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SALT LAKE CITY, - JULY 14, 1908.

SALT LAKE'S POPULATION.

The habit of overestimating the population of Salt Lake can serve no useful purpose.

In 1900 the number of inhabitants of this city was estimated at 84,666. Everybody felt good about this figure, until the government census came out giving the actual population as 53,321, deducting from the estimate based on the Directory no less than 31,345.

This year the estimate of the population based on the same authority is a total of 112,346. That would be a growth of 59,025 since the Census figures of 1900 were obtained. But that is impossible.

If, to obtain a correct figure, the present estimate must be reduced on the same scale as in 1900—which is highly probable—the actual population now is 70,503. That is more likely. Even that would be an encouraging increase. It would be an addition of 17,182 in not quite eight years.

Salt Lake has, as we have so often remarked, every facility for growth and development. But it will never increase as it should until the stridenters are rendered harmless and the city government entrusted to honest business men who are independent and dare to do what is right, in spite of the threats of self-appointed despots. Salt Lake needs a business government that knows how to reduce taxes and use the legitimate income of the City economically, to the best advantage. When the City is not taxed to death, it will grow and develop.

THE SCHOOL PROBLEM.

Our recent comments on the school problems lead Prof. Stewart to explain how Utah educational institutions are seeking to realize the educational ideal.

He says that the problem of socializing the school, that is, of making school study correspond as closely as possible with the life, work, and daily occupations of the people, has been the aim of our schools for many years.

The home life of the child is somewhat fully represented in the domestic science departments, which are conducted in such a manner as to insure the training of each child in the daily activities of the household, and particularly in such work as cooking, sewing, the preparation, preservation, and sanitary care of foods, and the ventilation and cleaning of dwelling apartments.

The manual arts and trades and other vocations of industry are as fully taken care of as possible in shops fitted up for modern woodwork and in others for such old-fashioned hand arts as weaving, dyeing, and allied branches.

Sewing, cutting, fitting, mending, all receive their due share of attention in apartments reserved and equipped for this special function.

Art, as the expression of what the child admires in his daily work—an outgrowth, therefore, of his studies, always an integral part thereof, and not the mere making of a picture or the moulding of a figure for the sake of the product, is always an expression of the activity of the child, and is thus a vital part of his school room life.

Most important of all the vocational or industrial activities, however, because it is more nearly fundamental in life and of more frequent application in school work than any of the others, is the organization of the child's activities that deal directly with natural phenomena—with air, soil, river, plant, animal, and mineral. The central idea here is the work of the farmer, but this is coupled with training in the observation and deduction that mark the investigator or scientist.

Nature study is the observation of real things; and these, in turn, are the most trustworthy basis for the ideal creations of art, literature, and even, indirectly, of music. Such observation is clearly the necessary groundwork for comparison in geography, supplying the latter with subject matter, providing history its scenes and conditions of action, and mathematics with its most usual fields of application.

First-hand knowledge of nature is considered by the psychologists to be the pre-requisite of all other knowledge, and hence the sure sub-stratum of all good thinking. Moralists have long maintained that trained out-of-door observation, especially in the form of garden work, is a promising and healthful basis for right living and for the formation of high ideals.

Naturally objects and laws, since they are first in child life—the cause and subject matter of sense perception—are also best basis for rational interpretation. These impressions often remain in later life, and persist as the favorite goal and application of what was learned long before. And since in a philosophical sense, all that we have and are we get from nature, it is forcefully contended that the best work of the school will consist in carrying on further these natural processes through which the child spontaneously and continuously learns.

Such study and observation cannot be any new thing, since they represent merely the systematized or scientific form of all objective seeing, thinking and knowing; and can really no more be dispensed with than eyes and ears can be ignored. The conclusion thus seems irresistible that the difference between schools that make direct use of the nature method of observation

and comparison and those that do not, is merely that the latter rely wholly on what the unassisted and undirected child happens to learn of nature in his own work and play, for without some basis of nature knowledge, no teaching whatever is possible. Teachers who directly employ the systematized observation of nature as a means of directing the activities of child life, lead his spontaneous energy more directly to the discovery of resemblance and difference, of beauty and utility, of fact and law, in a word, to the discovery of truth, and in the sum, to the comprehension of scientific generalization.

