

EDITORIALS.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY.

The whole Union is entering upon a period of financial, commercial and industrial activity that has no precedent in its history. Even the fifties, which witnessed such a fever of speculation in western lands, did not approach the business activity of the present. In the New England and others of the older States, there has not been that marked interest in the development of natural resources which is witnessed in the South and West, for the obvious reason that capital in the former sections has been too long engaged in that direction to admit of a spurt now. But men of wealth in those parts are striving with much alertness to find investments in the undeveloped regions of the country, and the people of many of the Southern and Western States are making extraordinary efforts to induce capital to come to them.

It has become a fashion for a town in the South or West, having facilities for the establishment of a factory or an industry of any kind, to offer a bonus to any man or firm that will undertake the enterprise. One industrial journal among our exchanges announces its willingness to state the bonuses, in lands, power and money, which have been offered by over one hundred cities and towns in various portions of the South and West, for the purpose of inducing capital to come and develop their resources. The present era is thus made the halcyon days of money kings.

In harmony with this state of things booms are gotten up and pushed with great vigor. Real estate booms, railroad booms, factory and other booms are started and much excitement, and they stimulate and are stimulated by a spirit of speculation, more or less wild. In western towns in particular, advances that have taken place in real estate have been tremendous, often reaching a thousand per cent. in a few months.

Of course a reaction is inevitable, and when it comes it will cause terrific crashes in financial circles. Growth characterized by such unnatural rapidity as many western localities have shown, cannot be healthful nor stable. The bonds and mortgages on which it is based will fall due in course of time, and then will come the day of low values, stagnation and gloom.

BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

It is the boast of lawyers that their science affords a remedy for every wrong. That wrong is involved in the labor troubles of recent years, as a cause, or a result, or both, of strikes and similar moves, is apparent, but that the law could be made to afford a remedy has not yet been so clearly shown. In many of the States, however, the attempt has been made to cure labor troubles by law, and within the last four years six States have established tribunals looking to that end.

The main principle upon which these courts act is the excellent one of arbitration. They vary in type and authority in different States, the simplest being that of New Jersey, which is thus described: It is brought into existence for a specific, temporary occasion with which it expires. It is constituted by the agreement of an employer and his own employees, each party selecting one arbitrator and those two a third. It arbitrates the single case for which it was formed and then expires unless it is selected to hear some other dispute also. Its decision is final on the questions submitted, and is binding.

In Ohio a court of arbitration exists for one year, has its district, and is authorized to assume jurisdiction of any dispute between employers and workmen, when the case is brought before it by the parties in interest. In 1885 State boards of arbitration were created in Massachusetts and New York, composed of salaried members appointed for definite terms and empowered to hear cases anywhere within the commonwealth. Local boards also are provided for in these States. In the different States the procedure by which the tribunal of arbitration acquires jurisdiction of a given case varies, but the general principle that both parties to the dispute must assent to taking it before the court, is always preserved. When jurisdiction is once acquired the tribunal has the usual powers of courts of record, in the procuring of witnesses, testimony, etc., and in ordering investigations of facts.

Massachusetts has made further advancement in this new species of jurisprudence than any other State. An exchange, in treating upon the system in that State, says:

But it is in the power of the Massachusetts board to investigate, take testimony and make a public report independently of the wishes of the employer, that constitutes the most radical feature of state action in labor troubles yet introduced in this country, and the fact that this power was largely increased this year, after the first annual report of the board had been

made to the legislature is significant of the drift of public opinion. As the law now stands it is the duty of the mayor of a city or the selectmen of a town to notify the board whenever a strike or lock-out involving as many as twenty-five employees of one employer, engaged in the same kind of work, is seriously threatened or has begun. It then becomes the duty of the board to offer its conciliatory services and try to effect a settlement. If the effort fails, the board may, at discretion, make an investigation and publish a report fixing responsibility and blame. The theory here, it will be seen, is the same that has worked so well in the relation of the railroad traffic in Massachusetts, that an appeal to public opinion is the most effective form of public control of business relations. The powers of the board fall but little short of those of the celebrated *Conseils de Prud'homme* of France.

It is confessed that, while these courts have done much good, they have so far proven wholly inadequate to cope successfully with the evils they were designed to cure.

THE PRESS AND THE CONSTITUTION.

The enemies of Statehood for Utah profess to derive great comfort from some expressions of leading newspapers in different parts of the country. But a critical examination of most of those utterances, shows that the work of the Constitutional Convention had not been understood when those comments and opinions were given to the public.

