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THE DESERET NEWS
Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - OCT. 21, 1908.

THIS IS TRUE.

The Retail Merchant, a trade journal printed in this city, in its issue of October 21, offers some comments on the local situation, which we commend to the serious consideration of business men and others interested in the welfare of this community. We quote:

"The most casual visitor must have noticed that our fair city is under a cloud of dissension most deplorable and disgusting. Our newspapers are almost entirely to blame for no matter how determined personal hatred may be, it cannot keep a whole city in a state of discord, without the aid of the press. Of course peculiar conditions obtain in this state, but without our perpetual aggravation they are not of sufficient seriousness to warrant a continued strife. The average man is so indifferent to religious, ups and downs that he is annoyed when a few insist on flaunting the matter before him every morning before breakfast. This opinion is absolutely unbiased for I have heard such expressions from leading individuals on both sides. The city is tired of it."

"The wisest plan, we believe, that could be adopted by any Salt Lake daily would be to determine never to take cognizance of the existence of another paper in the city. In Los Angeles, for instance, the Los Angeles Times absolutely ignores any other paper there, with a result which the success of the sheet fully shows. Let Salt Lake papers never have the name of a contemporary in its pages and we feel great good will be accomplished. Within the last six months one real estate firm in this city has refunded \$50,000 on one trade and has seen \$50,000 go elsewhere in another case, merely on account of the discords constantly existing in our newspapers. One man from Denver had closed a deal and requested a return of his money merely because his little daughter was reading a certain daily and had read the idea that this city was a hell-hole of immorality and crime. Names could be given if necessary."

"Salt Lake is one of the finest cities in the world, not only in the beauty of the beauty of location, but also in regard to opportunity for growth. Why should we insist upon throwing the wrong impression out to the people of distant cities? I cannot perceive, for I care not a fig what the next man believes or whom he chooses for his religious leaders. Frankly, I think the actions of my business. Truly, 'asius ad lyram'—the ass is at the lyre."

We appreciate this candid statement in a paper representing vast business interests. The "News" has repeatedly called attention to the fact that the abnormal conditions brought about by the introduction of anti-Mormonism in local politics, has been, and is, an obstacle to the development of the City. We have repeatedly said that there is no reason why this City should not have 200,000 inhabitants, and that the population would have reached this figure long ago but for the policy of hatred and un-American bigotry that has proved a veritable curse. We have appealed to the conservative business men of the City to end the strife and establish normal political conditions by the elimination of everything that savors of anti-churchism from politics. They can do this in a day, if they take the matter up in the right way.

It is true, as stated by the Retail Merchant, that the newspapers are to blame. There are newspapers in this City maintained for the sole purpose of keeping the flames of strife burning, and kindling ill feelings between neighbors. Those newspapers have systematically attacked the Church and maligned its leaders, living and dead. They have stopped at no falsehood, no misrepresentation, no vilification. They have stabbed and stabbed and turned and twisted their knives in the bleeding wounds, until endurance has seemed almost beyond human power. They have succeeded in engendering bitterness and hatred, until you can hear drunken individuals in street cars boast that they are going to drive every "Mormon" out of Utah. They have succeeded until the innocent hearts of children have been poisoned and infected with the same hatred. Whether, under the circumstances, it is best for the papers that speak for peace to keep silent, we must leave to the public to decide.

But one thing is certain, this City will never be what it ought to be until its traducers are silenced. The conservative business men of the City could bring this about, a great deal better than those politicians to whom personal interests are paramount. We are of the opinion that if a few influential and practical business men would take up the local situation and discuss it frankly and freely from every possible point of view, they would not be long in finding the remedy.

INVESTIGATE, SURE.

The Tribune is frantic with rage over the suggestion of the "News" that some of the financial transactions of the past be included in its preposition to investigate, and so it falls back on the charge of forgery.

Every year, a few days before an election, the Tribune assails the "News" by charging that this paper "was the beneficiary of a forgery on the assessment roll more than twelve years ago, through which the assessment on its plant was cut down \$40,000." The charge is, of course, made for the purpose of getting votes.

Notice the foxy cunning displayed by going back twelve years and assailing the private corporations that then had charge of the financial affairs of the "News," the principal officers of which are now dead and gone, and therefore not in the field to defend themselves.