The objective knowledge of children with whom this aspect of teaching has been neglected must be more or less vague and fanciful; that of children who have been taught to observe, classify, and draw conclusions from the things they examine, must be more definite and useful, and must supply better materials for the ideal creations of the mind than is otherwise possible. Thus, the only question seems to be whether the nature knowledge that all must use as a basis for whatever we do, or say, or write, or think implies this basis, shall be vague and chimerical, or definitely organized so as to instruct in the useful, the beautiful, and the true in our surroundings.

Of course it is not contended that instruction ends with nature; it only begins there. With natural reality as a basis, the child is led on to express what he knows; art, and oral and written expression necessarily arise. What others have said and written is then examined; and this is literature. What others have done is investigated; and this is history. What other countries are like is taken up; and this is geography.

In these ways our schools are striving to realize something of the educational ideal that has been the dream of the great reformers in education.

APPEAL TO THE COURTS.

Los Angeles is confronted by a problem similar to that which causes the residents of the West Side in this city; justly, to register their indignant protests.

A Los Angeles taxpayer in the district which the police has given over to protected vice, sent the following petition to the board:

"It is needless to remind you that it is your duty, under the charter, to enforce these laws which are being openly and flagrantly violated every day with the knowledge and consent of the department controlled by you. So that there may be no mistake about the location of these places affecting my property interests I hereby demand the immediate suppression of the following places:

Every piece of property in the district, says the Los Angeles Express, is depreciated in value by the alliance which exists between the police commission and the keepers of the infamous resorts. The value of the property thereon for any legitimate use is destroyed by them. Owners should have a right of action against the commissioners on their official bonds. Here and there throughout the district are homes bought by working people before the scarlet invasion flooded it. Their homes have been ruined and their families endangered by the defiling contamination.

That is just the prospect of home owners on the West Side, here, if the City authorities, in defiance of law and public sentiment, permit the construction of houses for immoral purposes, as the intention seems to be. Let it first be known that brothels can be established in this City by the consent of the police, and hundreds of abandoned women and their evil attendants will flock here from all over the country. The district will be a hot bed of crime of every kind, from petty thieving to murder. The courts should be appealed to.

FOR SELF-PROTECTION.

There are indications that the saloon element is combining for the purpose of continuing its influence upon municipal affairs. Saloon government is, however, the most extravagant government possible. It has been proved that, not only is it largely responsible for crime and pauperism, but drinking also diminishes man's capability for work and renders him unfit for positions of responsibility and trust. The great economic loss caused by the influence of the saloon directly and indirectly, is beyond computation.

The results of inquiry in Great Britain are given in statistics gathered by Appleton's from government sources, and they prove that Great Britain simply by the strictest elimination of the excessive consumption of alcohol in that country would increase its labor output by more than \$2,000,000,000 a year, while a similar study of statistics in the United States indicates an increased productivity for the abstaining man as compared with the user of large quantities of alcoholic stimulants of nearly fifty per cent. That is, other things being equal, the man who "cuts out" the alcohol may reasonably expect when he dies to be worth twice as much as the heavy drinker.

Another inquiry among more than 8,000 employers showed that thirty-one out of thirty-two classified sets of replies gave reasons for forbidding or discouraging the use of alcohol among their employees on economic grounds—a better quality of work, fewer accidents, and so on.

The conclusion is evident. When the saloon element marshals its forces, friends of temperance should organize for defense. Whatever opinion may be held on the temperance question from a moral point of view, it is not disputed that excessive drink is one of the most costly vices, and should be combated on economic grounds. It is very generally believed that the present anti-drink movement, as contrasted to former prohibition waves or temperance crusades, depends upon the fact that the public are tired of the political domination of an element the influence of which means economic, as well as moral, ruin.

To bond is to bust.

"The Independence party now and

forever!" is Mr. Hearst's campaign war cry.

The first requisite for an enjoyable outing is money.

