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SALT LAKE CITY, - APRIL 17, 1900.

IMPORTANT PROGRESS.

At the Utah Stake conference held on Saturday and Sunday, President Edward Partridge reported a material increase in tithing receipts for the year 1899. Following are the figures he presented in proof of his gratifying statement, showing progress during the past five years with a leap in advance for the last year:

1895	58,283.25
1896	67,291.65
1897	67,826.18
1898	82,616.09
1899	112,597.26

The large figures of 1899 compared with those of previous years, indicate the response of the people to President Lorenzo Snow's teachings concerning the revelation of July 8, 1833, now revitalized and presented in its full force and significance. This readiness of the Latter-day Saints to act on those instructions is general. The tithing receipts in the Salt Lake Stake of Zion for 1899, were sixty per cent greater than in 1898. Other Stakes have made similar advances, and although a large delinquent list was presented at the late General Conference, the records show that the observance of the law of tithing is increasing in the Church in a remarkable manner.

There is something behind this movement that is of more than ordinary importance. Events are about to occur which will mark a new era in the history of the last dispensation. That the Church may be prepared for their advent, it is absolutely necessary that it shall have a revenue at its command to accomplish, "by purchase," that which it was forbidden to perform by other means in early times.

One of the inhibitions from the Lord by revelation, many years ago, was against getting into debt to our enemies. A very prominent requirement was that the Church should be made independent of every creature under the heavens. This did not and does not signify freedom from the duties and obligations of citizenship, or independence of the laws of the land. These the Church was commanded to obey and support. But it means that independence that comes from ability to meet every obligation, financial or otherwise, and freedom from every liability, so that the Church might not be brought into any condition of bondage.

If the Saints will study the history of the Church, in the light of the revelations concerning the establishment of Zion on the spot declared to be its site, the predictions that were made at the time, as to the consequences of disobedience to the commandment concerning the purchase of the lands in Missouri, the exact fulfillment of those prophecies, and the certainty that "the redemption of Zion" will be brought about in the manner designated, they will see the paramount importance of obeying the law which is a stepping stone to the higher principles, on which Zion is to be built up in all her glory.

The movement inaugurated by President Snow, which has been taken up with commendable zeal by a majority of the Saints, is directly towards the "redemption of Zion." It should be viewed in that light. In addition to the necessity of obedience to the law that the blessings predicated upon it may be enjoyed, the meaning of its present requirement should be perceived by "the wise," and their faith should be turned in the direction to which it points. This is a rapid age. All the developments of the latter times in the realms of science and of art, are to be utilized in the work that is to bring about "the consummation of all things." When the Almighty puts His hand to the accomplishment of His purposes, changes will be wrought quickly though quietly. We are on the eve of important advances, and those who are true and faithful will be ready to march to the music of the times. To those who are now in arrears we say, Come up to the standard, and, in the language of the late Bishop Hunter, "Pay your tithing and be blessed!"

THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE.

Among the remarkable events of the present year are the labor agitations, breaking out into strikes and deeds of violence. Of course these are nothing new in recent history. Labor troubles have afflicted the country for many years, and there is seldom any length of time when they do not disturb society. But it is somewhat strange that they should be so prevalent, when the whole land resounds with boasts of general prosperity.

We think it must be conceded by the most pessimistic, that trade and commerce, business and manufactures, agriculture and stock-raising, and the various branches of human industry, are alive and prospering in a large degree. The causes of this improvement we do not care to discuss. It is the discontent and eruptions in labor circles which we are now considering. What is the reason of so much disturbance in those quarters?

Must not the truthful answer be, that

the laborer is not obtaining such compensation for his hire as the present spirit of prosperity seems to warrant? It is admitted that in some enterprises the proprietors are paying as high wages as they can consistently afford. Capital is invested for the purpose of making a profit. Business is not carried on merely to find employment for labor. It cannot be expected to operate at a loss. But are there not many establishments that bring in such revenue as to warrant the payment of big dividends, and where wages remain at a very low figure?

We are of the opinion that, in some instances, workmen associated with organizations that wield much power, become arrogant and greedy. They think they can force employers to submit to unreasonable demands. And being led by unscrupulous agitators, they refuse to work unless their requirements are complied with, caring nothing for the loss that may come to capital. But, on the other hand, it seems pretty clear that capitalists who are raking in large profits through the revival in trade, are oblivious to the just claims of the laborers who are among the chief factors in the successful achievement.

