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SENATOR SMOOT'S DEFENSE.

Senator Smoot's brief speech in the senate on Tuesday was a clear, dignified effort, possibly all the more effective because of the studied absence of oratorical ornaments. It is modest, and must have impressed the hearers as the utterance of a man of unquestionable sincerity. It is not argumentative and yet convincing. It is free from any personal appeal to the senate, the speaker evidently regarding his constitutional rights as safe in the hands of his colleagues. It is a free and frank statement of the conditions existing in this state, and there is no reference to the persecutors, of whom most men in the position of our senator would have had a word to say on that occasion. We regard the address as a strong, statesmanlike utterance, almost sublime in its simplicity, and in every respect superior to the swan song of Mr. Kearns.

A striking feature of the speech is the frankness with which the situation here is discussed. There is nothing to conceal. There never was. The attempt to make it appear that the church, or members of the church, were engaged in some underhanded business that had to be brought to light by a senatorial investigation, was part of the clever plot of the local arch-conspirators, and so the investigation was proposed and set in motion in the most spectacular manner imaginable. But nothing came to light that could not have been told at much less expense to the country. There was nothing to conceal. The people here had agreed that polygamous marriages should not be contracted with the sanction of the church, and that the old relations should not be disturbed, but that time should be relied on for a complete change in the conditions that had been complained of as abnormal. This was the situation when disappointed politicians concluded to work up a new storm against the church hoping to profit by the confusion, just as wreckers in olden times used to kindle fires by which to mislead pilots and cause shipwrecks, in order to enrich themselves by the spoils. Nothing had happened to justify the pledge-breaking on the part of the conspirators. It was simply perfidy.

This is made plain in the statistics relating to plural marriages in Utah. Senator Smoot gives the figures. In 1890 there were 2,451 polygamous families; at present there are not to exceed 500. That is a complete answer to the charge that the church is encouraging unlawful marriages.

During the entire discussion of the case against Senator Smoot it has been evident that the attempt to unseat him has been inspired by the lowest of motives, and that the multitudes have been induced to fall in with the conspirators by the falsehoods that have been disseminated in the most unscrupulous and brazen manner. These falsehoods have all been met and refuted. We expect they will still linger among the people, particularly where there is a disinclination to accept truth. But the long fight has not been in vain, for by it some victory for the cause of truth and righteousness has been won.

WHEN THE VOTE IS TAKEN.

We wonder, oh, we wonder. When the Smoot case will be over. And the question of the "hierarch" doesn't frighten any more. We wonder, oh, we wonder. When the game is put to rout. Yes, we wonder what in thunder. Poor old Tibby next will about.

The days immediately ahead are full of doubt and uncertainty for the state wreckers and character assassins. So far as the greatest fight they have ever fought, is concerned, it is about over. For weeks they have seen the handwriting on the wall, and in all their density and hatred have read aright the outcome of the great battle which culminates in the United States senate this afternoon. Tomorrow morning the shameless and conscienceless newspaper which has done their bidding, will in all human probability impugn the motives of President Roosevelt and the entire national administration. Whether the accusation be in direct or covert words, depends upon the frenzy into which its unholy management works itself between now and the time it will close the forms of its next issue.

It has so long been the custom to browbeat and berate men and women to its bidding, when their services or influence could not otherwise be secured, that it did not even halt before the presence of the Executive of the nation. In the desperation which came to it as it was gradually losing its grip in this last momentous struggle, it more than hinted the malicious falsehood that he had entered into some kind of an infamous bargain with their leaders of the Republican party in return for the vote of the "Mormon" people. Could slander and defamation sell so farther than this? Is there anything in all the distinguished public career of the present President of the United States that would lend color to the truth of such a charge? The accusation is unthinkable and only knaves would make it.

What next to do is a matter of concern to the wretched and abominable combination that has been trying to rule or ruin Utah. Confessedly it is in sore straits. It has practically fired

its last effective shot in the present engagement. The volleys that will hereafter be heard on this particular issue will be of the pop gun variety and more or less harmless. It may be that they will continue to frighten uninformed people away from Utah for a time, but the settlement of the Smoot case adverse to its interests and ill-repute, will do much to open the eyes of the American people to the truth as it exists here. When such men as Senator Knox and other of his able colleagues refuse to be bullied or deceived, and when they proclaim themselves in unmistakable language, as being against, and out of sympathy with the guerilla warfare that has existed here for so long, it may be set down in letters of large type that the Kearns crowd will have to play a new game or quit.

