollars a ton. Not the rapacity of the coal barons, but their modesty is what astonishes the people.

There should be an international agreement that the North Pole shall not be defaced with glaring advertisements.

The country at large is in favor of the preservation of the forests policy, but Chief Forester Pinchot is talking himself into disfavor.

A Massachusetts physician says that man a thousand years hence will have hoofs instead of feet. Even now the great majority of men "hoof it."

It is estimated in the world of statistics to estimate is to build castles in the air; that the population of the United States in 1910 will be 35,000,000. It is a propitious time to form the Greater United States club.

Speaker Cannon says that the passage of the Payne-Aldrich bill is the most important thing that Congress has done in the last fifty years. How about adopting the resolution for the enactment of the fifteenth amendment?

What nonsense for a dealer to tell a reporter that "so far as this company is concerned there is not the slightest danger of an ice famine," and then to have the drivers of the ice wagons of this company tell its customers they can only have half the amount of ice they have been getting.

Throughout the country the observance of Labor day was unattended by any demonstrations by the rowdy and lawless element that sometimes tries to palm itself off as the labor element. This is as it should be, and lends dignity and impressiveness to the day dedicated to labor.

When President Taft's automobile exceeded the speed limit and he is halted by a guardian of the peace, he doesn't get on his dignity. He tells his chauffeur to keep within the speed limit. It is in such little things as showing his respect for all laws that he shows his true greatness.

When a man has lived for more than a quarter of a century in one house, he thinks he should be known to the postman if not to fame, and when he has to go to the postoffice and get a letter marked to his street and number and finds written across it the words "No such person known," he feels, not his insignificance, but annoyed; and justly so.

It is gratifying to observe that the local striking plumbers have promptly disavowed the acts of violence in the form of destruction of plumbing work recently perpetrated by unknown persons in several parts of the city. We feel sure that the Union as such knew nothing of these outrages, and we congratulate the local leaders upon their prompt disavowal of them. It is a great pity, moreover, that the guilty parties have not yet been discovered. Until they are, popular suspicion will inevitably rest upon the striking plumbers, who are thus placed in a most unfortunate situation.

BOSTON IN 1857.

Boston is just like other places of its size, only perhaps considering its excellent fish market, paid the department, superior monthly publications and current habit of spelling the English language, it has some right to look down on the mob of cities.

That was in 1857. Since then the fish markets and the department's publications and monthly magazines of other cities have improved, and nobody pretends any longer to know what is the correct way of spelling the English language. All of the offensive Bostonian claims to superiority have passed away.—S. M. Crothers in the August Atlantic.

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