

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 19, 1906

## DOES ANYONE HERE KNOW HIM?

Inquiries have come from Pennsylvania concerning one "Hans P. Preece," who represents that he is from Utah, and is posing as "a former Mormon," who wants Senator Smoot ousted. He has been delivering speeches in some of the churches in that State, and a report of one of them is published in the Washington Observer. It contains nothing but what might be easily culled from anti-Mormon papers, and in our opinion was thus prepared, in order that the lecturer might appear before Eastern audiences in the role which he sustained before an audience at the First Presbyterian church in Washington, Pa.

We cannot give any information concerning "Mr. Preece," if that is his real name. We can learn nothing about him, either as a "Mormon," or otherwise. Certainly he has not been a person of any prominence in Utah, but is doubtless endeavoring to impose upon religious people at a distance, on the pretense that he is able to expose from personal experience, "Mormonism." If anybody here has been acquainted with him and can furnish the desired information, we will be pleased to receive it and forward it to our correspondents in Pennsylvania.

We will briefly notice some of the points which he presented and which have a very familiar appearance, having been thrust forward from anti-Mormon sources repeatedly. The Observer says: "In his speech he spoke of the fact that Mormonism and Christianity could not exist in the same place." We have heard that bit of nonsense for a great many years. But "Mormonism" and so-called "Christianity" have existed side by side in Utah nearly ever since the early settlement of this region. The "Mormons" do not interfere with any of the sects professing to be Christian, and the interference of the latter with the former does not prevent any of them moving side by side in the same vicinity. It used to be said that Catholicism and Protestantism "could not exist in the same place," but history has demonstrated the contrary, as it has in regard to "Mormonism" and Christianity.

The Observer further reports that, "His final statement was that if something was not done to stamp out the Mormon religion, that it would eventually overthrow Christianity and the United States government." That is another plagiarized fallacy. It has served its purpose for some time in stirring up excitable women in different parts of the country, to induce them to sign the petitions that have been sent to Congress. If there is anything in it worth noticing, it is a reflection upon the power of modern "Christianity" and of the government of this great country. Why should "Mormonism" be considered so potent that it cannot be conquered by reason and argument and contrast with the various sects of the times? And what is there in any religious system which comes into such collision with the government of the United States as to cause its "eventual overthrow"? It is not worth while to waste space on such ridiculous delusions.

Another part of the harangue of this unknown "former Mormon" was, so the Observer says, "He told of their horrible policy of murder and robbery during Brigham's government of the Church; how the miners and prospectors were foully murdered and robbed for the sake of their outfits, and this was done as the will of God." That is another piece of anti-Mormon romance, without a shadow of truth, which the speaker no doubt flattered himself from one of the terrible tales that a long time ago adorned the pages of sensational books and newspapers that are now almost forgotten.

But Mr. Preece did not altogether confine himself to those ancient and mouldy stories. He brought his audience down to more recent times, in order to deliver his feeble blow against Senator Reed Smoot. Speaking of the testimony of President Joseph F. Smith at Washington, the lecturer said: "When asked if he was not a prophet of God and if he did not have visions, Smith said no, and then when he went back to Utah he said he had lied because God told him to." This falsehood might make some impression upon the kind of congregation that listened to the speaker, but it was as gross a misrepresentation of the truth as the rest of his discourse.

Finally he managed to come down to the real object of his patched up speech, and assailed Senator Smoot for having taken certain "oaths incompatible with the citizenship oath," and added, "Also Reed Smoot is the man who stands in the Temple and administers the oath to foreigners and immigrants, who are entering the Mormon Church, and at the same time becoming citizens of the United States." There is a time of novelty for the first time in the utterances of this pretended "former Mormon," and it betrays the fact that he knows nothing about the matter which he attempted to explain. For it has never been alleged that Senator Smoot ever administered oaths of any kind to anybody, and the idea that these Temple ceremonies were administered to foreigners "when entering the Mormon Church" at the same time they were becoming citizens of the United States, is sufficiently absurd to expose the speaker's ignorance as well as his mendacity.

It appears from the report in the

Observer that when Preece was asked for a remedy for all these evils, he told his questioners that they must write to a certain Senator, and make a demand upon him as a member of the committee on privileges and elections to "use his influence to unseat Smoot," remarking that "continual asking and reminding would at last compel him to vote against Smoot."

It is evident that this person has been hired by the opponents of the Senator, probably some of the ministers who have been engaged in the latest crusade, to appear in the character which he has assumed and act out his part in aid of their miserable cause.

