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SALT LAKE CITY, - AUG. 10, 1908.

CUTTING IT OUT.

Mr. Martin, a member of the numerical majority of the City Council, expressed himself, at the council meeting on Thursday, to the effect that the papers having made a "dirty fight against the bond issue," should be cut out of all patronage by the administration.

That is about the funniest thing Mr. Martin has said during his official career, in view of the fact that the boycott of the opposition press of Salt Lake, by the so-called American administration, has been in vogue for years. We do not blame the administration a great deal. It is under obligation to an organ that has to be maintained, partly, out of the public funds, and an economic administration cannot, of course, spend money recklessly. All the same, it is very funny to hear a councilman threaten to take away a patronage that has no existence.

But Mr. Martin's logic is not only humorous; it is also contrary to precedent. The Tribune fought the proposition to issue bonds for the increase of our water supply a few years. In fact, it made a "dirty fight" against the bonds at that time, to use the elegant adjective of the councilman. It fought that bond issue after the citizens had authorized it, and made it necessary for the council to send special representatives back east and to prove the legality of the issue. But for all that, the so-called American administration magnanimously gave the Tribune all the patronage it wanted, at its own figures. So Mr. Martin in his boycott speech, argued against a most illustrious precedent.

He should be reminded, however, that the papers which the numerical majority of the council are boycotting because they refused to support their demand for more borrowed money, spoke for very nearly half of the community, as demonstrated at the polls. And among the citizens whose right for their homes Mr. Martin characterizes as "dirty" were thousands as clean, morally and otherwise, as any of their detractors. It comes with pretty bad grace for a public official, in an official meeting to brand an opposition which very nearly fifty per cent of the taxpayers have sustained by their intelligent vote, as "dirty."

That is not the language of a servant of the people who realizes the dignity of his position. Even partisan fanaticism does not excuse an insult to the voters who by their votes declared against a bond issue at this time, and for whom the opposition press spoke.

The boycott is a two-edged sword, and it may "cut" to both sides. We take it that Mr. Martin has a business, and we hope a thriving one. Now, suppose that the tax-payers who voted against him, as they had a right to do, should retaliate by boycotting him; we presume, in that case, he would change his opinions as to the virtue of his own proposition for retaliation. We do not advocate boycott. It is no more respectable than blacklisting. Nor do we believe city councilmen are justified, in public opinion, in taking any measures of revenge against any citizens because of a difference of opinion on public questions.

If public servants could realize the importance of their position in the public service, they would use their influence for the restoration of peace and good will where strife prevails. They would emancipate themselves from party dictation and devote their time to the interests of the public. They would pour oil upon troubled waters, and not pour on the flames lit by egotism. They would become great and useful by the aid of the people. We hope that public servants will realize, some day, that, in their offices, they belong to the people and not to party bosses.

VENEZUELA.

If Holland has no other grievance against Venezuela than the alleged expulsion of the Dutch minister, M. de Reuss, she has no cause here. According to the information received at Washington of that affair, the government of Venezuela sent passports to the Dutch minister, on account of a letter written by him in Bulletin Commercial Association of Amsterdam, severely criticizing commercial and political conditions in Venezuela. The President of Venezuela was violating no international rule of diplomacy by giving passports to a persona non grata. Every civilized government in the world has the right to extend, or withdraw, hospitality. And where it is made clear, as was done in this instance by President Castro, that it was the person of the minister or attaché that had become objectionable, and that no exception was taken to the government he represented, there is no ground for resentment on the part of Holland.

Amid the contradicting rumors concerning President Castro, and all the charges and counter-charges it is not easy to form a true and just estimate of his real character and the merits of the controversy. The asphalt trust admits complicity in a revolution that cost Venezuela thousands of lives and millions of dollars, so whatever the shortcomings of Venezuela may be, the other side is not spotless or guiltless. Some intimately acquainted

with Castro say that he is a clever statesman and that he is much less unscrupulous than his enemies paint him. He maintains, they say, the rights of his country against the world, and history will yet record his name among the great men of the New World. We do not doubt that there are two sides to the Venezuelan controversy, and Americans should not judge hastily on the evidence of one side only.

