DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

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DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Salt Lake City, Utah.

IF A RELOUNT—WHAT

Last evening's issue of this paper contained the account of a pumpkin-seed-prize-guessing contest and its result, the winners coming into ownership of various sums of money and other articles as a reward for having correctly or near nearly estimated the number of seeds the pound, red, fat body of the squash contained.

The record tells us, not upon oath, it is true, but upon the testimony of the judges, that there were exactly 574 seeds in that pumpkin. One gentleman guessed 573, and two ladies 575 and 577 respectively. While all our appeals to have hit the true figure, there were the nearest, and public notice was given that the proper parties should call and get their prizes.

But it is noticed that there were other close guesses. One, for instance, was 507; another was 594, and so on. Besides, the matter was very close, as will have been seen, as between the leading three. In view of all this the News suggests that that particular pumpkin and its seeds may still become an object of a whole community's attention.

Let's suppose a case: What if the party who guessed 573 should demand a recount, and the demand should be granted. Cannot anybody see that the mistake of a single or double pumpkin seed would change the result? And how interesting this would be if, pending the recount, the relic hounds beg pardon, the pumpkin—should be in possession of that party's friends!

Suppose further that the winner should demur to the recount and demand the prize he was already declared to have won. Would it not then be in order for the winner by the recount to grandiloquently offer the seeds themselves in evidence, demand an inspection of them one by one, insist that his opponent prove not only who put in the extra ones if there were any, but also be able to pick out and discard said extra ones? And will it not seem to any intermeddled person that if the objector cannot do all this he ought to cease his contest and forever hold his peace?

These are mere suppositions in advance, as stated in the outset; but we submit that in view of even the possibility of the being brought forth as later evidence, that pumpkins should be well and honestly taken care of.

RETURN TO VIGILANTES.

The disputations being sent from Sacramento, the capital of California, that yesterday (January 3) the city board of trustees ordered all saloons to be closed from midnight until 8 a.m., revoked the licenses to numerous disreputable hearts, directed that all known criminals and tramps be driven from town by the police authorities, and ordered the arrest of every man without visible means of support. The police force was increased by over fifty officers, who volunteered to serve as special officers, and still further auxiliaries are to be made to the guardians of the peace. It is announced that in such emergencies of martial law has been inaugurated." Neither the selection of the executive committee, a "citizens" committee of safety but four members, and it is intimated that a judge like that of early California vigilance may follow the authority of the real New Mexico Judge Lynch made.

The cause of these sensational proceedings is in the interest of crime which is said to have sent away recently, and which the police have taken to cope with. There have been some local outbreaks in close succession (one object being robbery), numerous assaults to rob, and a vast amount of burglaries. Hitherto reporters that police active refused to remain at home when, and many reputable citizens to move out unless the authorities gave them adequate protection.

Such a condition may seem anomalous in a state of activity where it is so easy for officers to get off the annual company to adjourning for rest, and are so anxious for help in the implement that the police department of the California capital has been wholly lax in its policy (owing, the criminal class, it would seem, little difference how disparaging) and the police force was, if properly disciplined were enforce the city and not be easily placed to meet a position as that described. Sacramento has a population of 30,000—about half that of Salt Lake—and four or five good policemen should have made a much better showing than has been done in this instance, where all the guilty parties have escaped thus far. Whatever necessity there may be for a committee of safety or vigilance committee seems to arise, therefore, from official incompetency.

The direction of the new movement, however, will affect a change, as it aims at the class from which most of the criminals are drawn—those who are not known to follow any legitimate business but are actually recognized as law as being without visible means of support. With those in jail or out of town the "fringe of terror," as it is called in the telegram, will end quickly. In the meantime, other cities will need to be on the alert to check vagrants, and to be protected thereby. Most give them the alternative of moving or of going to jail.

Our interesting issues may be noted in connection with the Sacramento business. That is the attitude assumed toward the alleged "industrial army," which last year created such a large amount of misplaced sympathy in California and elsewhere. This winter "General" Kelly—his name that was detailed to Ogden in April last—has been raising another "army," and established his headquarters at Sacramento, preparatory to an eastern campaign as soon as spring opened. Among the orders issued by the Sacramento municipal authorities was one to the effect that Kelly and his "industrialists" be notified that unless they immediately sought work they would be arrested as vagrants. The reason for this action was that on New Year's night Kelly made a speech on a street corner, in which he said that if men out of employment could not obtain work at $2 per day, they should go to the back doors of different houses, and, if refused, take what they needed by force. As Kelly's headquarters has been the meeting place of known thugs, vigorous action was directed thereon. It is announced that the "general" and some of his leading lieutenants, not relishing the alternative of work or the jail, only stayed in the city over night after the notice was served. This illustration may serve as a pointer to show that 1895 will not experience an "industrial" demonstration similar in all respects to that of 1894.

As to the probability of old vigilante methods being resorted to in Sacramento, there does not seem to be a very large share of it. The show of earnestness on the part of the people, and a little efficient work by the police, will settle the trouble, which never should have arisen if the police department had been alive to the exigencies of the situation as they appeared. An active, well-directed force of peace officers, even if small, dispenses with the necessity of vigilance committees.

CARBON COUNTY OFFICERS.

The newly-elected officials of Carbon county probably will not less worried now that a private judge has been appointed, the President having selected L. M. Olsen to fill the position. The occasion for anxiety was that in the state of affairs which existed the new officials could not qualify as provided by law. Several days must yet elapse before the new private judge can assume the duties of office. A question submitted from Carbon county in this regard asks: "As the law requires the new officers elected to qualify on or before January 1st, how is this to be accomplished?"

