

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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## A DELICATE SUBJECT.

The subject of repression of the maternal  
instinct among the American people is  
being discussed by scientists, philanthropists,  
statesmen and even by some of the clergy. President  
Roosevelt's strictures on the running  
out of the old stock from which New  
England civilization sprang, have caused  
much comment, adverse and favorable,  
and the term used in relation to it, "race suicide," has been  
repeated until every reader of current  
literature is familiar with it.No matter how the question is treated,  
from a moral, national or religious  
standpoint, it cannot be truthfully  
denied that in many parts of this country,  
large families are looked upon as  
something to be avoided, and the means  
employed, no matter what they may be,  
do not appear to be objectionable. In  
some fashionable circles to have more  
than one or two children in a family is  
actually regarded as disgraceful.There is a disposition to avoid any  
discussion of this subject, and when the  
growing custom of suppression of human  
increase is denounced, there are not  
wanting even ministers of religion to rise  
in its defense and revile those who speak  
against the evil.There are clergymen, however, who are  
fearless and bold in showing up the  
wrong and reproving those who practice  
it. The Catholic priesthood is one of the  
foremost religious powers against the  
infamy and occasionally Protestant  
ministers join in the attack upon it. The  
following is a word in due season. It has  
appeared as a press dispatch in many  
newspapers and we reprint it here that it  
may receive the attention it deserves:Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 14.—Episcopal  
Bishop Francis, of the diocese of Indiana,  
declares that the shortage of babies in the  
church is alarming, and that the homes of the  
wealthier members of the church have an  
average of about one child to the family. The  
number of baptisms of infants has decreased  
50 per cent in 14 years. "This is in the face  
of an increase of communions," he says."Not only is there a shortage of babies  
in our church, but all over the land in the  
wealthiest homes. It appears like a  
repetition of the career of France."

## MILLIONAIRES.

According to what is said to be good  
authority, there are only 10,000 millionaires  
in the world, and of these 7,000 live in the  
United States. If these figures are correct,  
they indicate clearly the immense wealth of  
this country, as compared with other parts  
of the world; also the opportunities that men  
and women with brains and energy have  
here. In the Old World a few kings and  
princes and dukes and barons, are the  
millionaires. And most of them are so by  
right of birth, and not by merit. A very  
few sons of toil succeed, by thrift and economy,  
in attaining to a position of economic  
independence. Most of them receive but a  
scanty existence as reward for unceasing  
labor. Here the conditions are so different.  
Very few millionaires are so by birth. Most  
of them have acquired their wealth by their  
own labor, and planning. There has been some  
talk of the danger of plutocratic power in  
this country, and there is some foundation  
for apprehension in this direction. Still,  
that danger does not, as yet, appear to be  
imminent. The making of millions by one  
individual does not mean the robbing of  
others of that much. On the contrary, the  
very activity by which one succeeds in  
accumulating his million, makes it possible  
for others to gain their thousands, or their  
hundreds. In that way they are all helped  
along in the race for thegoal. It is claimed that in England, for  
instance, out of every 100 men over 65  
years of age, 19 are paupers, and among  
women of the same age, 22 are paupers. And  
the condition is still more deplorable in  
some other countries. A comparison with the  
conditions in this country makes it very  
plain that the dangers of plutocracy are not  
quite so imminent as some have thought.  
As long as any common workingman stands  
a good chance of attaining to economic  
independence, the fact that others have more  
property does not matter much. Economic  
independence on a little is just as good as  
independence on more, as far as personal  
well-being goes.