SUNDAY LABOR.

A correspondent asks: "Is there a state law, against labor on the Sabbath day, such as cutting and hauling hay, hauling wood, building, and playing ball?"

According to the laws of Utah, every person who performs any unnecessary labor, or does any unnecessary business on Sunday, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and is liable to be fined in any sum not exceeding \$25.00.

This covers the ground, as to unnecessary labor on Sunday. Ball playing is not specifically forbidden, unless it comes under the class of "noisy amusements." The law as to such amusements is: "Every person who, on Sunday, gets up, exhibits, opens or maintains, or aids in getting up, exhibiting, opening or maintaining any bar, or any other place where noisy amusements are given, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

There is law enough to stop the performance of unnecessary Sunday labor and Sunday amusements in this State, but no laws are more frequently violated. In Salt Lake the sight of workmen employed by the City working in the streets on Sundays, is no uncommon sight. This is a violation of the law. It is also contrary to the spirit of the Pioneers. They consecrated this land to God, and to His service. The members of the Church should therefore remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, no matter what others may do.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Men in close touch with the industrial conditions of the country predict a steady improvement from this time onward. James W. van Cleave, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, in an article in American Industries, says "the tide has turned" and gives some facts sustaining this opinion. One of these is that the stocks of goods in the hands of manufacturers and wholesalers have been reduced to low figures, and the resumption of purchases, which is under way in all the great lines of trade, is beginning to send in orders to the factories with a little of their old-time volume.

Another straw that shows the direction of the wind is this, that within the last few weeks the output of the mills of the United States Steel corporation has been increased ten per cent over the average of recent months. The promise is that by the beginning of November that largest of the world's steel concerns will be running its works to nearly their full capacity. Another notable fact is this, that there are fewer idle locomotives and railroad cars than there were a short time ago. Mr. Cleave states that when the number was at its highest, in the closing days of April, 413,000 cars were sidetracked throughout the United States for lack of work. In the closing days of July the number had dropped below the 300,000 line. The heavy crops, which in a few weeks will begin to move to the markets, are likely to send the number of idle cars down to very small figures before November.

This is the view business men generally take of the situation. Prosperity is returning with the return of confidence in the common sense of the American people.

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

The railway service of Great Britain is perhaps the best in the world. The Board of Trade of the United Kingdom reports the authorized capital of British railways at \$6,784,747,237, of which \$6,300,277,963 represented paid up capital. The net receipts for 1907 amounted to \$218,379,821, being the difference between the following totals: The gross receipts from passengers and mails were \$248,050,371; for the carriage of goods, from steamboats, canals, harbors, etc., \$24,812,580; and from miscellaneous sources, \$21,086,544, making a total for gross receipts of \$293,943,455.

The total expenditures for the year amounted to \$273,084,854. The length of the lines was 23,101 miles, over which was transported 407,719,000 tons of minerals and 108,261,000 tons of merchandise. The passengers conveyed numbered 1,260,117,000, of which \$3,355,000 were first-class, \$6,637,000 second-class, 1,159,349,000 third-class, and 716,000 were season passengers.

The paid-up capital has advanced since 1905 by \$107,165,515, and amounted to \$6,300,277,963 in 1907, or roughly, \$5 for every passenger carried. Passengers increased in the same period by 60,431,568. In the third class the increase was 79,324,648 but there were 3,959,492 fewer first-class and 15,886,258 fewer second-class passengers.

The mileage of American railroads, according to Poor's Manual for 1907, was 218,433. The traffic earnings aggregated a total of \$2,346,640,286; and the total available revenues for the year after deducting current operating expenses were \$390,450,081. There was paid in dividends that year \$225,691,245. The payment of interest on the bonds amounted to more than the dividends. Rentals, other interest, taxes and miscellaneous items of expense made up the remainder of the difference between net earnings from traffic and the dividends paid.

The cost may not make the man but the habit does.

"Pay full fare as you go, or don't go," say the railroads.

Saturday's auto races all seem to have been in the swift.

Mr. Bryan seems to be in need of a little emergency currency.