Replying to the query, it may be stated that the date—January 1st—is incorrect, as the law of 1894 makes a change from the old statute in that regard. It provides that, within thirty days after receiving notice of their election or appointment, the officers elect qualify; and failing to do so, that the county court shall fill vacancies caused thereby, etc. Under this provision the Carbon county officers had thirty days from the time they were officially notified of the results of the election. As this notice was not sent out from this city till December 3rd, the time had not elapsed by January 1st. If it had, we have passed by the time for new private judge to act, there may be a new question arise, should the law come into effect on the subject.

THE RHINE.

Unquestionably the pride of the entire country is the horse. Such a combination of majesty, strength, grace and utility exists in no other animal. Excepting the dog, no other domesticated creature so much attention for his safety, without even that exception, no other is so dearly a part of the existence—the life, and help, and comfort of civilized man.

But there are horses and horses, for as there are men and men. Some of the finest specimens of the docility and the intelligence that characterize the better specimens and the great majority of their race. Similarly, there are those—and, alas, they do not know how to feed a horse decently and who ought never to have charge of one. While there are rigidly humane laws in some of the states for the protection of the dumb brute, we do not know of any such law in this state. We do know that the treatment meted out to the bad treed employed are the result of improper conditions on the part of humane drivers. The case has been truly and tersely stated, with reference to probably the most exasperating of horse misdemeanors, that "there are more baby drivers than early horses."

To the lover of a good horse—which means all good men and women, and even some who are not very good—there is always interest in methods and in individuals that are successful in curing the faults to which the horse in some way have become addicted. This interest is not only due to the prevailing element—the making of an animal more valuable by rendering him easier or safer and more tractable; it is also stimulated by the fascinating couple of man's control over the beast, the superiority of his intellect over that of even the most intelligent of the brute creation. Hence horse-trainers will come and not infrequently wealth by developing a reputation of trainer's power to the extent of perhaps only a second or a fraction of a second of time in a mile's distance. Hence also men make reputations and dollars as horse-tamers, meeting the animal that wants to be the superior animal—the master—which him to do or wherever he wants him to go, he can do or go with safety, teaching him courage, obedience, etc. This idea in the field that has been entered by Prof. Gleason, now giving exhibitions in this city, and he has already shown enough of his skill here to warrant all the credit and fame that has preceded him. His exhibition is altogether novel, and while it may not be characterized as highly intellectual to the sense that one speaks at a lecture, a tragedy or an opera, it is to a great many far more useful and to almost everybody quite as interesting.

AS THE WIND, ETC.

The eastern cold spell is proving a double boon for California orange-growers. The crop there has been more than usually abundant. As an illustration, it may be cited that Los Angeles will furnish the eastern market about 300 carloads; and Riverside will come in with some 300 carloads. With such quantities as these averaging throughout the orange growing section, at the prices which the telegrams say have been agreed upon and will be easily obtainable—$2.50 to $3 per box at the groves—a vast amount of money will go to the California growers.

The reason for the advantages to the western growers is, of course, the failure, by frost, of the Florida crop. It is now announced that not more than one-seventh of the usual quantity will be shipped from that state. This means an enormous loss—$10,000,000, the quantity reported shipped, at $2, would amount to $14,000,000. It will be no wonder if the people in that state will be forced to call for assistance, and the kindly action of the South in responding to the entreaties of destitute Nebraska is the recipient exhibition of Northern charity.

Thus the ill winds of "Jack Frost" have blown good for California orange growers, though to Florida they bring dire distress; and the orange consumer also will have to pay a higher price than would have been the case under conditions which would have produced a good crop all around. The action of the elements can could not control. But when the time of necessity arises, as it seems sure to do, for the people of Florida, the first to tender them assistance should be the orange growers and dealers of California, who are the once chief benefited by the misfortune of their eastern brethren.

THE OBITUARIES and the newspapers who affect great distress over what they term the "immodesty" of the papers with reference to the removal of the prostitutes from Franklin avenue and the removal of brothels of some of them on Commercial street, need not seek pretext for themselves with so gentle a term. These "immodesty" are indiscriminate—charges, if the word is preferred—and every one of them, we believe, is susceptible of proof. Moreover, we find after a close perusal of several lengthy interviews in a morning contemporary, wherein the gentlemen properly enough make a defense, that in not one single lot in the News mention of yesterday mentioned. It appears, therefore, that what the paper has had to say about the subject will have to stand, "immodesty" and all.

The Tribune quotes Chief of Police Pratt as saying "those notorious women" have been changed "whom house rents for shacks, in some cases 200 per cent more than they could be rented for for legitimate purposes." This statement and manner they suggest of course that in at least one of the new Commercial street quarters—the building which has Chief Pratt for part owner—rents will be not only an element of the "shack," but also to 200 per cent advance in rent over what the building is worth "for legitimate purposes."

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(See Off the Wires.)

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In times of general prosperity, people become very lax in keeping themselves posted on what their public representatives are doing; but when it becomes hard for them to make both financial ends meet a pretty thorough investigation is sure to follow, and the unfaithful senators are pretty effectually weeded out, and the process continues until an honest administration is obtained and general prosperity again resumed.

We are now of the opinion that the radical change in the congress will provide any further radical tariff legislation, which but will some restore confidence in the manufacturing, commercial and financial circles and a in great measure restore prosperity and value in property. To be sure.

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