Most of the objections urged were either on the hypothesis that nothing definite would be inserted in the Constitution in reference to polygamy, or on the argument that if inserted it would not be made practicable by legislation, or that after admission into the Union the Constitution would be so amended as to nullify the anti polygamy provision.

Now that the Constitution has been published, the error of these speculations is fully established. Whether the papers that made the error will now correct it is quite doubtful. Journalists are very loath to "take back" their mistakes, and Utah has become so accustomed to being misrepresented and receiving no fair treatment when the misrepresentations are clearly pointed out, that her people will not be surprised if they are similarly treated in this instance.

The provisions concerning polygamy in the new Constitution, were evidently prepared with a view to meet those objections put forth in advance by the press. The sections in reference to bigamy and polygamy are direct and definite; there is no ambiguity about them. Penalties are provided which are operative without the aid of legislation. They are in the fundamental law. They do not depend upon any action or neglect of the Legislature. The Constitution cannot be amended in this particular by any act of the State alone; Congress and the President must consent to the change or it cannot be effected. Thus the suggested defects have no existence. The anticipated objections are fully overcome. The Constitution cannot be found fault with on the grounds imagined.

Of course, other objections will be manufactured. That is to be expected. If the people of Utah were to conform to public sentiment no matter how closely, it would make no difference to the radical, sectarian and prejudiced agitators who can see no good in the masses of Utah's population. But those journals which have opposed the admission of Utah unless she adopted in her Constitution some clauses prohibitory of polygamy, have now no rational ground of objection. The provisions are stronger and more closely hedged about with safeguards than were ever suggested by those papers. Their continued hostility, then, will be very inconsistent and show that their utterances were not sincere.

The greatest antagonism to the establishment of Statehood in Utah will spring from the adventurers and conspirators at home and their followers. This will be echoed abroad to some extent, especially at first. The inconsistency of the opposition, when the facts are better understood will dawn upon the minds of intelligent people throughout the country. They will begin to see that it is not polygamy that these local agitators have been making war upon, but the possession of the local offices by the majority. It will be perceived that base, selfish and anti-republican motives and methods are behind this opposition to Utah's advancement. And the consequence will be, a better disposition on the part of prominent public men and newspapers.

We have pointed out the fact, several times, that this new step in Utah affairs is purely political. We wish that point to be kept in view. The registered voters who have taken the test oath hold the political power in this Territory. They are not acting as members of a Church, but as citizens of the United States. In this position they must be viewed by the nation. They are entitled to be treated in fairness, and as sincere in their endeavors to make a definite political settlement. With their religion, their faith, their

opinions, the government and the country have nothing to do.

The proposition is simple and clear, and no genuine American who is able to comprehend the situation can justly ignore this plain fact, or will attempt to obscure it by dragging in questions of creed and covering it with religious quibbles and ambiguities.

COMMENTS ON THE MAIN ISSUE.

The press throughout the country is making comments upon the application of the people of Utah for Statehood. The general idea that seems to pervade most of the articles is that if the majority fall into line with the sentiment of Congress and the nation with regard to polygamy there should be no serious obstacle to the admission of this Territory to the dignified position in the nation to which she is justly entitled. It is reasonable to expect that when the journals of the country become familiar with the character of the constitution adopted by the late convention, they will hold that admission to the Union is but little if anything short of an assured fact.

In this connection an extract from the *Newark, New Jersey, Advertiser* is here presented:

"There is something a little peculiar about the report that the Mormons are making an effort to secure the admission into the Union of Utah as a State. Their Constitutional Convention is to be held to-day for the purpose of forwarding the scheme. The result of their efforts will all depend upon the character of the Constitution which they will adopt. All things being equal, there is no reason why Utah should not become a State, providing her people will obey the laws of the nation. If the Mormons will root out of their Territory that most obnoxious of all practices, known as polygamy, admittance into the Union is not only possible, but probable. Until this is done, however, such a possibility is out of the question, and the continuance of the practice of polygamy only injures the Territory's chances in the future."

Here is what the *Schuetzky, N. Y. Star* says on the subject:

"The Mormons of Utah are to hold, on the 30th inst., a constitutional convention. They intend to frame a constitution and to apply to Congress for the elevation of Utah to the rank of a State. As we have already said, it is by no means probable that such an application would be favorably received under any conditions, but the judgment of Congress may be affected in some measure by the nature of the constitution which they may adopt and the spirit displayed by those who adopt it. It will be useless to apply with a constitution that does not, in the plainest terms, absolutely prohibit the practice of polygamy within the proposed state's boundaries. Are the Mormons ready to make a constitution that shall contain such a prohibition? If not, they will save time and labor by reconsidering their determination to hold a convention."