## AS TO SENATOR SMOOT.

The St. Louis Globe Democrat has  
taken a very consistent and sensible  
position, on the question raised against  
the retention of his seat by Senator  
Reed Smoot of Utah. Its latest editorial  
on the subject that we have seen is the  
following, in its issue of December 15, 1903:"The Senate's committee on privileges  
and elections has requested Mr. Smoot to  
make a reply to the charges which have  
been preferred against him, and he will do  
this at once. The committee will not do  
anything in the case until the senator has  
a chance to respond to his accusers. Though  
the senator is a Republican and the majority  
of the committee belong to the same party,  
that body will not be biased in its course  
by partisan leanings. The understanding is  
that the investigation will be thorough, and  
therefore a decision may not be reached  
for several weeks."Two charges are preferred against  
the senator. One of these is that he is a  
polygamist, and the other is that, as a  
high official of the Mormon church, his  
oath to that body makes his allegiance to  
it superior to that which he can hold to the  
state. These are serious accusations, and  
they will receive serious consideration by the  
committee. The general public which has  
paid intelligent attention to the case  
believes that the senator will fail. There  
are strong indications that fanaticism,  
local jealousy and partisan opposition  
root on the part of any members of the  
Senate's committee, but on that of  
Democratic politicians and newspaper  
men throughout the country have  
inspired the attack on the senator.Mr. Smoot declares that he is not  
now a polygamist and never has been.  
This charge, when made originally by  
some clergymen in Utah, was quickly  
withdrawn, though, it is said, it is  
repeated now by some residents of that  
state. The senator has also declared  
emphatically that he feels now, and has  
always felt, that his allegiance to his  
country is paramount to that which he  
bears to the church. On each of these points  
the senator's word will go for nothing, until  
he is able to bring tangible proof to the  
committee. The question as to whether the  
senator believes in polygamy as a religious  
tenet has nothing to do with the case, so  
long as he does not put it in practice. All  
sorts of religious non-religions are on an  
equality before the law in the United States.  
This fact will be brought out with  
convincing emphasis by the senator's  
committee in its crusade against Senator  
Smoot.

## THE OUTLOOK IN ASIA.

Notwithstanding the less favorable  
outlook for peace in eastern Asia, it is  
difficult to believe that war between  
Russia and Japan is imminent. Japan  
necessarily must be desirous of bringing  
about a settlement of her affairs with  
Russia. To gain this end, she may have  
to speak boldly, but that does not  
necessarily mean war. Russia prefers to  
gain her points by diplomacy, and in that  
field she is a master.The conditions in Russia are not such  
as to favor a serious conflict. The masses  
of the people are said to be restless,  
dissatisfied, and rebellious. In proof of  
this the Vienna correspondent of the  
London Times quotes a Russian nobleman,  
as follows:"Until this year I had treated the talk  
of a revolutionary movement as moonshine,  
but on returning to Russia three months  
ago I was struck by the change in the  
people during the last year. The peasants  
and the workers have a new expression  
on their faces, and they are no longer  
respectful, a large proportion of them  
have lost their religion; and nearly all  
seem filled with a new spirit. The strength  
of anti-Jewish feeling is appalling. I am  
sure there will be extensive massacres  
before long. But the people will not stop  
at the Jews, they will vent their rage  
upon the Germans, whom they hate, and  
will end up with the nobles. I hope I  
may be a false prophet, but things I have  
seen and heard in Russia this year have  
destroyed my optimism."As a result of the general spirit of  
unrest, there have been serious disturbances  
at Rikhsan, Elivan, Elizabetopol, Tiflis,  
Alexandropol, Kars, Baku and Nakhichevan.  
At Rikhsan revolutionary leaflets have been  
distributed by thousands, and many workmen  
have been arrested. At Kurak twenty-five  
teachers and zemstvo officials have been  
arrested; at Rostoff seventy-four male and  
female students were arrested during an  
excursion, on a charge of socialism. Proclamations  
have been issued to all garrisons in  
Russia calling upon the soldiers not to fire  
upon the people, and the men have ignored  
the commands of the military authorities to  
deliver up the proclamations. As most of the  
persons arrested are punished by banishment  
into distant towns and villages, where they  
organize revolutionary committees, the  
movement is spreading with great rapidity,  
and the demand for revolutionary literature  
is daily increasing.A country with so many internal ills  
to attend to cannot safely engage in a  
slugging-match. The probability is that  
Russia will, at this time, agree to nearly  
all that Japan may demand, although that  
does not mean that she will keep the  
agreements; but she will promise to avoid  
war. Later, when her position is stronger,  
she will advance another step. The danger of war is in the  
Japanese popular sentiment. However, both  
France and Great Britain are exerting  
themselves for the preservation of peace,  
and their efforts may be successful.