The "News" has not deemed it necessary

to take notice of the ghoulish attack upon dead men, but at this time it may be stated that their well known business integrity, and their reputation as honest men, warrant the assertion that they would never, NEVER, have been parties to a crime, such as charged. If the assessment rolls were forged—and as to that the Tribune is not to be believed even under oath—it was done without the knowledge, or approval, by the then management of the "News."

The "News" will further state with all the emphasis possible, that this paper never benefited to the extent of one cent by any such methods.

There is something crooked in the charge. It says that the assessment ON THE PLANT was cut down, by forgery, \$40,000. The "News" plant twelve years ago was not worth so much that \$40,000 could be cut off as merely a part of the total assessment.

As an illustration of the amounts contributed by the "News" and Tribune respectively to the public funds by taxes, the following figures are quoted from the records:

	"News."	Tribune.
1903.	\$8,408.25	\$881.38
1904.	\$8,590.29	\$549.09
1905.	\$8,930.59	\$549.89
1906.	\$9,234.81	\$584.45

The figures for 1907 and 1908 are in excess of these. They include both plant and real estate. And it will be seen that few institutions pay more in to the public funds than does this paper.

Since 1899 the "News" has been owned by the Church. For some years previous to that time it was leased to private parties. But whether under Church or private ownership, it has always been assessed on the same basis as all other institutions.

By all means investigate! But do not forget to find out where the \$5,555.93 went to, that was added to the cost of the Cottonwood conduit. Do not forget the paying business. Do not forget the charge that the Mayor and the Chairman of the Finance Committee "are confronted with a rapacious band of grafters within their own party."

And do not forget that the citizens of the West Side were compelled to threaten to appeal to the courts for protection against the truly "American" plan of establishing, contrary to the law, a district of infamy in the City. Investigate! Find out who gave permission to build the cribs. Find out who invested money in the infamous enterprise.

By all means investigate!

GERMAN FINANCES.

The German minister of finance, Mr. Sydow, has recently appealed to the patriotism of the German people for support for his efforts to place the finances of the empire on a more solid basis. The trouble is that the government has continually borrowed money and piled debt upon debt, until a change of policy has become absolutely necessary. The situation is not without local interest, as an illustration of the ruinous policy of borrowing money all the time, which is the policy of our own city government.

Minister Sydow points out that Germany has been living on borrowed money. Thirty years ago the public debt was \$18,000,000; now it is \$1,000,000,000. This plan, he says, of borrowing larger and larger sums cannot go on. The debts must be paid. And in order to meet the obligations he proposes to levy taxes on various "luxuries and necessities of life" and among these he includes advertisements, electricity, and gas. The situation created by the policy of increasing the national indebtedness year after year must have become critical indeed, when the Finance Minister finds it necessary to suggest a remedy which simply means added burdens of taxation upon the poorer classes. Vorwärts, the Socialist organ, justly attacks the policy proposed as follows:

"Meanwhile the purses of the wealthy, who have been the cause of this national indebtedness, are spared in every possible way, and, with the exception of the duty on champagne and on foreign wines, feel only a light taxation. But there is no duty imposed on the property of the Empire, on dividends or on coupons. At the close of his article Mr. Sydow makes an appeal to the 'idealistic enthusiasm' to the self-sacrifice of the people, but this appeal has no meaning excepting for the poorer classes of the community. The rich have so plainly shown their patriotic spirit of self-sacrifice by the way in which their representatives in the Reichstag have voted for naval armaments and colonial appropriations that no man would venture to ask them to bear the expenses of their complacency."

That goes to the root of the evil. Public debt means increased taxes and increased cost of living. But this increase always is met by the consumer, and is felt most heavily by the classes whose wages are low. The extravagance of government, national and municipal, is paid by the classes who can least afford extravagance.

Quakers are always Friends in need.

"How will Indiana go?" is asked. Literary, of course.

It is cheap society where wealth alone is made the standard.

In politics the line of march isn't always the line of duty.

An attorney's advice is often more expensive than valuable.

If you give a corporation an inch it will take at least two ell.

An improper way of stocking the streams is to allow cattle to wade in them.

Those who shoot ducks after sundown make it plain that their ways are dark.

Judge Taft is said to be in advance of his party. Where else should a leader be?

In winter a well-stored coal bin gives more happiness and contentment than a well stored mind.

The white man is usually looking for some one to whose shoulders he can shift his burden.

If Thaw wants to arouse popular

interest in his case he should bring the "angel child" forward.

The Standard Oil company has lost a copy of its secret code. But it has not lost the secret of success.