It is worth a pack of trouble to secure a pint of happiness.

Today Denver looks like a deserted village.

Bathers are more easily suited than any other class of people.

General Funston, who is noted for his blunt speech, has a sharp tongue.

The weather man blows hot and cold by turns. Just now he is blowing hot.

That anti-Mormon plank would make a beautiful head board for Freddy Dubois' political grave.

Phonograph sermons have just been introduced in Chicago. They do phoney things in Chicago.

How splendidly the American marksmen at Bisley shot! They are worthy successors of Daniel Boone and Natty Bumppo.

A Boston writer has discovered that there is such a thing as "the American voice." Sure, it is the voice of liberty.

Blood, of course, will tell, but it won't tell nearly so much as a little brother. Corpus delicti has become corpora delicti.

Presidential elections should be held in midsummer for the candidates would rather be snowed under in hot weather than in the cold and chilly November.

Place Richard Pearson Hobson at the entrance to the Golden Gate and Japan would not even dare to dream of attacking our Pacific coast states.

It is said, remember, it is said, that President Roosevelt has been offered a dollar a word for anything he may write about his experiences in his forthcoming African hunting trip.

There will be 483 electoral votes cast for president this year, which is seven more than four years ago, on account of the admission of Oklahoma as a state, and 29 more than eight years ago under the old apportionment. The winning candidate must have a majority of these votes, or 242.

Certainly the proposed bond issue is a public and not a party measure. But let the bonds be voted and see how quicker than the twinkling of an eye a pre-election public measure will become a post-election party measure. To citizens and taxpayers the old adage, "Take care of your chickens when the fox preaches," should be sufficient warning.

The Dayton Journal has just celebrated the 100th anniversary of its birth, by issuing a splendid anniversary number. The Dayton Journal of Dayton, O., was established in 1808, has been a going concern ever since and bids fair to last as long as its city and state. Few of its esteemed contemporaries can boast of such a great age. The paper is still young, vigorous and alive. Its centennial edition is a fine example of the modern American newspaper.

The 12th of February next will be the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Lincoln and Darwin, and a writer in the North American Review suggests the propriety of a joint celebration. "The 12th of February," he says, "the birthday of Lincoln and Darwin, should be a day of international festival, a sort of Pan-Anglo-Saxon reunion, in which the scattered members of a great race should come together to reaffirm their racial principles, to feel the thrill of common hopes and common emotions, and to realize in the most convincing way that blood is thicker than water."

"A Souvenir of Joseph Smith, the Prophet" is the title of a series of twelve colored postal cards bound in a small volume so as to be easily detachable for mailing, now on sale at the Bureau of Information in this city. The pictures are a view along White River, three views of the old ruins about the birthplace of the Prophet, at Sharon, Vermont, a general view of the farm, a fine picture of the monument and of the memorial cottage, the Lily pond, and South Royalton village. These cards sent out to friends provide an easy and pleasant way of disseminating an acquaintance with the appearance of the place of the childhood of Joseph Smith, and of creating an interest in the work to which he gave his life.

ECHOES FROM THE FOURTH.

Springfield Republican.
The returns from the Fourth of July battlefield are not all in, and will not be until the injuries inducing lockjaw have been heard from. But the preliminary returns compiled by the Chicago Tribune are plenty enough to indicate that number of the dead at 72 and the injured at 2,736, which breaks all records since 1899. Past experience has demonstrated that deaths from injuries will more than double the fatality record. The completed roll for the five-year period to 1908 shows over 1,000 killed outright, 770 dead from tetanus or lockjaw, 88 totally blinded, and hundreds deprived of limbs and fingers—most all of them being boys into whose hands grown men have placed the weapons of destruction. What an indictment of the civilization of the time!

THE BATTLESHIP FLEET.

New York World.
During the eight months from the time of its departure from San Francisco until its return to the home station on this coast the battleship fleet will make visits of courtesy to New Zealand, Australia, Japan and China. In strength it remains the same as when under Admiral Evans' command, although the Maine and the Alabama of the original fleet have been detached and are now at Guam on their way home. Their places have been taken by the Wisconsin and the Nebraska, leaving the Oregon, now out of commission, as the only battleship on the Pacific coast.