Money is as essential to make the campaign as well as the mare go.

Safety in automobilism is more in the

chauffeurs than in the condition of the roads.

The Young Turks are in the heyday of their political youth.

A ten-cent piece will cover all the charity some people have.

Why are not some of the floating dry docks put in prohibition states?

Thaw has filed a petition in bankruptcy. This seems a reasonable step.

Half the time there is a "nigger in the wood pile" when there is no wood.

The Eagles in their flight to Seattle took the train instead of going by airship.

"Can't find any word that will rhyme with Hissen," says a contemporary. Try again.

The Hamakua, Hawaiian, ditch bonds have been floated in London. If anything should float a ditch bond should.

At Camp Emmett Crawford Captain W. C. Webb of the Utah battery gave the regulars some lessons in the rout step.

When the man of the house tries to move the kitchen range it brings out the whole range of his vocabulary of bad words.

An automobile that carries a whistle that makes a more hideous noise than a fog horn siren does, is a nuisance and should be suppressed.

"A man named John Lightfoot was taken into Judge Fidelity's court in New York the other day," says an exchange. They must have had a fine time.

"So far as the American party is concerned, there is no anti-Mormonism," says the organ of the Pseudo-American party. "So far as the American party is concerned," there is nothing in it but anti-Mormonism.

John B. Hammond, Iowa state chairman of the Prohibition party, is willing to pay twenty-five dollars to punch the face of a masher who annoyed his daughter. It has been supposed that Prohibitionists had no use for punch of any kind.

The campaign for shoving up the price of coal has begun. A shortage of coal for next winter is predicted, and most comical and impudent of all it is said there is a shortage of cars, when it is well known that there are hundreds of thousands of idle cars in the country.

A STRIKE.

Boston Transcript.
That Paris strike struck out. The law is stronger than the Confederation of Labor, and the human instinct to avoid trouble is stronger than either. The plan was that all Paris should be paralyzed for twenty-four hours, that there should be neither locomotion nor business, but trains and all conveyances were ordered to stop. Bakers baked, cooks cooked and eaters ate, just as if there was no such thing as the Confederation in existence. The collapse of the strike recalls a similar effort to paralyze Louis Napoleon at the time of the coup d'état. At a conference of the Republican deputies it was proposed that there should be a complete cessation of all labor. A fervid orator said: "Let the butcher cease to slay; the baker cease to bake; the tradesman cease to sell for forty-eight hours, and the buyer cease to buy, and the tyrant will be blocked." A dry old country deputy proposed an amendment that for forty-eight hours everybody cease to eat, and the program vanished in laughter.

BACK TO THE SOIL.

Pittsburg Post.
About twenty years or so ago, and for a number of years following, there was a marked exodus of young men and boys from the country to the city. The rural youth of that time found many things he could turn his hand to in the city that meant to him ready money. So the farm was deserted for metropolitan life. The reaction has set in, and now there is a generous return to bucolic life. The man who has spent a score or more of years in a city and has amassed a competence finds himself yearning for communion with country scenes. When this exodus from the farm began, students of politico-economic subjects racked their brains for a logical deduction as to the probable result. Time has brought the solution. The cities were, in the main, built by men who were born in the country; who began life on the farm or in the cross-road grocery. These, particularly, are the men who are now going back to the farm. Not for the purpose of farming themselves, but to have a country home, away from the din and dirt of the city. The electric railway, the development and extension of the telephone service, the rural free delivery and other things that have convenience living away from the business centers, are responsible. The return of the city man to the country has been hastened by the price of farm property and materially added to the tax duplicate. Back to the soil! It's a good old slogan.

CALM IN IMMIGRATION.

Philadelphia Inquirer.
There seems no doubt that we are on the verge of a revival of business—that it has already begun; that there are plenty of people in this country at present for all necessary activities. This is a land of opportunity, but not one where every arrival may make a fortune. It is lamentable that there is an opinion in certain parts of Italy, Austro-Hungary and Russia that one has only to come here to find wealth. The recent flood has carried hundreds of thousands back, many of whom will never return. The astounding thing is that we have been able to assimilate the millions who have remained. The next wave of immigration should go to the south or the west. The country east of the Mississippi is pretty well provided with population for the present.