It isn't "parlor socialism" that is spreading slowly but surely all over the country but the real thing.

Having injected ginger into the campaign, President Roosevelt naturally expects a ginger snap as the result.

The new U. S. marshal will be just as active in the discharge of the duties of his office if not so spry as his predecessor.

Every herb doctor in the country knows of a specific that would perfectly restore Judge Taft's voice if he would only take it.

Peddlers who peddle without a license are arrested, yet bicyclists pedal without a license but are never arrested. Is the discrimination just?

Both the great political parties are predicting a landslide, but neither seems to realize that if it occurs one or the other must be buried under it.

The late Charles Elliot Norton was probably the most cultured man in America. He will be best remembered by his prose translation of the "Divine Comedy" and the "Vita Nuova."

The suffragettes succeeded in getting two cabinet ministers into the Bow street police court as witnesses. It was really a great triumph for them and will encourage them in their aggressive campaign.

Tennessee "night riders" lynched Captain Rankin not because he was a negro, which he was not, nor because of the "usual crime," but just because they didn't like him. Governor Patterson has called out the militia and is determined to apprehend the murderers if possible. Success to his efforts. These "night riders" should be as ruthlessly exterminated as was the Ku-Klux Klan.

Where are the guardians of the public thoroughfares whose business it is to keep the streets clear of the soliciting demi-monde element? Conditions are becoming so bad in this regard that these women are carrying their soliciting even on to Main street and at all hours of the day and night. Yesterday morning a gentleman was accosted by a dizen creature directly in front of the Wilson hotel and two minutes later a woman stood in the doorway of the rooming house No. 70 east Second South street and entered into a flow of disgusting language which ended with a solicitation. Such occurrences are becoming so common in the business district that respectable people need ever walk in apprehension of suffering insult.

LAKE MOHONK'S LANDLORD.

Lake Mohonk is frequently in the newspapers. Many gatherings of public interest take place there from time to time, but the origin and development of this now famed conference center are probably familiar to but comparatively few. Next week the Indian conference is to be held there and will draw a distinguished attendance, but incidentally the interest is divided between national and social events of a national character, the presentation to Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Smiley, owners of the property and the entertainers of thousands, of a memorial of women workers, the past year, at a cost of \$75,000 and representing almost 1,200 contributing guests, which came off yesterday. This is in recognition of the golden jubilee of the "Trade," which occurred over a year ago and prompted this expression of grateful appreciation.

BRUTALITY.

New York Evening Post.
The lynching of two negroes in Lulu, Mississippi, with the mob's insistence that the bodies remain on view until the bodies of Washington arrived in town, was a piece of brutality that will go far to confirm the prevalent impression of

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN UTAH

The following article appears in the current number of the Woman's Exponent, edited by Mrs. Emmeline B. Wells:

"There have been few political campaigns in Utah which presented more vital issues than the one in which we are now engaged. In common with their fellow-citizens throughout the nation, the people of this State are keenly interested in the great national contest, and partake of the enthusiasm which attends its successive phases and developments. Those whose affiliations and sympathies are with the Republican party find much to please them in the vigorous utterances and the energetic campaigning of Mr. Taft, supported by the strenuous backing of President Roosevelt and the mighty assistance of experienced party leaders. Those who incline to the Democratic party, either by reason of fondness for its principles or admiration for its standard-bearer, are filled with joy at the popular favor with which Mr. Bryan is everywhere received and the applause which his letters and orations evoke. Utah Republicans and Utah Democrats are accordingly quite as hopeful, as eager, and as interested as are their fellow-citizens in Maine, Texas, Florida or Oregon in the great game which is now being played before the eyes of an eager constituency, and on the merits of which the people will pass judgment on the 3rd of next November."

"But here at home we have additional reasons for approaching the ballot box next November with sober and thoughtful earnestness. There are questions at issue which should be close to the heart of every good citizen. At least one of these appeals especially to women—we refer to the splendidly-growing sentiment in favor of temperance, and the likelihood that with the election of good legislators, the liquor traffic may be restrained. It is the base and the blemish of our friends of the other sex, the influence of women in politics and at the polls is healthful and purifying. Here is an opportunity to make proof of the one and give vent to the other. Men may and perhaps from sincere conviction sometimes do, disagree as to the merits or desirability of prohibition, but they should be united in their determination to support the woman who is in their minds? If their votes could decide the issue, it would speedily be settled. Is it not proper to expect temperance, and to urge that they shall avail themselves of this time of every right of citizenship which they enjoy? It seems to us that any woman who through neglect or indifference at this important moment