BROKE AT THE THRESHOLD.

Senator Dillingham, in his address on the resolution to exclude Senator Smoot from the senate, told that body that he had received many petitions from constituents to vote against the Senator from Utah, and that in subsequent conversations he had found that the signers invariably labored under the delusion that Senator Smoot is a polygamist.

To create this impression was, as have been pointed out, part of the scheme concocted by the local conspirators. Embassies were sent out in all directions to proclaim the falsehood that Senator Smoot was a violator of the law. Then petitions were circulated in which the signers prayed the Senate to exclude the Senator from Utah, in case it should be found that he is a polygamist. It was easy to obtain signatures to such a petition. But, in the Senate, Mr. Smoot was not accused of law-breaking, but the petitions for punishment obtained under false pretenses rolled in all the same, and to this day a number of dupes of the local conspirators are, as Senator Dillingham asserted, laboring under the delusion that the Senator from Utah is a polygamist.

We believe the leaders of the conspiracy knew from the first that they had no case, if the Senate was to be guided by the Constitution, and the facts. They, therefore, sought to obtain by agitation what they could not hope to gain in any other way. That their demonstrations must be characterized as an insulting reflection upon the intelligence and integrity of the members of the Senate, is evident. In hoping to sway that body by clamor, they forgot that each member has sworn to maintain the laws of the land, and not to permit mobs to dictate in questions involving the rights of either states or individuals. Mob rule they clamored for. They dared to hurl threats against Senators who should vote in accordance with their conviction, as they had hurled threats against the church leaders for refusing to support them in their political aspirations. They failed, as they deserved to do. Their pitcher broke, as the old adage has it, at the very threshold.

THE JAPS PLAY LUCKY.

Candor compels the admission that in the embarrassing and delicate differences that have been under adjudication in Washington between the United States and Japan, the diplomacy of the little brown men, has won for them a signal victory. It may be that later developments will disclose that it was not so one-sided as it now appears. Let us sincerely hope that this is true. The mere news announcement, unanalyzed, conveys that impression, but a careful examination into the conclusions set forth are tinged with quite another hue. The official declaration sent out from the executive mansion says:

"Japanese children are to be admitted to the white schools of San Francisco under certain restrictions; skilled and unskilled laborers coming from Japan barred from the mainland of the United States, and American laborers, skilled and unskilled, are to be excluded from Japan."

"This is the basis of the agreement between President Roosevelt, Secretary Root, Mayor Schmitz and the San Francisco school board as an adjustment of the anti-Japanese agitation brought about by the segregation of Japanese children in the San Francisco schools. The agreement means that the schools of San Francisco will be conducted in the same manner as they were before the Board of Education adopted the resolution, last October, providing for the segregation of the Japanese, except that adult Japanese, who are in primary grades must continue to attend the Oriental schools, and that Japanese children under 15 will be admitted to classes with white children of their own ages."

First of all, the agreement means that the Japs have come off triumphant in their contention that their children must not be excluded from or "segregated" in the public schools, and that those who have been debarred must now be admitted on an equality with the most precious pupils of Uncle Sam's own country; to sit in the same seats with them; to have the same teachers, the same privileges in all respects. One can almost picture the whites of San Francisco wishing that another earthquake would come and that its victims would be the subjects of the Mikado. Secondly, it made a mistake when it undertook to "segregate" the little almond-eyed subjects of the orient from the schools under its jurisdiction. The spectacle is decidedly humiliating to Americans who will believe that we have been forced to back down in a controversy, that has ever been more serious than surface signs have betrayed.