Greed is the cause of much of the trouble in the fields of labor. It affects both employers and the employed. "Grab all you can," seems to be the motto. Grind down the hireling, and get as much as possible out of his blood and bones and brain, appears to be the policy of capital. Squeeze the employer, catch him at a disadvantage, ruin his business if he will not comply with a rule established by some "union," no matter what may be his inability to respond, seems to be the spirit of the employees in many cases.

What is needed is a more Christian feeling among both classes. The rights and welfare of each should be considered. Fairness, justice, equity, and frankness in the presentation of facts and grievances, are too conspicuous by their absence. Mutual regard for the right, and willingness to listen and submit to reason, would obviate much of the strife, contention and violence that threaten the country, even when it is ringing with the notes of prevailing prosperity. What a blessing it would be if the capitalist and the laborer would adopt in actual practice the teaching of the great Nazarene: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them!"

THE FAIR AND SUNDAY.

The expressed desire of President McKinley that the American division of the Paris exposition be closed on Sundays is being made the subject of some criticism. It is argued that it is no business of Americans, if the exhibits in a foreign country in accordance with the laws and customs of that country are held open seven days of the week, especially as most of the Chicago show was held open both on Sundays and other days.

But the most serious objection to the arrangement is this: that the largest crowds of the week presumably will visit the fair on Sundays, and that consequently the American exhibits will not be seen by thousands, whose only chance is on the first day of the week. It is sufficient to say to this, that it is certainly would be a loss to the people who are thus prevented from seeing the American exhibit, which will perhaps be the most interesting and magnificent on the ground, but it is doubtful whether it would be a loss to the exhibitors. Probably not.

No doubt the grounds will be thronged on Sundays with a promiscuous crowd, but those who come to study the exhibits, to make notes, and to compare the products of the different countries in the interest of trade are not likely to select the Sundays for that purpose. It cannot be admitted, therefore, that Sunday closing would be a loss to the exhibitors, though it certainly would be a loss to the vast public. But perhaps the Fair management could arrange in some way for the convenience of the laboring classes. There should be holidays enough in France to enable workingmen to see a great industrial exhibit without having to use the Sunday for that purpose, and if there are not holidays enough available, the government should create a few, especially for the Fair.

President McKinley will be sustained by a large element of the American people in an effort to give the world an object lesson of an American Sabbath. Too much cannot be done to impress upon "Christian" nations their duty to remember their obligations to the Creator.

AT WEPENER.

So far there is no confirmation of the Capetown rumor that General Brabant had gained a decisive victory over the Boers at Wepener. There is a good deal of interest attached to the military operations in that vicinity, and no doubt both sides will do all in their power to carry the situation there.

The reason for the special interest in the operations near Wepener, along the boundary between the Orange Free State and Basutoland, is that it is believed the Basutos are watching the struggle and may rise in arms, if the English suffer a reverse.

These Africans are not regarded as a specially fierce or warlike race, but they love independence. The Basutos engaged the Boers in war over thirty years ago. The British then interfered, and the Africans were placed under the Cape Colony government, and were prohibited from carrying arms. They had to be subjugated then, at the cost of millions of dollars. Basutoland now belongs to Great Britain. But the Basutos are not especially loyal. They would in all probability rise against any foreign power, and it is feared that a British defeat at Wepener might precipitate an insurrection. That would certainly add to the difficulties of the African situation.

At the same time, it is not forgotten that ever since the outbreak of the war, predictions have been made about a general rising among the Afrikanders, as well as of revolts among the black Africans, but so far these predictions have not been verified. Should, however, one tribe go on the war path others might follow suit, and thus set all South Africa ablaze.

AUSTRALIAN SENTIMENT.

A special correspondent of the Chicago Record gives the substance of a statement made by Mr. Walter Griffiths, a member of the South Australian parliament, who at present is in London in the interest of the Australian federation.

The Australians recently agreed on a plan for a commonwealth similar to that of Canada, but the British government is now seeking to retain control over the supreme court of Australia, and Mr. Griffiths expressed his emphatic condemnation of this effort on the part of the British government.