It was announced by the Observer that he would speak at another church on the subject of "Mormonism and the United States Government Cannot Exist in the Same Place." Seeing that "Mormonism" has existed in the United States for three-quarters of a century, and neither the Government nor this Church has exhibited any signs of decay or defeat, it is reasonable to suppose that the lecturer's theme is as silly and untrue as the rest of his utterances and stolen mimicry.

Our friends in Pennsylvania need be under no apprehension as to what peripatetic anti-Mormon mountebanks can accomplish. They simply parade before the public for pay, and when they get their stipend they move along and but a little time passes before they are forgotten or their falsehoods are plainly exposed. They do us a little good by awakening inquiry, and members of the Church, instead of contending over the attacks such persons engage in, should supply people who want to know the truth with the literature which is available for the presentation of our doctrines and principles, and by simply bearing their testimony as to the great work which God has commenced in these latter days for the salvation of the human family. The truth will win in the end and falsehood will fail every time.

## A COMMON COMPLAINT.

There have been some very sharp and pungent criticisms of the course of certain public journals during the debate in the United States Senate over the railroad rate bill, and some unparliamentary language has been used, which, perhaps, was justified by the circumstances. It is exceedingly provoking to a public speaker, whether in the forum, on the platform, or in the pulpit, to have his remarks willfully distorted and so published as to express the very opposite of that which he uttered.

Sometimes a step further than this is taken, and the "enterprising reporter" invents something altogether foreign to the views of the alleged speaker and to which he made no allusion whatever. This is not infrequently done right here in Utah. Either the correspondents of certain papers deliberately concoct reports of public discourses that are the very reverse of truth and reason, or their letters are doctored and printed with sensational headlines that are libelous in spirit and in letter. It is one of those tricks and diversions of yellow journalism that all decent people should oppose and that ought to be denounced and punished severely.

But here, a large proportion of the news-reading people have become so accustomed to that kind of press misrepresentation, that they pay little or no attention to those effusions when they appear in the columns of certain dispensers of untruth and personal vilification. Occasionally something that is to use a common expression, "is made out of whole cloth" is sprung upon the public, and when its falsehood is exposed by direct denial from the interested parties, no acknowledgement of error by the guilty is made, but the villainy is repeated with additional trimmings, and the injured individuals are laughed at for their pains at refutation, and they are jeered and jolted for attempting to cross swords with a newspaper.

It is not uncommon for a certain class of reporters who learn of an expected lecture or entertainment, to write it up with full particulars, although they make no attempt to attend in person, and sometimes describe an event that never took place at all. The Medical Record, published in New York, recently had an article concerning an elaborate report of a surgical operation that appeared in a New York daily. It says:

"This enterprising Journal published an interesting and circumstantial account of an operation for renal calculus, performed at one of the hospitals by a well-known surgeon of this city. All the details of the operation were graphically and, as it appeared the next day, quite accurately described. The point of special interest in the article was that the operation which it described was not performed until about twelve hours after the article had been published."

That is an illustration of the subject we here touch upon. It is one out of many such occurrences. It is something in the nature of the "fake interview," which at one time assumed such large proportions as to cast a doubt upon all the purported utterances of prominent persons waited upon by representatives of yellow newspapers. It created so much ill-feeling and brought about such pronounced exposure, that a little more care has been exercised lately in attempting to palm upon the public purported "interviews" that never took place.

One thing is sure: if the newspapers that indulge in such tactics do not receive their just punishment through the medium of suits in the courts, they become so thoroughly unreliable that they fade in their public influence, and will ultimately go "to the dogs," where they will find most congenial company. Reliability is the true strength of journalism, and liars will surely reap their reward.

## JAPANESE STUDENTS.

The Japanese are wide awake. Another proof of this is found in the fact that they have sent experts to this country to investigate the San Francisco earthquake. The commission consists of Professor Omori, a famous Japanese seismologist, and three architects. The mission of the latter is to find out all about the effects of the tremor.

It would not be surprising if the world were to learn something new from the investigations of these scientists. Professor Omori was in Formosa investigating the two earthquakes which killed 1,800 people there

in March and April. He has investigated all notable earthquakes of recent years, and his opinion is that steel buildings are the best for future structures if on good foundations and not built on made land; wooden buildings, he says, are also good, in fact the wooden buildings, if securely jointed to prevent beams breaking away, are practically earthquake proof.