The provision, it is hoped, to have incorporated in a new treaty with Japan, to the effect that its skilled and unskilled laborers are to be barred from our mainland, while ours are to be excluded from the domain of the Mikado, is not so important as a first reading might indicate. They might, and doubtless will, come in hordes as merchants, travelers and students. The Japanese standard of truth is not so high that such an opportunity would be evaded. How then Gompers can sincerely declare that "a victory has been won for which the American Federation of Labor has been fighting for the last decade," is about as difficult of comprehension as many another statement from the same source. It is hardly probable that the picture painted by the renowned labor leader, of the return of Mayor Schmitz and his associates, to San Francisco, will be as rosy as he imagined when he said, "The threatened stones and clubs will have

been turned into roses and garlands and thousands who now criticize will be glad to welcome them back again." The Tokio dispatch, which commented upon the Japanese view of the adjustment, and which said it is believed that the immigration companies will combine to attack the basis of the proposed agreement, on the ground that it will interfere with their legitimate business, may furnish the avenue through which internecine discussion and difficulty can come. The controversy, unfortunately, is not yet settled, but so far as it has gone, the dimly intuitive Jap has decidedly the best of it.

THE IMMIGRATION BILL.

The immigration bill, as now agreed on by the conferees of the two houses of Congress, fixes the head tax on each immigrant at \$4.00 instead of \$2.00, as it was before. It adds to the excluded classes, "imbeciles, feeble-minded persons, and epileptics," and persons so defective, physically or mentally, as to be unable to earn a living. The section on "assisted immigration" is further strengthened, and the steamship companies can be fined for bringing in immigrants of certain excluded classes, provided their condition is such that medical examination would have revealed their inability to cope successfully with the serious difficulties that always meet those who endeavor to establish themselves in a land where language, climate, customs, everything, is strange.

This bill has been in conference since last session of Congress, and some doubt was entertained as to the possibility of reaching an agreement. Difference of opinion was entertained on the educational test proposed, and also on the propriety of excepting from the general rule persons coming to this country solely to avoid persecution or punishment on religious or political grounds, even if they have no means, or are unable to earn a livelihood. Both these provisions were eliminated. The Japanese clause, though not expressly directed against one nationality makes it possible for the authorities to exclude Asiatics who first land in the Hawaiian Islands or Mexico, or other foreign territory, as they generally do, before they proceed to invade this country. This clause provides:

"That whenever the president shall be satisfied that passports issued by any foreign government to its citizens to go to any country, other than the United States, or to any insular possession of the United States, or to the canal zone, are being used for the purpose of enabling the holders to come to the continental territory of the United States to the detriment of labor conditions therein, the president may refuse to permit such citizens of the country issuing such passports to enter the continental territory of the United States from such other country or from such insular possessions or from the canal zone."

That some such clause is necessary, if the intention is to exclude undesirable Asiatics, is clear from the fact that in the Hawaiian Islands alone there are more than 60,000 Japanese, most of whom are said to be "laborers." Many of them are married, and on every plantation you will find, it is said, a quaint reproduction of a Japanese village, the houses very like those of the Orient. Japanese women in kimonos going about their daily tasks and chubby-checked, brown-eyed little boys and girls very gravely beginning the solemn business of life.

To codify the laws is not to simplify them.

If Japan doesn't see what she wants all she has to do is to ask for it.

There seems to be twice as much principal as principle in the Thaw case.

Indiana has a limited divorce law. The Hoosiers can be depended upon to go to the limit.

In the schools of San Francisco will the little Japs learn to cower over the American white children?

So far as converting Senators to his view of the Smoot case Rev. Dr. Paden just wasted his sweetness.

If Carrie Nation should ever get into the force reserves with her hatchet what havoc she would make!

Whatever Mayor Schmitz's reception may be on his return to San Francisco, it will not be a tame affair.

Counsel Delmas does not show so much irritability as Attorney Jerome but he shows a Napoleonic look.

James J. Hill says that freight rates will have to be raised. Of course shippers will have to raise the price of their goods. And so the simple process of increasing prosperity goes on.

In Henry James' new book, The American Scene, he, of course, is the central figure. At the time of his visit he was, he seemed to think, the most important figure in America.

A very good way to increase taxes is to cut down expenses. If there is not economy in administering public business, then no amount of increase of taxes will be of any particular avail.

It isn't because the per capita consumption of sugar in the United States is the largest in the world that makes the American girl the sweetest girl in the world. Let her feed on sour grapes and still would she be sweet.

VAIN AND PRESUMPTUOUS.

