

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - JULY 28, 1908.

## THE ELECTION.

All who desire to defeat the bond proposition and are entitled to vote should go to the polling places early and register their "No." Do not wait till late in the day, but go as early as possible.

See your friends and remind them of the necessity of voting. On former occasions there has been a great deal of indifference among tax-payers. There should be no indifference this time. The homes of the people are in danger. They can be saved only by united efforts at the polls.

Do not wait for a carriage or automobile to take you to the polls. Bring a tax receipt for 1907 along, as that will settle possible disputes.

There are two distinct propositions before the people. One asks for \$475,000 for the water-system and an aqueduct. Another asks for \$125,000 for sewers. Why the citizens of the West side should vote \$475,000 for the benefit of the citizens on the East side and get nothing but a promise of \$125,000 in return, does not appear. Both propositions should be voted down.

The councilmen who pay the greater part of the taxes tell the citizens that "neither this proposed bond issue nor an increase in taxes is necessary." And they know, if anybody knows. These councilmen further say:

Public improvements have not been stopped and will not stop if the bonds are not issued. Over \$300,000 have been already expended this year and work is progressing on contracts for over \$200,000 more. As soon as the intercepting sewer is connected with the gravity sewer as now contracted for, this should be completed by the last of August. There will be opportunity for the construction of the much needed lateral sewers in the south and west parts of the city to the extent of more than \$500,000, which cost is borne by the property owners and is no expense of the city. This will furnish work for the fall and winter months.

Future extensions and enlargements of water mains should be made out of the profits of the water-works which now amount to over \$75,000 per annum. Besides, the ordinances of the city now provide a way by which property owners may secure water main extensions by advancing the cost and get their money back in four annual payments as is now being done in Federal Heights addition.

The proposed bonds are to bear interest at 4 1/2 per cent in order to sell them at par on the present market, while the \$1,000,000 issue of 1905 bearing only 4 per cent interest sold at a premium of \$15,000. This higher rate of interest on these bonds will be a loss of \$3,000 per annum or \$60,000 in the 20 years, which we think ought to be saved to taxpayers and would be saved by waiting a short time for the money market to get back to normal conditions.

This is business sense. A word to possible voters who are not entitled to vote: Do not try this time!

Authentic lists of taxpayers are in the hands of challengers, and bogus tax-receipts will not pass. Many citizens, themselves not entitled to vote, are against the bond issue. Use your influence with friends who are of your opinion and who can vote. See them and urge them to go to the polls, in defense of the homes of this City.

## THE REAL QUESTION.

"We depend, . . . on the wisdom and decision of those who guide our councils, and we can only judge of what dependence is rightly to be placed by examining their conduct in the past, and seeing whether what they have done justifies us in continuing that confidence in the difficulties which are to come."—Lord Salisbury.

We recommend this sound maxim of public policy to those who argue that the taxpayers must place \$600,000 more at the disposal of the city administration simply because it has "spent" all other money and now "needs" more.

The question is not the simple one, shall the city improve? It involves the further questions: Who shall be entrusted with the expenditure of the borrowed money and for what particular improvements shall we borrow?

The question has this double aspect: It passes judgment on the past and expresses an opinion as to the future. While we cannot recall the money already wasted, we can veto any proposition to duplicate the errors into which the city has been so lately plunged by the mismanagement of some of its officials.

The arguments for the issue of \$600,000 more bonds for Salt Lake City, assume that if we do not vote for bonds now, we may never have another opportunity of plunging into debt to the limits authorized by the State Constitution. But this is sheer fallacy. Bonds can be voted at almost any time. There need be no such panic-like haste to rush into debt. Let us first be sure that the issue of bonds is indispensable before we hasten into further financial bondage.

The additional loan of \$600,000 asked for by the "American" administration is in large part for the payment of indebtedness already incurred but not admitted by the city administration.

To carry out the "improvements" suggested, other bond issues will be necessary in a short time.

