

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 25, 1900.

A GOOD TRADE.

We believe the general public will endorse the action of the City Council on Tuesday evening, making an exchange with the Board of Education of the lot on the corner of State and North Temple streets, for property on Fourth South between State and Second East, and on the corner of First North and Fourth West streets.

The purpose of the trade is to enable the Board of Education to build a school house, on a spot which will accommodate a district now unoccupied with school facilities, except by sending children to a great distance east or west. This project has been for a long time in contemplation. The only difficulty in the way was the reluctance of the city authorities to give the school board an advantage in the trade, which looked like getting the small end of the bargain. They were on the look-out for the city's property interests.

As the cost of moving buildings and effects will be considerable, a proposition was made to divide the expense between the city and the school board. This, however, did not prevail, although it had an element of fairness. But, after all, the burden in either case will have to be borne by the taxpayers, and the benefits will flow to the public, so, on the whole, the exchange as it stands, is a good settlement of the question.

Considering the probability of a shortage in the school funds for the coming fiscal year, as it occurs during the present, there would have been no real help to the taxpayers, in making the Board of Education meet any of the expense involved in the exchange. The school house to be built is an actual public necessity, and the cost will have to come from the public pocket. It would do no good to hamper the school board with further expenditures.

The educational facilities and the general management of school affairs in this city, are a source of pride and satisfaction to our citizens, and we are pleased to see the prospect now opened for still further advancement in this direction. Let the ground be cleared and the building be erected as soon as possible. We congratulate the Board of Education on its success in this arrangement.

A GREAT CRISIS COMING.

"Of late I have felt that the church was approaching a great crisis, and that, while we have been discussing the nature of inspiration and petty critical problems, the great world, weary and brokenhearted and choked with fog and mist, has been asking whether or not there is a personal God; and while we have been trying each other for heresy the multitudes have been turning away from the threshold of the Christian church to wander in the darkness and storm."

That is a paragraph from the letter giving the reasons offered by Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, for his withdrawal from the Presbytery of Chicago. He speaks of a great crisis in the church, and of the "turning away of multitudes from the threshold of the Christian church." What does the Christian church mean by "the Christian church?" If it is the Presbyterian church why does he retire from it? How will it better stand the "great crisis" impending, by his going out from it? Will it help the multitudes who, he says, are turning away to "wander in the darkness and the storm?" On the contrary, will it not give them encouragement in their repudiation of the church?

Perhaps he regards the Presbyterian sect as only a part or a faction of the "Christian church," so that in rejecting it he accepts some other division of the discordant mass. But how can that be? "Is Christ divided?" Is the Church "the body of Christ," one or many? Can he find any of the numerous parts of modern Christendom free from error? Is not leaving one and entering another like jumping "out of the frying pan into the fire?"

Dr. Hillis says that "for years he has been apologizing for the creed of Presbyterianism, and that while the Confession of Faith says that 'some men and angels are foreordained to everlasting death,' nobody believed it." That is a fearful arraignment of the Presbyterian clergy and members, himself included. Logically, he should not only renounce that church and creed, but denounce it as a human institution and not to be truthfully called the Christian Church.

Is not the great crisis that is coming, the repudiation of all man-made creeds and mere human authority in sacerdotal matters, and a demand on the part of believers in Christ for a return to real Christianity—the Church, and principles, and ordinances, and authority and spirit introduced by the Great Nazarene, of which modern Christendom is but a shocking counterfeit?

The conflicting opinions and clashing theories and theological guesses of the sects and their ministers, are a burlesque on the Christianity of Christ, and the astounding errors in the orthodox creeds are enough indeed to cause the turning away of thousands of thinking persons, from the threshold of the institutions that proclaim them as the doctrines of the living Redeemer.

Truly a crisis is coming. For the Truth as it is in Christ Jesus has been revealed anew. His Church has been set up under His own word and direction. The Apostleship has been restored. The spirit of His religion is poured out again with the same effects as of old, and those who perceive the folly and falsehood of human churches and their Confessions of Faith, may now be "baptized by one spirit into one body" and become united in Christ Jesus. But when this restored Gospel is proclaimed as "Mormonism," many of the "wise after this world" will turn away, sorrowful, or filled with anger at the sound. Notwithstanding, the latter-day work is moving forward, and the consummation is at hand!

CAMP FOLLOWERS.