Kansas City Journal.
No more vain or presumptuous theory could be conceived than the justification of the "unwritten law." The honor of women is properly the concern of all men, but every individual man is not its legal guardian. The idea that men who themselves commit infamous crimes against the women whom it is their special duty to protect, is a monstrous perversion of the theory of organized society. It is no less a usurpation of the functions of society if the man who takes the administration of the law upon himself is himself otherwise blameless, although his act is in a measure less illogical.

REAL SPEECH FROM THRONE.

New York World.
Not without reason was there a flutter of sensation in the British Parliament yesterday when a real King delivered from the throne a real speech that dealt in something more than generalities. It was of course the Prince

Minister who put into the speech the handsome reference to the assistance rendered by the American navy to the earthquake sufferers at Kingston; but it was the King himself who turned to deliver the graceful and gracious sentences with special emphasis directly to the American Ambassador, who in the official audience. This innovation in usage will be somewhat embarrassing to those Tories who have been praising Gov. Sweetenham denouncing Admiral Davis and hoping that Ambassador Bryce would not be too friendly with us. They can hardly follow their usual tactics of praising the King and damning his Minister, unfortunately, is not yet settled, which they may be sure, will be most highly appreciated by American citizens of all parties.

CYNOSURE OF ALL EYES.

Cleveland Leader.
"The American man," says an English writer, "has even in his moments of relaxation, his eyes on the dollar." And the American woman has here on the ninety-nine cents. We are indeed a mercenary people.

CLOTHES-PINS FROM MAINE.

Chicago Journal.
Few persons ever wonder where clothes-pins come from, few ever heard of Bryant's Point, Me., and yet a man there has been quietly turning trees into clothes-pins for years and supplying the world with them, amassing in the process as comfortable a fortune as many a man makes in a more pretentious business in some money centers. His name is Lewis Mann, and he began with a capital of \$400, with which he purchased an old disused mill and began the manufacture of clothes-pins. Today he is a large, successful individual maker of this very necessary article in the world.

JUST FOR FUN.

The Reason.
"He has made more fortunes than most of the great millionaires, and yet he has never been able to keep any of them."
"A born spendthrift, eh?"
"No, he's a conifer in the mint."—Philadelphia Press.

Revenge.

Little Pet (before retiring)—Mamma, may I pray for rain?
Mamma—Yes, if you want to; but why?
Little Pet—Susie Stuckup didn't invite me to her picnic tomorrow.—Illustrated Bits.

Makes a Difference.

"Have you seen Miss Beantop since she inherited a fortune?"
"Yes. She is greatly changed."
"How?"
"Well, she used to be frightfully skinny."
"And now?"
"Now she is divinely slender."—Cleveland Leader.

Mr. Tillman's Neckwear.

Writing of Senator Tillman, a newspaper correspondent remarks on his preference for the turned-down collar. We judged that he wore always a standing collar.—Richmond News-Leader.

Frozen.

The parlor jet has got no light. The gas stove has no flame. But when the monthly bills come in They'll get there just the same.—New York Sun.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Home Magazine for February sustains the reputation that periodical has established in the magazine world. An article of interest to every man and woman in America deals with the vast wheat-producing area of western Canada—well called the land of opportunity. Hiram M. Greene has visited that wonderfully productive region, and states facts regarding the remarkable yield of wheat and other cereals. In fiction the magazine is especially rich. "Romance Island," a story of love, mystery and adventure by Zona Gale, is drawn to a happy conclusion; and an interesting incident of a girl's life in domestic service is told by Sophie Sewall. The well known writer whose New England tales are so favorably known, "The Ten Charity Prizes," by Sophie K. Underwood, deals with one of the characteristics of American women regarding "benefits" in a gently sarcastic vein which is very entertaining. A "Linguistic Iconoclast" will delight the old-fashioned aunties and grandmothers who disapprove of some phases of modern child culture. Of interest to home makers is Hugh Ritchie's article on "Small Trees for Ornamentation." Many persons are at a loss as to what shrubs or trees to choose when the yard is small, and the pictures accompanying Mr. Ritchie's text give a very good idea of their appearance. The regular departments are up to the usual high standard of this magazine.

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