## SEES GOOD TIMES COMING.

It is good at this time to notice that  
some who survey the lay of the world from  
intellectual heights believe that the nations  
are coming nearer together in the bonds of  
brotherhood. EmilyCrawford in the Fortnightly Review,  
London, expresses this view. The author  
claims that Europe is almost ripe for a  
celebration. The peoples are united in  
scientific knowledge and faith. They have  
identical training in the schools. The  
lessons of recent wars teach federation,  
and there is a universal impulse in favor  
of peace. France is tired of militarism, and  
other countries show signs of a longing for  
the triumphs of intellect and industry, in  
preference to those of brutal force. The  
writer in the Review, after this general  
survey of the situation, continues:"The emancipation of Europe from the  
military incubus would free her genius,  
give it wings, and enable it to soar to  
heights yet undreamed of. Hope and joy  
could not but stimulate the sense of  
beauty, so strong in most European  
races, and better material conditions  
give scope to warm-hearted, generous  
sentiment. The European man of  
womanly values happiness more than  
great wealth—a state of mind that helps  
the artist, author, or scientist, and is  
the beginning of wisdom. The French and  
the Germans enjoy more than the British,  
save the Scotch, the use of their higher  
intellectual faculties. The Spaniard is  
happy in feeling he has a highly wrought  
soul, and Italy is a country of great  
mental and esthetic capabilities. The  
neutrals are forward in the production of  
mid-dling people and a decent working  
class, but are not distinguished for high  
thought. A small country breeds small  
minds. Ibsen, however, relieves Norway  
from this reproach, and Maeterlinck, Belgium,  
boasts of a great critic, Brandes. Nobel,  
whose peace prizes have rewarded the  
efforts of Frederic Passy and Ducommun,  
was a Swede. He looked forward to a  
federated Europe, but never hoped to see it.  
Though asked to speak of war dangers, I  
feel bound rather to descant on peace  
prospects, and on the good time for Europe  
which I see coming."For a Christmas gift many will get  
left.North and South America for the  
Americans!The man who lives miserably to die  
rich dies miserably.In Panama they say that nothing  
succeeds like ascension.The strikers at Sunnyside are beginning  
to show their fine Italian hand.Denver wants a new charter. Just  
run over to Runnymede and get one.No chief of police believes that the  
ways of the wicked are past finding out.Attorney-General Crows' enemies  
plunge themselves on the fact that his  
health is shattered."She let her eyes suddenly fall on  
his feet," says a recent novel. They  
must have been glass eyes.Mrs. Rorer, of cook-book fame, says  
we eat too many eggs. Will she please  
tell how none can be too many?While on strike the Chicago livermen  
might turn an honest penny by  
turning professional mourners."Why does Belfast surpass our ship-  
yards?" asks the Boston Transcript.  
Probably because it is Belfast.It is rather strange that Benson, the  
timber land man, did not take to the  
tail timber before he was caught.Do those Chicago livermen realize that  
by stopping funeral processions they  
are digging their own graves?The meanest person in the world is the  
one who insists on disillusioning the  
child's mind of the Santa Claus idea.We shall know what Mr. Bryan  
thinks of the Czar but we shall never  
know what the Czar thinks of Mr.  
Bryan.It begins to look a little as though  
the militia boys at Sunnyside might  
have a bal poure if not a Christmas  
dance.Mr. Bryan spent fourteen hours with  
Tolstol. The count himself must have  
felt pretty well spent when his guest  
departed.Someone has fooled Senator Tillman  
with a counterfeit hundred-dollar bill.  
A man is a fool to fool with the man  
with a pitchfork.Japan and Russia evidently have  
heard of David Harum's saying: "Do  
unto others as they would do with  
you, and do it first."European powers will bring pressure  
to bear on Colombia not to go to war  
with the United States. If she does go  
to war, thumb screws will be put on her.It is proposed to marry King Alfonso  
to his cousin, who is only thirteen years  
old. Really the lady is either much  
too young or much too old for wedded  
life.Christmas gifts need not be expensive  
to be appreciated. If they are tokens of  
love, friendship and esteem, and not  
rewards. Such sentiments are not  
measured in dollars and cents.It is announced at London that the  
manuscript of Milton's "Paradise Lost" is  
in the market, and will be sold at  
auction by Sotheby in March unless  
previously disposed of by private sale.  
We will take it at space rates.A boy ran into Mr. Carnegie's fence  
at Fifth Avenue and Ninety-first street,  
New York, and hurt his head. The  
millionaire philanthropist gave him  
five hundred dollars. Which proves that  
"thin plasters" are an excellent thing  
for wounds in the head.It isn't often that a railroad runs  
against anything that it doesn't knock  
out. The Central Pacific has just run  
against the statute of limitations in  
some land cases and the Supreme Court  
of the United States says that the statute  
has the right of way.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The January Red Book has 17 por-  
traits, nine of them photographic stud-  
ies by American artists, and eight  
selections from Paris studios. The stories,  
a dozen or more, are readable and  
original. Among the authors represented  
in this number are Arthur E. McFarlane,  
Harriet A. Nash, Rafael Sabatini, Annette  
Kittredge, Frederick Walworth, Marion  
Short, Kemio Watson, Mary E. Fitzgerald,  
John Harwood Bacon, Ida Alexander, Frederic  
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