The Japanese expert claims that records of the earthquake reached the instruments of his observatory in Japan first across the Pacific, and then around the other side of the world. This gives plausibility to the assertion made about the Lisbon earthquake of 1755, that "it shook the entire globe."

The general attention given to the convulsion of nature by which San Francisco was visited only a month ago, should lead to some discoveries that may shed more light upon that class of phenomena. The most generally accepted theory is that the earth was once a hot fluid globe, which on cooling had first a thin crust. This cooled more rapidly than the interior, and was consequently torn into fissures at various places by its own contraction. This exterior crust became covered with sand, earth and vegetation, so that its conductivity was greatly lessened and it did not respond so readily to the passing off of the interior heat. As the cooling, however, progressed below the crust it was subjected to great strains by reason of the changes in the interior of the earth, and all the time were brought about differences of pressure, owing to the elevation of great mountains, the weight of oceans, etc. From these unequal distributions of weight around the earth's surface comes, it is supposed, much of the force which develops into earthquakes. These immense pressures may at any time or place be transmuted into heat and produce volcanoes, earthquakes and other violent phenomena.

Another theory is that the globe was originally cold, consisting of an aggregation of matter held together by the force known as gravitation. As this matter settled and became more and more compact, the pressure on the interior particles became so great as to develop a heat sufficient to melt them. By the heat some substances were transformed into gases that tore rifts in the earth's surface. This process, it is argued, is still going on.

Both theories consider such convulsions of nature as an evidence that the earth is still a living planet. When it becomes a "dead" body, it will have no earthquakes.

## THE WORK OF MAN.

Strange reports have come from Dowle's Zion these days. He seems to have established a peculiar custom in his religious meetings. He will ask questions, and the audience must answer. In the old days doctors and reporters were often the victims of this method. They were the footfalls, metaphorically speaking, kicked from the pulpit to the audience, and then back again. "Are the reporters beer-pots?" he would ask. And the audience would enthusiastically respond, "They are."

The other day Dowle, though reported sick and dying, appeared in the Tabernacle and addressed a small audience. "Don't forget," cried the old leader, "that the Christian Catholic Church in Zion is under my banner. Those rebellious overseers have ceased to exist. They are usurpers, thieves, dogs, and robbers." But he did not receive the usual endorsement, "They are." From the audience came the response, "No, no, you're the robber; pay your debts," etc.

Dowle might profitably retire and meditate upon the saying of the ancient philosopher: "If this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to naught." That is really the ultimate fate of every structure founded upon hypocrisy and pretense.

The senate has passed the rate bill. This should afford much relief.

Colonel Roosevelt cannot complain that life is not strenuous these days.

What splendid rough riders Tillman, Bailey, Chandler and Rayner would have made!

Any morning after a shower people can see the angle worms turn on the sidewalks if they want to.

Castro is going to resume control in Venezuela. It is to be hoped that he will exercise some self-control.

The mayor of Boston is going to spend \$50,000 to advertise his city. This is enterprising but is it respectable?

Representative Hepburn says that the naturalization of aliens is nothing but a farce. He that as it may, it is no laughing matter.

Explanations about the rate bill controversy are being made on the installment plan. The people would prefer them all at once that the agony may be over the sooner.

The opinion is confidently expressed that San Francisco, when rebuilt, will be the safest city on the coast. It will be practically both earthquake proof and fire proof.

It is said that the czar listens to the proceedings of the Duma by means of a telephone. If he does, he has heard some things said, these days, that must have sounded strange to the ears of an autocrat.

The representatives of the powers at Constantinople are preparing a joint note to present to the Sultan. He has more souvenirs of this sort now than he knows what to do with. Why burden the poor sick man with more?

The Russians generally believe that the emperor, court and government undoubtedly have been dazed by the blunt, direct fashion of the lower house's reply to the speech from the throne. Undoubtedly it was a daisy.

Bricklayers in San Francisco have just voted to make their wages seven dollars a day. The union has also decided that there are plenty of bricklayers there and there is no need for any from the outside. They know a

good thing when they see it and propose to keep it all to themselves.

After putting on him all the white-wash that would stick, the juvenile court commissioners "beg to suggest" that the juvenile court judge "eliminate as far as possible all forms of slang." But they never begged to suggest that he do not repeat his performances in the Knox case. Some people love to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel.

The Chronicle gives the people of San Francisco a reminder that municipal improvements cannot be had for the mere say so. It says: "The demand for wide boulevards is still pronounced, but it will probably be moderated by reflection upon the fact that the extinguishment of the rights of property holders is a costly process and is not to be lightly entered upon merely for purposes of beautification." The warning is timely and proper.