Their argument is that they have bankrupted the city treasury and that the property owners have therefore no alternative but to furnish the additional money they are demanding. But the conclusion does not follow. Granted that the treasury is empty, that certain improvements would be beneficial, that additional aqueducts are desirable, etc., yet all this does not prove that the citizens are bound to put other large sums into the hands of those who may squander their money.

Our esteemed contemporary the Herald, is one of those misled by this kind of argument. It shows how the money derived from the former bond issue has been in large part unwisely expended, but it says there is now no help for that. It argues that the City must either vote the bonds or submit to a confiscatory tax levy by the council. It says:

"In truth it seems almost unnecessary to discuss any phase of the question except the two alternatives offered. To those who prefer a high tax levy, to those who prefer a high tax rate the problem is simple and they should vote against the bonds. Those who believe it the part of wisdom to distribute over a period of twenty years the cost of public improvements will vote for the bonds. And that is about all there is to the bond question."

No, that is not "all" there is to the bond question; there is something else; and that is simply whether we can entrust another vast sum of our money to the tender care of those particular officials.

For the present, it is the duty of civic righteousness, common prudence, and good sense to vote against the issuance of bonds.

## OUT OF DEBT.

Here is a lesson for Salt Lake bond eaters.

The city of Kokoma, the home of one of the candidates for the vice presidency, is a city without debt.

That Indiana town has a population of about 15,000. It is said to have the finest of everything in the way of municipal improvements and advantages, and future generations have not been taxed for the deeds of the present.

Salt Lake bond eaters seem to believe that the deeper they can plunge the community in debt the more people it will attract. That is folly. The financial policy that governs sane individuals should be followed by city governments.

## THE PEACE CONGRESS.

The Seventeenth Universal Peace congress now in session in London will undoubtedly be one of the most important gatherings of its kind. No less than sixteen countries are represented. The United States has a large representation. The American Peace union of Philadelphia. The New York Peace society, the Utah State Peace society, the Southern California Peace society, and a number of other organizations have sent delegates. Utah is well represented by Hon. Charles W. Penrose and Right Rev. Bishop Spaulding.

The first international peace congress was held in London in 1843. This was almost exclusively a British-American congress. Of the 337 delegates present, 294 were from Great Britain, 37 from America, and only 6 from other countries. At that congress, on motion of Judge William Jay, of New York, the proposition was made that an arbitration clause be embodied in all commercial treaties between nations. Other congresses were held at Brussels in 1848, and at Paris, Frankfurt, and London the following three years. Even at these early dates the American delegates advocated a Congress of Nations, the codification of international law and the establishment of an international tribunal. But after these efforts for universal peace the world had the Crimean war, and all the other great conflicts, and the peace thought was temporarily laid aside. Recently, however, it has come to the front again. National and international peace congresses are again among the important events.

Peace friends again are aiming at the confederation of nations. They hope for a United World. They believe it possible that statesmen can do for the world what American patriots in Philadelphia in 1787 did for the United States, that was to be. They believe that international law, an international court, and an international police force will accomplish the union of the world, and toward this goal they are laboring through their societies, their congresses, and their press.

## A "LIVING HELL."

Bishop Potter, of New York, whose departure from this sphere of action was reported a few days ago, was instrumental in awakening the conscience of New York to the degrading influence of taxed and tolerated vice in the locality in which it establishes itself. The appeal he directed to Mayor Van Wyck in 1900 might be studied to advantage by the Salt Lake authorities who are said to be considering a proposition to force a "red light district" upon the citizens of the West side, against their protests. Bishop Potter wrote:

"In the name of these little ones, these weak and defenseless ones, Christian and Hebrew alike, of many races and tongues, but of homes in which God is feared and His law revered and virtue and decency honored and exemplified, I call upon you, sir, to save these people, who are in a very real way committed to your charge, from a living hell, defiling, deadly, damning, to which the criminal engineering of the constituted authorities, set for the defense of decency and good order, threatens to doom them."

"For nowhere else on earth, I verily believe, certainly not in any civilized or Christian community, does there exist such a situation as defiles and dishonors New York today."