JUST FOR FUN.

"Gimme \$40 worth of ham and eggs." "There's a fellow who ain't used to orderin' in small restaurants," commented Wary Waggle. Waiter, bring me a 5-cent portion of stewed terrapin."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Is the pen really mightier than the sword?" "Naw," answered the bard addressed. "And it won't be until the poets get pensions."—Puck.

"We'll have to annex Canada before a great while." "Nonsense! What for?" "So as to get more names for battle-ships."—Houston Post.

"When is a man his own boss, papa?"

"Between the age of 21 and the age at which he marries."—Houston Post.

Stranger (in Druryhurst)—Where is the town pump? Uncle Welby Gosh—I'm the town pump. Who be ye mister? What business are ye followin', an' how long are ye goin' to stay in town?—Chicago Tribune.

"Why did Mrs. Youngmother come down to this farm to rusticate?" "I think it was for the benefit of a little son and heir."—Baltimore American.

"Does it require much physical courage to play base ball?" asked the English visitor.

"That depends," answered Miss Cyprien, "on how big a man the umpire happens to be."—Washington Star.

Green—I hear you have been offered a big salary to go to Panama. Everybody is talking about it. Was there an account of it in the papers? Brown—Oh, no; I merely told my wife and requested her not to tell anyone.—Chicago News.

"He has started publishing a monthly paper for barbers, you know." "Indeed? I suppose it's very appropriately illustrated with cuts."—Chicago Record Herald.

"Some of the eggs you sent me," said the housekeeper, "were bad." "Well, ma'am," replied the dealer, "that ain't my fault; I ain't no hen."—Philadelphia Press.

"The world is here to wreck, it seems, on life's matrimonial sea." "Indeed? And which rocked the boat?"—Louisville Courier Journal.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The September number of People's contains a snappy baseball story called "Score an Assist for the Lady," by Will Worth Aulick, the baseball reporter for the New York Times; a thoroughly human and delightful department store story, by Leo Crane; a humorous story of French vaudeville entitled "Hercules and Aphrodite," by the noted writer, Leonard Merrick; a satirical East Side sketch, by Zoe Anderson Norris; a particularly fine Philippine story in the Bobby Graeme series, by Volcott LeClear Beard, and the usual interesting "Billings" tale, by Edward S. Phillips. Besides the 132 pages of complete fiction, the magazine contains an attractively printed picture section, accompanied by a good dramatic story, "The Girl of the Year," humor complete this number.—78-89 Seventh Avenue, New York.

The August Forum, which is its second issue since the magazine reverted to the form of a monthly publication, opens with its customary survey of American politics, by Henry Littlefield West, who deals specifically with the opening of the presidential campaign, the party platforms, and the probable influence of the independent vote. Mr. A. Maurer, now in the department of Foreign Affairs, discusses with his usual acumen, the significance of the Anglo-French Entente, and incidentally points out that France is making a new record for herself as a conservative among nations. Among the special articles this month, Prof. Harry Thurston Peck contributes a thoughtful and impartial estimate of the late Grover Cleveland, both as man and statesman. This is followed by a readable paper by J. Edgar Eaton, giving in a lighter vein a number of personal impressions and reminiscences of Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Louis Windmiller writes, in a tone of indulgent irony, concerning some of the curious phases of the numerous financial panics that he has successfully survived through a long and prosperous business career. The department of literature includes a conservative estimate by Edward Clark Marsh, of the late Lafcadio Hearn's rightful place in the world of letters, a brief discussion, by Prof. Brander Matthews of the standards of literary criticism in England; and reviews by Edward Porritt, Mary K. Ford, and Arthur Bartlett Maurice. Poetry is represented by "The Monk in the Kitchen," by Anna Hempstead Branch, noteworthy for its delicate and unusual symbolism. Joseph Conrad's new novel, "The Point of Honor," carries the reader in the present installment, through the grim scenes of the retreat of Napoleon's army from Moscow.—45 East 42nd St., New York.

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