The recent decision of the Supreme Court regarding divorces granted although one party is living outside the jurisdiction of the court, leaves a Civil War veteran in a peculiar position. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, he fought through the war in an Ohio regiment. When he returned to Columbus he heard his wife was dead. He drifted West and married again. Recently he found his first wife was living, and he sued her for divorce, which was refused on the ground that the defendant was not a resident of Kansas. The gentleman has two children by his first wife and six by his second, who lives at Kansas City, Mo.

## ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

New York Churchman.  
Surely the benefit of religious instruction would be a questionable quantity if children found it so uninteresting, or their parents were so indifferent to its value that they must be dragged to the Church to receive it. The Church must win her children; she cannot force them into allegiance. We do not wish to create in this country conditions that are distracting the English church and parliament and injuring the efficiency of both. We cannot forget that the plan has the support of the traditional enemies of public education. To opponents of the American system we would say in challenge and to its friends in warning: Hands off the public schools.

"Bystander," in Toronto Sun.  
Willful adherence to falsehood and rejection of truth is the only heresy of which a man can now be guilty. The Spanish Inquisitors were wise in their diabolical way. They did effectually extinguish heresy, and with it the character, spirit, and greatness of the Spanish nation. Everyone who is acquainted with ecclesiastical history knows that the creeds of the different churches, not excepting the Tridentine creed of the Church of Rome, were fixed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries largely by political power, which can afford no guarantee for religious truth.

Presbyterian Banner.  
The Episcopal church rarely indulges in a heresy trial, and we may be sure that it is a bad case when it takes it up. The Rev. Dr. Algernon Crapsey is the pastor of a prominent Episcopal church in Rochester, N. Y., and, of course, he is able and eloquent and popular, for only such a man can attract enough attention to himself to be made the subject of a heresy trial. An eminent counsel appeared for and against the accused, and the case was ably argued. Dr. Crapsey did not go upon the stand and submit himself to cross-examination, but he submitted a written statement, in which he maintained that he was only exercising his right to interpret the creed in accordance with the teaching of Scripture. He affirmed his belief in the incarnation of the Word of God in Jesus Christ, who is the very substance of God the Father and manifests Him to men. Some eminent clergymen and theological professors of the Episcopal church were offered by the defense as witnesses to prove that Dr. Crapsey's views are prevalent in that church, but his testimony was very properly excluded. There is no question of the liberty of Dr. Crapsey to hold his views, but only of his right to hold and preach them as a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal church.

The Congregationalist.  
A readjustment of value will be a gain out of this great loss which crushed San Francisco will share with the whole world. The gay and careless city was replete with the treasures which hundreds of thousands of people had given their choicest possessions to gather. There was a tremor of a few seconds, an outburst of flame and all these treasures vanished. It is worth a vast deal to have learned that these are the great things that are sought for; that the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. Most of all is it to be prized as the revelation of the true life of the grandeur of human hope. Out of the smoking ashes the city is already rising, to be more stable and beautiful than before.

## JUST FOR FUN.

Booms Weak Church by Printers' Ink.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle.  
Finding that interest in and attendance at his Bible class were falling off, Rev. W. T. Rogers, of the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Knox, Tenn., inserted a page advertisement in local newspapers. Among the results were an immediate increase of one-third in attendance, and scores of letters of inquiry.

Salvation With a Freight Tag.

Atlanta Constitution.  
A dandy preacher in North Carolina prefaced the passing of the collection plate with the shrewd remark: "Salvation's free, brethren; salvation's free! It don't cost nothing! But we have to pay the freight on it. We will now pass around the hat and collect the freight charges."

Cupid's Alphabet.

Life.  
Arrows are this Archer's claim:  
Roses and Belles are Both his game.  
Cupid, Clever Little Cuss,  
Does Delight to bother us;  
Every tricky Enterprise  
Finds a Favor in his eyes.  
Give him one Glad smile or Glance  
He is Happy, Here's his chance!  
Imp and Impudent, the boy,  
Jupiter's own child of Joy;  
Kisses are his Kind, he sure  
Love his Life is and his Lure;  
Matches he can Make or Mar;  
No and yes his Neighbors are;  
Old or young, his One brief call  
Pleases People, Franks and all.  
Queer the Questions that he brings;  
Rhymes and Roses, Ribbons, Rings—  
Such are the Seductive Sweets  
To make Trouble when he Treats.  
Useless 'tis to be Taking care  
Venus, his mamma, will find  
Ways for him to Win or Woo  
Nerves and Xanthippe, too.  
Youth, immortal since of Yore,  
Zealous Zany—nothing more.