Bishop Potter knew the full truth of the matter. He knew that the dangers of such "districts" are aptly characterized as a "living hell, defiling, deadly, damning."

The citizens of the West side might well remember, and vote accordingly on Wednesday, that there is a proposition to transfer to their side a "living hell," a moral cesspool.

Not the half hath been told. Mr.

Bryan is yet to be informed of his nomination.

Judge Taft does not lack for words.

Quebec has had its day and has its future.

Surveyors make more stakes than prospectors do.

Can a Prohibitionist carry water on both shoulders?

Venezuela is the fly in the international ointment.

A constitution in Turkey! Surely the world moves.

Even when the lid is on tight some manage to get "tight."

To the proposed bond issue let your answer be, "Nay, nay."

Judge Taft can't vote as he shot. He says he never shot.

If the bond issue is voted, they will be the bonds of iniquity.

In a political campaign good temper is better than great riches.

The Standard Oil trust breathes easier yet not quite freely.

Better to bear the burdens we have than fly to bonds we know not of.

If the bonds are voted, it will be fun for the "boys" but death to the frogs.

And could not the City Council increase the tax levy over the Mayor's veto?

A woman in a sheath gown causes far more comment than a woman in a bathing suit.

The man who hides his light under a bushel generally hasn't very much light to hide.

Mr. Hearst's position in the Independence party shows what the power of the press is.

If Hayes as a candidate could run as well as he ran the Marathon race, he would beat everybody.

The recent school census shows that there are less than 2,000,000 people in Chicago. What a comedown from the claims.

No posterity was ever yet known to rise up and call its ancestors that left it a great big bonded debt to pay, blessed.

Just for fear of publicity, which so many people dread, campaign contributions will likely be fewer this year than usual.

If you want to see an angry man and have no fear of consequences, just tell a farmer who is pitching hay in the field or a hot day to boil the water.

It may or may not be a mere coincidence but the Universal Peace conference convened in London immediately after the close of the Olympic games.

As the demonstration at Denver for Mr. Bryan was considerably longer than the demonstration for Judge Taft at Chicago, will Mr. Bryan's speech of acceptance be correspondingly longer than Judge Taft's?

Ex-Mayor Morris is quoted as follows: "I feel that much of the money raised for public improvements has been spent extravagantly. . . . I think the bond issue should be made and I am sure the money will be properly expended. Is money extravagantly spent properly spent?"

"If the bonds do not carry, it will be necessary, in my judgment, to materially increase the rate," says Mayor Bransford. What will be the necessity? To make improvements or to partly pay the indebtedness created by the Pseudo-American administration? The cat is out of the bag. The bonds are wanted to pay increased expenses and swelling debts.

"The obligations already incurred by the city must be met either by such an issue or by an increase in the tax rate, which the people are ill-prepared to meet." That is the latest argument in favor of the bond issue. So it is a matter of old obligations and not of new improvements. So we have held right along. As old obligations must be met, and should be promptly, we object to creating new ones until these old ones are disposed of. Renewing a note and taking up the old one is not paying a debt.

Throughout the entire bond controversy the "News" has presented the facts and figures by which its present position is justified. The opponents call those facts and figures base lies and falsehoods, but they fail to refute them with figures. The only attempt is that made by Messrs. Lippman and Christensen. They tell us that the City administration spends \$1,341,845.98 out of an annual revenue of \$905,000. Is anybody to be converted to the bond issue on that showing? How is the money to be paid back under such management?

Rabid anti-"Mormons" who have spent their worthless lives slandering some of the noblest men that ever lived upon God's footstool, calling them thieves, liars, hypocrites, humbugs, criminals, and every other epithet in the vocabulary of ruffians, suddenly become indignant and cry aloud for vengeance because the Deseret News does not endorse them and their tools for integrity, honesty, gentleness and every Christian virtue. In contemplating the devious ways, the unscrupulous tactics, the un-American aims of some anti-"Mormons," we often feel as if the loud protests of the very stones would rebuke cowardly silence on the part of friends of truth and justice to all.