With every army there always goes a large following which can be properly designated as a rabble. And recently complaints were made from British officers that a great number of persons, especially women, were following the track of the army, without having any business whatever in South Africa. It was easy to read between the lines what kind of persons were referred to. Militarism and immorality too often go hand in hand.

How is the Boer army in this respect? Of what character is the crowd that follows the burghers, even into the trenches? The New York World gives this account from a London paper, which illustrates this feature of Boer camp life. It is from a British correspondent of the paper, and he says:

"I have heard these women singing around the camp fires in the starlight, but it was hymns that they sang, not ribald songs. I have seen them kneeling by the side of men in the moonlight, not to wantonness, but in mercy, and many a man who wears the British uniform today can bear me witness that I speak the truth. I saw nothing in their conduct or in the conduct of any man toward one of them that would cause the most chaste matron in Great Britain to blush or droop her eyes."

This speaks volumes for the moral character of the Transvaal people. When their conduct is such that even the enemy is willing to admit its excellency, it must be irreproachable. Why should they not be worthy of retaining their independence?

COLONIZATION OF TROPICS.

The question whether the tropics can be successfully colonized by the white races is one of great interest to the ruling nations of the world. But opinions differ. It is maintained by some that the evil effects of hot climates are being rapidly overcome by science, and that in another quarter of a century farmers will be able to cultivate the tropics with less danger than they at first encountered in the valleys of California.

The Philadelphia Medical Journal thinks this view is too sanguine. The heat and moisture of the tropics, that paper says, are most favorable to germs, and unless some means is discovered (which is very unlikely) that will destroy bacterial life without injuring other forms of life, the problem of combatting disease in the tropics will always be a difficult one. The Journal believes that conditions in the tropics will be improved so that the more prosperous classes can live with a fair degree of safety and comfort, but it thinks it very improbable that the working masses, which constitute the great masses of the population, will ever be made of anything but natives.

There can be no question as to the possibility of people from the temperate zones living comfortably in the tropics, if they have an abundance of time to give to their personal comfort. But without that they are liable to the diseases peculiar to the hot climate. The experience gained so far in nearly every tropical country points to this, that while it is perfectly practicable to transplant civilization to such countries, by means of a picked advance guard, when it comes to genuine colonization, on a large scale, it is best not to go very far from the conditions to which the colonists have been accustomed. Much of the success of the settlement of North America is due to the fact that the settlers naturally ranged themselves, generally speaking, according to the latitude from which they came in Europe.

The logical conclusion is this, that tropical countries cannot be looked to as opening up new fields of activity for the laboring masses, whenever they become too crowded in other parts of the world. Their redemption and civilization will create new markets and thus stimulate trade and industry, and in this way be of immense benefit to the producing classes, but not by holding out inducements to the latter to immigrate. The tropics will be for tropical man. Nature herself seems to have set boundaries for her children, within which each can accomplish the greatest good and enjoy the greatest happiness.

A PERTINENT QUESTION.

The New York Evening Post, commenting on the so-called ecumenical conference of missionaries, now gathered in New York, asks some pertinent questions as to the underlying motive of missionary work. Is it kept up, because it is believed the pagans, without knowledge of modern theology, will be eternally lost?

There is no doubt that such a view was the first factor in starting the missionary work. The idea that this life ends every chance of progress toward light and perfection, predominated in the minds of the devoted men that cast their lot among the millions in Asia, and other continents. They held that the majority of the pagans were sinking into perdition—that, in fact, souls were daily falling into hell as fast as snowflakes are falling on a stormy winter day. It was in order to save some from this fate, that the missionaries took their lives into their hands and went out among the benighted races.

We believe this idea is still prevalent with a great many of the missionaries. Others are, undoubtedly, cutting loose from the old creeds, and viewing life more in the light of revealed truth. They have found that the old doctrine of hell has no regenerating force, nothing to ennoble man and elevate him from a lower moral level to a higher plane. The revelations given through Joseph Smith, the Prophet, on this subject have illuminated not only the "Mormon" Church, but their brilliant light has penetrated far and wide, just as the lamp in the lighthouse is seen for miles, or as the lights of a large city are reflected in the air and disperse to some extent, the darkness in the entire surrounding country. The world has seen the light. Old notions of the plans of the Creator and the destiny of man have been done away with, and more reasonable views have taken their place. The force of the remark by a pagan, to the effect that they had enough hell in their own religion, has been widely felt.