the lawlessness of that state. Fortunately, there is another and most encouraging side to the picture, illustrated afresh by Mr. Washington's successful trip through the state. Everywhere at Lulu, he has met with a splendid reception. Speaking two or three times each day, he has found many prominent white men and women of high standing in his audiences. On Friday of last week he spoke in the courthouse at Greenville, and declared with emphasis that the worst enemy of the south was the man who favored the negro in ignorance. This was bearding Vardaman in his den, but the sentence was greeted with the same meeting, the white county superintendent of education arose and urged the colored people to send their children to the public schools, saying that he would see that all the money necessary was provided for their education. At Jackson, Vardaman's actual home, despite the warnings of a local newspaper, many white people attended the meeting. Everywhere Mr. Washington has met white people who have assured him that they would stand by the negroes and see that they received education and justice."

JUST FOR FUN.

Sorry He Spoke.

"A fool for luck," exclaimed Johnson on hearing that an acquaintance had come to a fortune.

"I don't know about that," replied his wife. "You don't seem to be especially fortunate."—Boston Transcript.

(At the Club).—"Oh, I say, who'd you think I met this morning?" "Do you mind guessing for me, old man?" "I'm rather tired,"—"Punch."

Miss De Style—"I stopped at a lovely place last summer; plenty of fellows; honest, I got four rings." Miss Gunbust—"So? I didn't know there was a carousel out there."—Puck.

"It is always interesting to watch them drop the pilot," said the girl who had traveled much. "Yes," laughed the young man, "especially if you happen to be on an airship."—Chicago Daily News.

"Why don't you try to nut more ginger into the campaign?" "Ginger?" echoed Senator Scroggum. "The suggestion comes too late. Nothing can drown out the flavor of kerosene."—Washington Star.

Breakers Ahead.

"I'm in an awful fix. If I tell her how badly she sang she'll break our engagement, and if I tell her she sang well she'll break me later on trying for an operatic career."—Exchange.

A TACTFUL REASON.

"Would you call her good looking?" "Nope."

"Why not?"

"Her husband might get jealous."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

A unique national directory has just been published under the title "The Campaign Against Tuberculosis in the United States." Tuberculosis (consumption) takes more lives than any other single disease—100,000 a year in the United States alone. It is both curable and preventable, and over 200 organizations in this country are engaged in the fight against it. Hence the need for this directory. The directory includes all institutions and organizations dealing with tuberculosis, a digest of all legislation relating to the disease. The book is published by the National Tuberculosis Committee, 105 East Twenty-second street, New York.

Remarkable studies in public interest in social problems and remedies have been made in the past year, according to an editorial summary in the New York Times. Next week the Indian conference is to be held there and will draw a distinguished attendance, but incidentally the interest is divided between national and social events of a national character, the presentation to Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Smiley, owners of the property and the entertainers of thousands, of a memorial of women workers, the past year, at a cost of \$75,000 and representing almost 1,200 contributing guests, which came off yesterday. This is in recognition of the golden jubilee of the "Trade," which occurred over a year ago and prompted this expression of grateful appreciation.

Another issue of purely local importance, but of surely enormous and terrible significance here where it is best understood, is the announced threat that in the event of the success of a certain faction in Salt Lake county, a large number of the foremost citizens of the community will be driven either into exile or into the penitentiary. At the recent convention of the "American" party this threat was made, and it was cheered to the echo. Certain "twenty-six" were referred to as coming under this threat and consigned to this fate—these twenty-six being the general authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Democrats and Republicans, some of them men who their most bitter and vindictive enemies have never been accused of having broken any law. It is true, the astounding brutality of such a program revealed itself only once and thought to those who had so madly applauded it; and the shrewd of them promptly affected to lament, if not the plan, at least the revelation of it. As a political weapon it promises to recoil with much severity upon its original wielders. But that a program so vile should even have been thought of, much less mentioned, evidences a depravity that otherwise would have been hard to fasten upon any faction seeking support from popular suffrage. If means anything at all, it means that if that faction shall be successful the angry elements of discord are again to be called up, the reckless hounds of persecution again to be let slip, in this prosperous and peaceful land. Is such a prospect pleasing to those, whether Mormon, Jew or gentile, who live and expect to live here? Their answer ought to be at least the revelation of it. 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