Opponents of the "News" are trying to make it appear that this paper is attacking the Mayor and the council. On the contrary, the "News" has never neglected an opportunity of commending the Mayor and other public officials whose public

acts are commendable. Anent the bond issue we have asked, and ask again, what became of the money borrowed a few years ago? Was it spent according to the pledges made? If not, why not? This the opponents call "insinuations of dishonesty." But, have not the citizens a right to know? By what right, by what authority was the financial report of the City Auditor withheld contrary to law? To that question no answer has as yet been given.

## GOOD TIMES AHEAD.

San Francisco Chronicle.

While possibly the country has not the same confidence in the judgment of Charles M. Schwab as a financier that it has in his ability as a steelmaker, yet in his assertion that the signs of the times all indicate the beginning of a tide of prosperity whose volume and height will exceed those of any previous wave of the kind, he really voices general public opinion among the financiers of this country and Europe. So confident are some members of the Interstate Commerce Commission of the revival of industry that Chairman Knapp of that body declared his belief that the share of cars next fall will be more serious than ever. This opinion seems to be held mainly because of the abundant crops of the season, but partly because financial distress has prevented the roads from making the usual preparation for business. The weaker roads have probably been compelled to let their tracks deteriorate to some degree, and a few of them have been in a condition to extend and improve them. Probably none have been able to make the usual additions to their equipment, and there are great volumes of traffic in sight.

## NOVEL ORGANIZATION.

New York Tribune.

Chicago has a novel organization in the Bartenders and Saloon Keepers' Total Abstinence Society, which is now said to have 2,000 members. Many saloon keepers in this city, it is reported, are bound by an agreement not to employ men who drink. While New York grog sellers have no such society and no such agreement, so far as the public has ever heard, all the better class of drinking places strictly enforce rules against employees drinking while on duty, and there are scores of bartenders in this city who never drink a drop of the liquids they dispense. The head drink mixer in a downtown cafe—an expert on liquors of all kinds—has been in the business for 25 years and does not know the taste of his own wars.

## BISHOP HENRY C. POTTER.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Bishop Potter's death will be widely lamented. The most eminent clergyman connected with the Episcopal church in this country, his name was almost as well known in England as America. A loyal and ardent churchman, his religious sympathies were notably free from provincialism. He was a man of letters, a man of great intellect, a man of whom intelligent religionists of every denomination thought with special warmth and respect. As a man he had been for many years one of New York's most distinguished citizens. He may be said to have been born to the purple. The Potters have been a family of bishops. With habits that might be called aristocratic and tastes that naturally made him somewhat fastidious, his sympathies extended to all classes of people. And although by birth, training and position a conservative, he was distinctly a progressive conservationist. Few men knew the times and understood his generation better than Bishop Potter. Although not made to be a "reformer" the present-day problems, industrial and social, as well as religious, appealed to him acutely, and frequently his public utterances were outspoken and pungent.

## JUST FOR FUN.

He Has Noticed.

"There is one notable thing I have observed," said the foreign lecturer. "Your American women have the most luxurious hair of any women on the globe." "Rats!" shouted the irreverent individual from the back of the hall.—Judge.

Resource.

"Do real resourceful men," said Uncle Eben, "when some one hands him a lemon is ready wif de sugar and other fixin's to make it tole-able pleasant to take."—Washington Star.

Sorry He Spoke.

Conductor—This here transfer expired an hour ago, lady. The lady (digging in her purse, snappishly)—No wonder!—With not a single centavito open in the whole car!—Puck.

Not All.

Old Bach—I suppose the bird girl does all the heavy work at your house? Benved—Not all; my wife makes the biscuits, pies and pudding.—Chicago News.

Nell—Maude has lost a good friend in Jack. Belle—Why, have they quarreled? Nell—No; they are married.—Philadelphia Record.

Village Lounger—Mr. Jinks seems unremittent on his correspondence with his wife up here. Village Postmistress—Yes, I don't notice he sends her many money orders.—Baltimore American.

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