But it is not to be supposed that this conference will give any reply to the question propounded by the Post. It is not probable that that gathering will issue a pronouncement on a doctrinal question, the subject of controversy. It is not a council for the revision of creeds, but for the promotion of harmony among the warring factions, on the question of missions.

As Rev. Heber Newton expressed himself before the conference:

"We are here not only to plead for a toleration of all religions and worship, Christian, Jewish and Ethnic, of every variety; we are here to plead for a sympathy between all religions, for vital truths in each other's religions."

That is one of the aims of the gathering. And that it may succeed will be the earnest desire of all who are concerned for the future welfare of mankind. When brotherly kindness, toleration and unselfishness prevail, then the spirit of truth will operate freely. Were it possible to root out ironbound dogmatism with its accompanying haughtiness and hypocrisy, truth would make more rapid progress than is now perceptible.

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The following review of national conventions is by the Milwaukee Wisconsin, and is interesting as a contribution to the political history of the country:

"The Federal government has been in existence for one hundred and eleven years, but national conventions for the election of presidential candidates did not begin till sixty-nine years ago. At the first and the second presidential elections there were no candidates for the presidency and the vice presidency, but the people battled for electors, and the electors met and cast their votes for the persons whom they considered best qualified. This was in accordance with the theory of the Constitution, but was not so much in accordance with the theory of popular government as the present plan. Each elector voted for two persons. The one receiving the largest number of votes, if a majority of the whole, became President, and the next highest became Vice President. The effect of this system was sometimes to make the Vice President a member of the party opposite to that of the President. In 1796 congressional caucuses held out for Adams and Elbridge Gerry, and the Republican party (the predecessor of the Democratic party), Jefferson and Burr. Adams and Jefferson were elected. In 1800 the Republican congress elected James Madison, but the Federalists put up with Aaron Burr. The effect of this was to make the Vice President a member of the party opposite to that of the President. In 1824 the Federalists nominated John Quincy Adams, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1828 the Federalists nominated John Quincy Adams, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1832 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1836 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1840 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1844 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1848 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1852 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1856 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1860 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1864 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1868 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1872 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1876 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1880 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1884 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1888 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1892 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1896 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson. In 1900 the Federalists nominated Andrew Jackson, and the Democrats nominated Andrew Jackson. The result was a deadlock, and the House of Representatives elected Jackson."

Dr. May would rather tell the truth than be a quarantine physician. The public is with him.

The Assembly Hall should be crowded on Thursday evening, to hear the renowned lecturer, Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Stetson. To commence at 8 p. m.

The Sultan has agreed again to pay. This promise may be made to keep, since no other course will be allowed in the final outcome.

Now Uruguay has a revolution. The little country could not longer be the only State in South America which has not had a row during the last decade of the nineteenth century.

The Ohio Republican convention has a significance that cannot be claimed by the other States, since it is virtually the signal and starting of the presidential campaign for the re-election of the present national executive.

The Herald's apology is accepted. "Absent-mindedly" is good. It is an excuse which accounts for sundry foolish doings and thinkings and sayings, but doesn't figure logically as an argument. The "pardon" begged for is granted.

The ecumenical conference in New York is going to hold a meeting in behalf of the famine-stricken people of India. There appears to be abundant opportunity in the Asiatic section of the British empire for pretty nearly as much charity as this country can offer.

Lord Roberts reports the Boers as defeated with heavy loss. The advance to Pretoria may now be looked to take the place of big military maneuvers in the southern Free State. But it is not yet plain that the long lines of British communications are freed from danger of attack.

News from China promises a big revolution there. So many exaggerations come from that part of the world that it is difficult to forecast events on circumstances said to exist, but there really appears to be good reason for expecting a mighty upheaval in the Mongolian dominions.

Gen. Otis reports further heavy losses among Filipino rebels, and comparatively light casualties on the American side. The class of conflicts where these casualties occur show disintegration of the rebel forces except as banditti, but indicate a proportionately heavier death list than when there was regularly organized warfare. Between ambushes and reprisals there probably will be considerable bloodshed yet in restoring order in the Philippines.

The increase in price of good beef cattle in this country is showing its effects on the blooded stock market. An illustration is given in the recent sale of the Fairview, Indiana, herd of Herefords, the champion bull Dale 66451 bringing the highest price yet recorded in America, \$7,500. At the same sale a cow brought \$3,000, also a new record. Seventy-six animals brought a total of \$64,415—a truly remarkable figure even for this most celebrated of Hereford herds in America.

THE WAR TAX.

Chicago Tribune.