LEAVES AND FRUIT.

The Boston Herald.
How to pack fruit and how to show it off to the best advantage after it is unpacked is an art that is too little needed by our fruiters. There's nothing that adds more to the attractiveness of a box or crate of fruit than a liberal dressing of green leaves.

of one kind or another. Out consul at Frankfurt contributes some useful information on this subject, telling of the advantages of fern leaves for this purpose, not only for the decoration but for the preservation of the fruit. The fern leaves, it seems, possess a preservative quality far beyond any other greens, and they are extensively used in the foreign markets, not only to pack fruits, but vegetables and dairy products as well. More green decorations would add much to the attractiveness of our fruit market and fruit stands, and they would help to preserve the fruit at the same time.

MONEY FOR WHAT?

New York World.
Anticipating that the public would demand the use of this increased borrowing capacity for the construction of more subways, Mayor McClellan and Comptroller Metz have deliberately squandered it in advance. Before the board of estimate adjourned for the summer the Mayor and the Comptroller voted millions of dollars so as to give them priority over subway bonds. More than \$10,000,000 of bonds are to be issued for real estate at such enormous inflated prices as the bureau of municipal research unearthed in the purchase of the police training-stable farm land unsuitable for parks and schools has been bought and the purchase price charged to park and school bonds, with the twofold effect of providing real-estate graft and of preventing the construction of more municipal subways. In the face of this increase in the city's borrowing capacity Comptroller Metz is fostering the injunction suit restraining himself from issuing subway bonds. He has not sought to restrain himself from issuing bonds to give his friend Hurry a 100 per cent profit in a real-estate speculation or to enrich other friends of McClellan's by similar methods.

JUST FOR FUN.

Mme. Midgown's Story.
"A tourist, they say, was touring Brittany. He came to Quimper, and he found in the palace public beside the river an old woman selling trinkets."

"What is the price of this?" he asked, taking up an antique ring of silver and sapphires.

"Is it for your wife or for your sweetheart?" said the old woman.

"For my sweetheart."

"Fifty francs."

"Fifty francs! Nonsense!" And the tourist turned angrily away.

"Come back," said the old woman. "Take it for ten. You've been lying to me, though; you have no sweetheart. Had the ring been for her, you'd have bought it at once without regard to its price."

"I will take it," said the tourist, smiling. "Here are the ten francs."

"So the old woman wrapped the ring up."

"But you haven't a wife, either," she grumbled. "If it had been for her, you'd have beaten me down to five francs. Oh, you men!"—Kansas City Journal.

"What part of the chicken will you have, Mr. Halloway?"

"Some of the meat, please"—Life

"He has a fancy work face"

"A what?"

"A fancy-work face. Every time his temper got ruffled his brows knit."—Judge.

Silucus—What do you consider is the proper time for a man to marry?

Cynicus—Oh, I suppose when he hasn't anything else to worry him.—Philadelphia Record.

Elder Uncle—Spent your entire patrimony, have you, Archibald? "Gone through everything?"

Scapigrace—Nephew—Yes, uncle; everything but the bankruptcy court."—Chicago Tribune.

"Plzen Pete's lawyer challenged sixteen talestmen."

"That's all foolishness."

"Just what I say. Why didn't he challenge the district attorney and settle it in a jiffy?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"It's too bad that none of us can ever be as good as some people think we ought to be."

"Yes, but then there's the consolation in the thought that none of us can ever be as bad as some people think we are."—Philadelphia Press.

"John," said the Colorado woman delegate to the convention, "I want your advice."

"Now, as to that labor plank?"

"Oh, John," she interrupted, "please be serious. Tell me what hat I shall wear."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

A Trophy.

Two country youths were on a visit to London. They went into the British Museum and there saw a mummy, over which hung a card, on which was printed "B. C. 87."

They were very mystified, and one said: "What do you make of it, Bill?"

"Well," said Bill, "I should say it was the number of the motor car that killed him."—Tit-Bits.

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