The *Cambden, New Jersey, Telegram* recently spoke thus hopefully:

"The citizens of Utah have issued a call for a constitutional convention to be held at Salt Lake City on June 30th for the purpose of applying for admission as a State. Aside from polygamy the Mormons are a sober, industrious, enterprising sort of people. They have made a desert land blossom and bloom, and by irrigation have brought it up to a high state of cultivation. There are a number of fine cities in the Territory and a line of railways form a connection through it with the Union and Central Pacific railroads for California and eastward through the Denver and Rio Grande connecting at Denver with the Kansas Pacific and at Pueblo with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and Southern Pacific systems. There is also an important railroad, extending through the central part of the Territory some two hundred miles and which will soon be a Pacific system of itself; while the Utah Northern connects with the Union Pacific at Ogden and extends to Helena and Butte, Montana, and by a branch road connects with the Northern Pacific. Utah possesses a number of cattle, sheep and horse ranches and is immensely rich in gold, silver and other mineral products. Doubtless under the rigorous management of laws enacted by a legislature surrounded by the protection of constitutional provisions, the law would be more vigorously enforced and a better government obtained. The polygamous feature of their institutions will die out in time of its own accord, and its admission as a State with her natural contests for election to office, would hasten the overthrow of this last plague spot on our national honor."

THE SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

The election of school trustees in the city districts on Monday evening, developed unexpected strength and determination on the part of the non-"Mormon" voters and of carelessness on the part of some members of the People's Party. A trustee from the

opposition was elected in each of the seventh, eighth, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth districts. Five out of twenty-one city districts is quite a gain for the other side. If the voters were all legitimately registered—which ought to be looked up and determined—in spite of the tumult and disorder occasioned by "Liberal" tactics the opposition have fairly won so much of a victory and are entitled to the laurels in the districts named.

The trustees elected will, we have no doubt, be treated with the respect they deserve both from their coadjutors and the people for whom they are elected to act. When our opponents gain the majority, they are entitled to the political influence it gives and should enjoy it without grumbling from the minority. Lack of votes is the only thing that prevents the non-"Mormons" from gaining control of all the offices in the Territory.

The methods that have been adopted to lessen the vote of the People's Party are not such as can be commanded by fair-minded individuals, but the result has been accomplished and we have to take things as they are and make the best of them. The disfranchisement of the women voters has depleted the ranks of the People's Party, as the promoters of that iniquitous measure intended. It was brought about by wilful and persistent falsehood, and its effects are seen in the school elections. But it will beperished in August that it has not accomplished the full object in view, and that the People's Party has a good working majority of male citizens duly registered as voters.

We hope the gentlemen elected will prove zealous and active in the cause of education, and that harmony will prevail on all questions touching the interests of the districts in which they have been chosen by the people to act! All that our opponents can rightfully claim should be cheerfully conceded to them, and a fair and free election only can determine their rights in this respect.

We are and have been of the opinion that every parent is entitled to a voice in the election of school trustees, without regard to his political status or opinion. But the Legislature has determined otherwise, and we must stand by and honor the law as it exists. Every person entitled to register, however, should take care to avail himself of his privileges, and if he does not he cannot consistently complain if he is overcome by more vigilant opponents.

The result in the districts gained by the opposition, though but a small victory when the rest of the districts are considered, ought to sound a note of warning in regard to the general election. On the first day of August next, county and precinct officers and members of the Legislature will be elected. Every registered voter should then be on hand to do his duty. Failure on that day will be of far more importance than the slight mishap of Monday evening. Greater interests are at stake, and more important offices have to be filled.

Care should be taken to bring out the full strength of the People's Party. Absentees should be invited to return and be at their post—the polls, on that occasion. The county and precinct committees should see to this in time. They should also carefully examine the registration lists and take measures, as provided by law, to purge the lists of non-residents or others not entitled to have their names there. We want an honest election. When "the other side" have the preponderance of legal votes we should submit without kicking or complaint. They are just as much and as fairly entitled to struggle for supremacy as we are, and to credit for vim and union and success if they can lawfully achieve it. But trickery and illegality should not be permitted to prevail, and vigilance is required of the People's committees to detect and expose them.

The disorder and riot which attended some of the school meetings are contrary to the methods which have hitherto prevailed at such gatherings, and ought not to be countenanced by respectable persons of either party. We look upon such scenes as disgraceful. They reflect no credit upon "Liberals" or others who created them. Enthusiasm and zeal are all right and the victors cannot be blamed for exuberance of spirits over their few triumphs. But the pandemonium raised in some places should make the promoters of the disturbance ashamed, and ought to be deprecated by every peaceable citizen.