The United States needs no "war chest" like Russia or Germany. There is already a surplus of \$150,000,000 in the treasury. That surplus needs no additions. Why should Congress hesitate to repeal those unnecessary and irritating taxes which are forced on the attention of the people when they send telegrams or express packages, take out insurance, buy land, give notes, draw checks, or make contracts?

Baltimore American.

The statement sent to Congress yesterday by Secretary Gage regarding the condition of the United States treasury shows that this fiscal year soon to close will wind up with a surplus of \$70,000,000.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

The puzzle will be where to reduce, and it is small wonder that persons are beginning to turn to tariff duties on articles extensively used in our domestic manufactures for a way out of the dilemma.

Chicago Tribune.

The war revenue stamp taxes if not repealed will produce during the next fiscal year about \$40,000,000 of surplus revenue. There is not a member of either house who can give a valid reason why that money should be transferred from the pockets of the people to the national treasury, which does not need it.

Buffalo Express.

If these estimates for the future are reasonably correct it would seem that Congress does not need to take up the difficult question of selecting certain parts of the war taxes to be repealed. The condition of the treasury, present and prospective, would fully justify it in repealing them all.

Chicago Democrat.

The war taxes should go. The secretary of the treasury has made a statement regarding the revenue. Upon the showing which he makes the repeal of the war taxes, in part at least, is practicable. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, the estimated receipts of the government are as follows: Customs, \$223,000,000; internal revenue, \$222,000,000; miscellaneous, \$35,000,000; total, \$480,000,000. The expenditures, including \$135,000,000 for the army and our war cost, \$35,000,000 for the navy and \$115,000,000 for pensions, aggregating \$480,000,000, leaving a surplus of \$70,000,000.

Chicago Record.

The United States Supreme court, with two judges dissenting, has decided that the express companies cannot be prevented from shifting to the shipper the burden of the stamp taxes imposed by the war-revenue act. When the law was passed it was claimed that the rich express companies would be compelled to bear a large share of the burden of taxation. The lobbyists of these corporations evidently were on hand earning their salaries, however, for the language of the act as finally passed was so ambiguous as to leave much doubt as to the intent of Congress with respect to the incidence of the taxes imposed. The express companies at once proceeded to require the shipper to affix the necessary stamps, and the court's last resort has now sustained their right to do so. Thus the entire burden of this portion of the war tax is shifted to the people, while the corporations it was intended to reach go free.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The complete novel in the New Lippincott is by Alice Brown and is entitled, "April Showers." The coming total eclipse of the sun is described by Ella MacNair, and the frontispiece is a reproduction of Frederick Melville Dumond's picture, "The Theater of Nero."—New York.

Collier's Weekly for April 21 has these special features: "The Making of Arcturion" by Ron-Admiral Charles O'Neill, chief of the bureau of Ordnance, U. S. N.; "The Day's Work in the Philippines" by Frederick Palmer; "The Outlaw" by H. B. Marriott Watson; "The Presidential Election of 1900" by Henry Louis Richard; "With Compass and Blanket in the Coast Range," by George Hall Ashley.—New York.

"The American Officer in Action" is the subject of a paper which Senator Albert J. Beveridge contributes to a forthcoming number of the Saturday Evening Post. During his visit to the Archipelago, Mr. Beveridge was the guest and comrade of Generals Lawton and King, and he tells some stirring stories of the undaunted courage of the tried Indian fighter and the nonchalant coolness of the army novelist. "If our soldiers are 'thinking bayonets,'" says he, "our officers are 'thinking sabres.'"—Philadelphia.

The announcement is made that Harper's Bazar will appear after May 1st in a new form, as a weekly magazine for women. It will be published in a new format and will be printed on highly finished supercalendered paper, with wide margins. Among the contributors secured are Mrs. Humphry Ward, Dr. Van Dyke, Stephen Crane, Madame Marchetti, W. D. Howells, and Mary E. Wilkins. The illustrations will be by leading artists.—Franklin Square, New York.

In Appleton's Popular Science Monthly for May there is an article on eclipses of the sun, which is all the more interesting because of the coming eclipse on the 26th of May next. A number of maps and diagrams add to the clearness and interest of the article, which is written by Prof. F. H. Bigelow of the United States weather bureau. In the same number appears a paper by Prof. N. C. Shaler, on the Negro Question, and another on International Law, by the Hon. Charles F. Smith. The illustrations will be by leading artists.—Franklin Square, New York.

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