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Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager.

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SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 27, 1908.

REPAIR THE STREET.

The proposition to repair the paving on Main street at the expense of the property owners who have already paid for that improvement, was defeated by the protests presented to the City council on Monday evening. The general opinion of the protesters is that the street can be patched up so as to be in good condition for several years, and that the status of the City's finances is not such as to warrant unnecessary expenditures at this time.

Now, if the councilmen will listen to the property owners who have a right to be heard in this matter, they will cause a plan to be prepared, for the repair of the street—a business-like, economic plan, and we believe every property owner along the street will approve it. And if the City is too poor to do the necessary work, they might even be willing to give donations to have the repairing done, provided they can feel reasonably sure that graft is not the chief consideration.

We have reason to believe that the general sentiment is that the holes in the street should be filled up at once. There is no protest against necessary repairs done, on sane and economic business principles, but the protest is against spending money on repaving when it is not absolutely necessary and when neither the City nor many of the tax-payers can afford that luxury.

WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

The story in the Herald of Tuesday morning, to the effect that Elders C. W. Penrose and B. H. Roberts were sent on missions, for political purposes, is unworthy of that paper. If we are not mistaken, it was first invented by the anti-Church agitators, and deserves no more credence than the numerous other false stories that can be traced to the same source. The repetition of such fiction without corroboration, without a suggestion of proof, is not worthy of a fair newspaper. Nor can anything good be accomplished thereby, for the party which it represents. Some citizens may be induced, by tales that have no purpose but to excite prejudice, to cast their votes for the party under the management of which the City has been brought to the verge of ruin, and many more may become alienated from the party, because they, rightly, regard the invention and dissemination of false rumors about the doings and alleged intentions of the leading men of the Church, as more or less veiled attacks upon the Church itself.

The Apostles of the Church are special witnesses of the Lord in all the world. That is their high and holy calling. They form a traveling, presiding High Council, and it is their duty to build up the Church and regulate its affairs wherever it may be established, as well as to extend the work among all the nations of the earth, all under the direction of the First Presidency. The Seventy are, in the same way, appointed for the proclamation of the Gospel and the building up of the Church everywhere, under the direction of the Twelve. When, therefore, any of the Twelve, or the presidents of Seventies are called upon to perform missionary labor anywhere in the vast field, that is absolutely no reason why anyone should start about for secret, or veiled purposes.

The leaders of the Church will, naturally, send into the mission field the men who are regarded as best qualified for the particular work needed in the respective localities to which they are sent. And that is the only consideration.

PAVING BUSINESS.

Occasionally part of the truth concerning the mismanagement of public affairs comes to light. For instance, through a lawsuit in Detroit a contract has been made public, by the terms of which the agent of a paving concern was allowed to spend 26 cents per square yard on every job of paving "for the promotion part of the business." Another provision was that he might disburse as much as \$5,000 at any time "in promoting the interests of the company" and charge it against the 26 cents per yard account. The dispatch which tells of this contract says that it sheds some remarkable sidelights on the paving business.

The Chicago Record-Herald, in commenting on this queer business, remarks: "Probably there is no city in the country that has not suffered at one time or another from the activity of agents of the companies. Streets have been paved against the just protests of property owners, the prices charged have been out of reason, the work done has been of the poorest. There was a time here in Chicago when it was confidently expected that a pavement would go to pieces shortly after it was laid, and expectations were seldom disappointed. More recently it was shown that the prices charged were noticeably high with the prices charged in other cities. There was talk of a combine of stone men and of the consequent injustice from which the property owner suffered. History shows that for one reason and another there is no branch of city work that has been subject to greater abuses than that of street paving and none that calls for greater watchfulness on the part of city officials. Taxpayers are not likely to complain when they get their money's worth, but, to revert to the Detroit case,

it is quite evident that 26 cents per square yard for promotion is not likely to add to the quality of asphalt or any other material."

The subject is of timely interest in other cities. With the aid of the ray of light that comes from Detroit, it is not impossible to form conclusions concerning the business methods of other agents of paving companies. But why should the taxpayer be required to pay so much per square yard for the promotion of the interests of the paving company, in addition to the regular cost of the paving?

SELLING VOTES.

Rumor has it that so-called "American" party promoters are trying to make a deal by which the votes of the Italian and Greek residents of the city are to be traded for the employment of the laborers of those nationalities, on public works.

We have no prejudices against foreigners. We appreciate the obligations of this country to the sturdy laborers from abroad who have done their full share in the development of the country and added their quota both to its material and intellectual wealth. But if rumor is true, as it probably is, but if rumor is true, as it probably is, what must the foreigners think of American citizenship? In what class of citizenship are they being graduated by those who offer to buy their votes? What will they think of our American ideals, when they are approached by so-called "Americans" with a proposition to sell their birthright for a mess of pottage?