## Wassie Communitings.

Ruffon Wratz-Schmitz? Schmitz? Where have I heard that name?  
Seymour Storey—Don't ye rickollect? He's the man that made San Francisco famous.

# GREAT MAY SALE WILL CLOSE at 9 O'CLOCK TONIGHT

# Celebration SALE!

## AT Z. C. M. I. ALL DAY TODAY

WE HAVE done such a phenomenal business during our May Sale, that we feel justified in celebrating the success by offering the public some extraordinary Bargains for the closing day—Today. These are in addition to what have been already advertised for this great May Sale, and are offered to show our appreciation of the tremendous patronage accorded us. Come, join the celebration, and

## REAP THE BIG BENEFITS

WE ARE SELLING

1.25 to 2.75

Wrapp'rs

75c Each

\$1.25 to 2.75 Wrappers

FOR 75c

75c Each

In Today's Celebration Sale at—

NO MORE THAN TWO TO A CUSTOMER.

**Corset Cover Embroideries!**

VALUES UP TO 75c YARD, will go in Celebration Sale, all day Today

25c

**GLOVE SPECIALS!**

\$2.00 "MONITOR" KID GLOVES—"Best on Earth," never sold before for less than \$2.00 a pair, will be sold in Today's Celebration Sale at—

1.60

\$1.00 PRIME LAMBSKIN, fine overseas Gloves, Paris point embroidery, in black, tans, oxbloods and modes, all sizes: a \$1.00 quality. Today's Celebration Sale—

50c

\$3.50 BLACK GLACE KID GLOVES, in 12 and 16 button lengths, just received this week. Extraordinary special in Today's Celebration Sale at—

\$3.15

**65c SILK EOLIENNES**

27 inches wide, will be closed out in Today's CELEBRATION SALE at—

35c

**65c ROUGH PONGEES**

26 inches wide, will be reduced for Today's Celebration Sale to—

35c

**65c PEAU DeCYGNES**

All silk, a full line of colors, for Today's Celebration Sale only—

35c

**REMNANTS!**

All Silk and Wool Remnants that have accumulated during the week will be sold in Today's Celebration Sale at—

HALF PRICE!

**Waist Patterns Half Price.**

All Embroidered Waist Patterns, worth regularly from 75c to \$2.00, will be marked for Celebration Sale Today at 25c to \$1.00, or—

JUST HALF PRICE.

**25c White Waistings**

In Mercerized, Open Work and Striped Swiss, regular price 25c, Celebration Sale Special—

12c

**20c Silk Mouseline de Soie,**

In all the latest colors, regular price 20c a yard, will go in Today's Celebration Sale—

10c

**20c White Waistings**

In open work patterns, regular price 20c a yard, will go in Today's Celebration Sale at—

10c

**Children's 10c Hose for 5c**

Children's fine ribbed black Cotton Hose, an excellent value at 10c a pair, to be sold as a Special in Celebration Sale at—

5c

No more than five pairs to one customer.

**\$1.00 and \$1.25 Corsets for 50c**

Ladies' up-to-date Corsets, in all sizes; colors white and drab; regular \$1.00 and \$1.25 Corsets, will go in Today's Celebration Sale at—

50c

**Millinery Specials.**

Extraordinary for Celebration Sale.

**All Pattern Hats will sell at Half Price.**

**All Other Hats in the Department—One-Third Off.**

**BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S SOFT FELT HATS**

Worth from \$1.00 to \$1.75, in all shades, will go in Today's Celebration Sale at—

25c

Ask in clothing department.

**BOYS' 75c TO \$1.25 STRAW HATS**

Will be sold in Today's Celebration Sale at—

25c

Ask in clothing department.

**CELEBRATION PRICES IN CARPET DEPT.**

ALL DAY TODAY

All Window Shades . . . HALF PRICE

All Odd Lots Lace Curtains . HALF PRICE

All Navajo Blankets . . . . . AT 25% OFF

# Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institution

HAS THE PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE

**SPECIAL NOTICE—** Commencing Tuesday, May 22nd, in our Hardware Dept., there will be given a demonstration of the merits of the Celebrated Dover Asbestos Sad Irons. All ladies are especially invited. Ask to see the New Shirt Waist Iron.