Now let the registered voters of the People's Party wake up to that diligence and vigilance and promptness which ought to be manifested in all their political movements, and take care that they are not caught napping on the first of August. And let those who are not registered but could have been, reflect upon the consequences of their folly, and make up their minds that next year they will not be so indifferent to the public welfare in which their own interests are essentially involved. A hint to the wise ought to be sufficient. But some people are so slow to perceive a point, that neither argument nor advice is sufficient to open their eyes and move them in the path of safety and right, and only some shaking up like that in the districts mentioned will serve to rouse them into sense, and then it is often too late. Let the events of Monday evening carry their lesson to all.

PRINCE FERDINAND.

For a matter that has so little of consequence in it *per se*, the question of who was to occupy the throne of Bulgaria has been the subject of more comment, solicitude and anxiety than any other within the present year. Two or three names have been presented, and all quietly placed among the literature of the waste basket for the reason that there were so many claiming an interest in the proceeding that general satisfaction would not be given, and it began to look as though Bulgaria would have to get along without the almost useless appendage of a Prince indefinitely if she waited till a man could be found who would be perfectly acceptable to the constituted protectorates with which she is surrounded; and the delicate of that out-of-the-way little State perhaps do not realize how it is possible to get along entirely without a sovereign as her not very distant neighbor Switzerland does, and thus ignorant, fear found rich soil in which to take deep root. The result is that the condition of agitation reached a climax and passed into one of badly formed desperation and awkwardly-handled self-reliance, trusting more to luck than to judgment for the outcome of whatever action might be adopted. It was determined all at once to act independently, not by having no role at all as would have been the case if Bulgaria had more schools and newspapers and fewer yellow-clouted and feather-moustached semi-majors, and choose a sovereign to suit herself. This was done hurriedly and to some extent resembles a *coup d'etat*. The powers had no opportunity to object until the thing was done, the die was cast, and then objections might take tangible form or die upon the intervening air; the course would end suspense at least, and that would be something in the way of a condition devoutly wished.

The star who thus suddenly dawned upon the political firmament is Ferdinand, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, a sketch of whom appeared in our geographic news Saturday. The place whence he comes is a little duchy in central Germany, and is too insignificant to figure even as a principality, which it comprises two, if population, geographical location and commercial importance are considered. The people are nearly all Lutherans and number about 150,000, not so many as we have in Utah by many thousands. His civil list embraces all he can get, which is not much, and the gilt-edge greatest accruing to a title which must have a man to support it or dwindle into desuetude. He accepted with that the proffer of a throne of no more consequence socially considered, as it has several advantages and certain dangers connected with it, now that it is about to have an occupant, to make it an object of unusual interest, and to a person of an adventurous turn of mind an altogether desirable one. It is a little early for congratulations and anathemas, whichever the nations may respectively decide upon, as they are forthcoming nevertheless. Germany and Austria are satisfied and by sympathy we presume Italy is also, these three forming the alliance which it is expected will settle European questions without as much trouble as is usual; but Russia as sent in a missive so curt and laconic and full of meaning that it must be read to be fully appreciated, the substance of it being that whatever she does anent the new ruler may be a source of some little inconvenience to Austria; whatever Russia does is likely to be morally if not physically valued by France, and thus are the combinations drifting together and becoming better understood with each additional move upon the European chessboard.

To wish Ferdinand a peaceful and prosperous reign might be misconstrued, looked upon as sarcasm; and it would, in point of fact, have an allegorical resemblance to wishing a man rowing against the rapids of Niagara Falls a pleasant trip.

A later dispatch announces that Ferdinand is on his way to St. Petersburg to obtain an audience with the Czar and seek his consent to the occupancy of the throne provided by the Sobranje. This, if successful, would doubtless heal the wound for a time at least.

MORE MOB LAW.

JURORS exercise an important but a delegated trust. They stand between the accuser and the accused, and to them is entrusted the ascertainment of what is due and what is not. In doing this they are no better or more competent judges of the facts than many of the audience who listen within the court room or a like proportion of the greater audience without; in fact those who formally sit upon disputed cases are merely a fraction of the other and greater element, and therefore representation of and measurably if not entirely in sympathy with it. They are supposed to follow the details elicited more closely and apply the law committed to them more carefully, for the reason that they are for the time being set apart for that purpose.