It has always been supposed that the independence and intelligence of the voting majority of the people form the strongest bulwark of defense around the Constitution. If that is broken down, what are the prospects of a perpetuation of the government itself? Thoughtful men of our day see dangers approaching. They lament especially the ascendancy of centralized and predatory wealth which, entrenched behind special privileges, feels strong enough to defy both public opinion and law. But such dangers would never have become seriously threatening but for the prostitution of the ballot.

In this country British, French, Dutch, German, Scandinavian, and many other nationalities have become one. We honor President Roosevelt's Dutch ancestry and name a school house in Salt Lake after Lafayette. The Constitution has been always able to do its work. But what of the obligation to teach new peoples a just comprehension of the powers, responsibilities and duties that citizenship brings them? The ballot is the most sacred inheritance of the freeman, and we are led to wonder whether, if our forefathers had taught the use of it to the people it was their duty to initiate into its privileges, with the same standards in mind as are in use in Salt Lake today, we could honor the class of citizenship produced. The working men of Salt Lake are interested in this matter.

IS IT FOR WAR?

There is an old saying that a person usually finds what he is looking for; it may be true also of nations. We have the highest authority for believing that "those who seek shall find."

What is our country looking for in preparing vast military and naval armaments? Ten years ago the army and navy together cost \$85,000,000. Last year the cost was \$222,000,000. We submit that this is an enormous sum as well as ominous growth of warlike expenditure. What does it signify?

Of course we cannot undertake to answer the argument that a great navy is necessary to the national defense, although many do not think so. But our country is now devoting to war more money than any other country except Great Britain.

The regular expenditures for army and navy, together with the payment of pensions, will reach a total this year of about \$384,000,000, or 67 per cent of the national revenue. Neither Germany nor France comes within \$100,000,000 per year of our budget. They are warlike nations; ours is a nation devoted to the arts and industries of peace.

We have no theory to advocate, no policy to recommend, no argument to make, as to the supposed necessity for placing this country on a war footing. We are simply asking why it is necessary and what it is for. For when any nation, and especially our own country, is proceeding to devote two-thirds of its entire revenue to war in time of peace, it is time that those who believe that "our motto is peace" should inquire what it is all about.

Isn't it about time for the idle money to get busy?

The Trinity river rises three times faster than any other in Texas.

Mae Wood is charged with perjury but she is full of wrath and hatred.

Those Texas and Oklahoma towns that are imprisoned by water should be bailed out.

In these stormy days it is pleasant to think that behind the clouds the sun is shining.

If Ananias had not established his reputation in primitive times he never would have had any.

It would not be difficult to straighten out a panic if there were not so many wrinkles in finance.

Senator Platt's fame with posterity will rest on the phrases: "Me, too," and "I'm an old fool."

It's rather odd that a party whip should always get after members with a sharp stick and never with a lash.

Elia Wheeler Wilcox says that "Plato did not know much about love." He must have, for he is not the author of platonic love?

A prehistoric city is said to underlie Berkeley, the seat of the University of California. And above this city are to be found many fossils.

"History will say that though we

have had other secretaries of state, we have had none greater than Ellhu Root," said the President recently.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt complains because his income is only \$800,000 a year. Compared with what newspaper men receive it is a paltry sum.

As it is a matter of principle not to give a transfer unless asked for at the time fare is paid, just as a matter of principle always ask for a transfer.

A Chicago minister calls "Merry Widow" hats, polka dot veils and high heels Satan's tools. If Satan used such tools he would not turn out much evil.

Evelyn Nesbit Thaw has discontinued her suit for the annulment of her marriage to Harry Thaw. What game is the "angel child" trying to work now?

The Greek who was convicted of an assault, with intent to do bodily harm, on a fellow Greek should have been sentenced to an olympiad in place of one year.

"It's a lie from beginning to end," says Secretary Wilson anent the report that he was about to resign as secretary of agriculture. Then there is a lie that made both ends meet, an unusual thing.

According to the Telegraph Age, Andrew Carnegie, in a recent address said:

"The curse of drink is the cause of more failures in life than anything else. You can surmount every other faulty habit, but the man who is a confirmed drinker has not one chance in a million of success in life. Liquor will control you, a million chances to one, if once you give it away."

Charles F. Lummis, the librarian of Los Angeles City Library, is authority for the statement that the correct way of pronouncing Los Angeles (approximately), "Loce-ang-el-oss." The most vital thing about the pronunciation of the city's name, he says, is the hard g—"ang," not anje"—there being "no jelly sound in Spanish." "Loce" should rhyme with "dose." "Anje-el-iss" is a more common pronunciation, however, and we fancy the correction will be as difficult to introduce as reformed spelling.

"According to a press dispatch of Monday last, through the efforts of Senator Smoot, the sum of \$25,000 has been appropriated for the erection of a government building in this city. This with the \$5,000 appropriated last week for the purchase of a site for the same, gives this city government recognition to the extent of \$30,000, which seems almost too good to be true. Already probable locations for the building have been discussed, and though it will of course be some time before the actual construction work on the structure will be commenced, there seems no doubt that it will eventually come, and it will be a handsome and imposing structure, too. The Record will be pleased to publish the views of the citizens of Park City, as to the most likely site for the new government building."—Park City Record.

GRANT AND RELIGION.

Dr. Shady in Century.
Grant's respect for religion was quite consistent with his high moral attributes. It has been most truly said of him that he was never profane or vulgar. His friends and intimates can bear ample testimony to this commendable part of his private character. He had promised his mother never to utter an oath, and had faithfully kept his word. He could be emphatic enough in his conversation, his orders and his writing, to make oaths of any kind entirely unnecessary. No one who knew him would venture a questionable story in his presence. On one occasion, after a dinner, a guest, in venturing an anecdote, asked in a furtive way if any ladies were within hearing. The general, then president of the United States, simply replied: "No; but there are some gentlemen present," and showed his readiness to leave the room.

TOO MUCH CLOTHING.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson.
The chief quarrel which hygiene has with clothing is that there is too much of it; that garments come down too far, are too tight, too heavy, too hot. We do too much harm to our health by overloading ourselves with the luxury of warmth—cramping the movements of the body, interfering with the respiration, depriving the skin of its most inalienable right, the right to fresh air, absorbing the perspiration and making a refrigerating coil pack for the body after exercise—than is done by wearing tight stays or tight boots.

GERMANY'S GREAT VITALITY.

Cleveland Leader.
In the German empire the records of vital statistics are so accurate and complete that they may be taken as substantially perfect authority upon the movement of the population. These reports showed 2,084,339 births in 1906 and only 1,174,464 deaths. The margin on the side of life was 910,000, in round figures. That is an extraordinary surplus in a country so old and so densely populated as Germany. It is probably the largest excess of births over deaths which is to be found in any country of the world, among a white population of practically one race. Russia alone excepted. In the United States the vital statistics are so imperfect and incomplete that it is impossible to determine accurately the normal excess of births over deaths. It is probably less than the German average of 900,000 a year, although the population of this country is fully 25,000,000 greater than that of Germany.

JUST FOR FUN.

Vain Regret.

"But, Tommy," said his mother, "you asked for two cakes and I gave them to you. Aren't you satisfied?"
"No, I ain't," growled Tommy, "you was so easy I'm kickin' myself now 'cause I didn't ask for four."—Philadelphia Press.

Agreeable.

"Italian Brigand Kidnaps Woman," read Mrs. Wyss, who was scanning the paper. "Poof, I'd just like to see a brigand carry me off."
"Yes," observed Mr. Wyss, quietly, without looking up from his book, "so would I"—Exchange.

Her Opinion.

A father, whose looks are not such as to warrant the breaking up of all existing statues of Apollo, tells this on himself:

"My little girl was sitting on my lap

facing a mirror. After gazing intently at her reflection for some minutes she said: "Papa, did God make you?"
"Certainly, my dear," I told her.
"And did He make me, too?"—talking another look in the mirror.
"Certainly, dear. What makes you ask?"
"Oh, I don't know. Seems to me He's doin' better work lately."—Everybody's Magazine.

Such a Difference.

Mrs. Pfeurich—Do you mean to say you would allow your daughter to marry a conductor?
Mrs. Higgins—Why not, madam? He is a musical conductor.
Mrs. Pfeurich—Oh!—Chicago Tribune.

No Complaint to Make.

Political Manager—You don't seem to like the looks of the crowd at our ward caucus.
The Other Man—Oh, I don't know. I suppose they're the kind you have always bought.—Chicago Tribune.

Mrs. Klecker—"What do you do when a man steps on your dress?" Mrs. Becker—"I look as Jack does when I ask him to pay for it."—Harper's Bazar.

"I thought you had money enough for your dash to the pole," I have," replied the Arctic explorer. "It's the expedition for my relief we're asking funds for now."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"Men Who Sell Things" is the title of an excellent little volume, by Walter D. Moody. It gives a number of observations and experiences by the author, as a traveling salesman, European buyer, sales manager, etc., and it contains a great deal of information of value to salesmen. The book contains twenty-two chapters, dealing with "Pure Grit," "The Knockout," "The Order Taker," "The Quick-tempered Salesman," "The Old Timer," and similar topics. In the chapter on "The Knockout," the author has the following, which may be quoted as a sample of the style and the contents of the book: "The meanest man on earth is the one who will wound a man's character with his tongue. The knocker is no respecter of persons; he knocks the credit man, knocks the buyer, knocks the sales manager, knocks his fellow travelers; in fact he knocks everything and everybody in the place, from office boy to president. He even knocks his own interests. Everyone but the knocker himself knows that 'the dog that will carry a bone' but as a temporary mischief-maker he causes Maud, the mule of comic newspaper fame, to appear to have creeping paralysis when compared with him as to their relative kicking merits. Knocking is a habit, and a bad one. Don't acquire it. If you do, some day you will give yourself a knockout blow. Remember the old saying: 'The man who attends to his own business has not time to attend to the business of others.'—A. C. McClurg & Co., publishers, Chicago.

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