The substance of his remarks was that the Australians are not in a mood to tolerate any trifling at the hands of Downing street or Westminster. They do not intend to permit their constitution to cast any reflection on the judicial capability of the colonies. They are loyal, but their loyalty must be voluntary. Any suggestion of compulsion would estrange the people from the empire and result in a United States of Australia—a republic modeled on American lines. His concluding remarks were to the effect that the Australians cannot permanently interweave their fate with that of England. They love the country and will do whatever is reasonable to defend it, but their national position and resources are such that they must decline to take any step that shall deprive them of liberty of action in any particular emergency that may arise.

We do not know how far Mr. Griffiths speaks the sentiment of his countrymen, but his official position would justify the conclusion that he speaks for a large part of the people he represents. And if so, it is evident that the adhesion of some of the British colonies to the mother country is not so strong as at one time it appeared to be. The Australians are not given to sentiment. They are a practical people, looking in the first place to their own interests. If they find that their connection with the British crown is more of a burden than a benefit—that they are strong enough to govern themselves, to protect themselves and to take care of their own interests, and that battles fought on other continents do not really concern them, they will not be slow in demanding independence. And if that demand is made at the right moment, it may have to be granted. And then another republic would be added to the world's powers.

AN EASTER EDITION.

The News-Register, published at Evanston, Wyoming, issued on Saturday a mammoth illustrated Easter edition, which reflects great credit on the editor and proprietor, Mr. J. N. Allard, and the ladies who have given to the paper some of its chief attractions.

One of the features of the Easter issue is an account of the progress of the churches in Evanston. A prominent place is given to the Latter-day Saints, and a cut of the brick church they have erected in that town accompanies the sketch, which we clip as follows:

"In February, 1873, a branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) was organized in Evanston by President Wm. Budge, of Bear Lake county, Idaho. The organization was perfected in the district school house, which at that time was opposite the south side of the court house. Leaving this place the members of the Church rented the Presbyterian house of worship for three months, and thereafter such places as were found convenient. May 15, 1873, William G. Burton was ordained Bishop of Evanston ward, with Oswald Bluewell and William Cashmore as counselors. This gave Evanston a permanent organization. Bishop Burton presided until the end of December, 1881, when his resignation was accepted on account of his removal to Logan, Utah. On June 24, 1880, this ward was incorporated under the requirements of the revised statutes of Wyoming. The board of trustees consisted of James Brown, Thomas Parkinson, John Whittle, Frank Mills and Arthur W. Sims. The members of the Church at present worship in a neat brick edifice, which was the first brick church built in Wyoming. As it now stands the building is worth about \$4,000. The Church has a membership of 200, and the officers are, and have been since November 11, 1885, James Brown, Bishop; Thomas Parkinson, first counselor; John T. Whittle, second counselor.

The News-Register, under its present able management, has been very successful. It is one of the permanent institutions of Evanston, and wields great influence in Uinta county and throughout that portion of the State in its vicinity. We wish it continued success.

An English forecast for 1900: Patrick I. King of Great Britain and Ireland and Emperor of India and South Africa.

No doubt the Filipino rebellion has gone to pieces, but it takes a long time and a lot of soldiers to gather the fragments.

The strike epidemic among workmen in the eastern half of the United States seems to be more catching than measles among children.

Leading politicians of the party most concerned say that Admiral Dewey's candidacy is not taken seriously. As a joke it is just possible to become a huge affair.

The Colorado railroads came near making a banner winter record today. Four or five of them are blocked with snow, an occurrence without parallel heretofore at the present time of the year.

The Illinois brickmakers are ready to strike. The building situation in Chicago now looks as if it had been flooded with a brickbat, and if more trouble is precipitated people will begin to anticipate violent conflicts.

Disfranchisement of the negro comes pretty near being a fact in Louisiana, as at the election today the possible negro vote in the State amounts to only 7,000. This result is achieved by requiring property and educational qualifications for voters.

Gen. Wood knows how to fix the members of a trust. When the cattle combine thought to starve Havana to its terms, through their refusal to furnish meat, Gen. Wood promptly took occasion to let the combine know that

if it refused to proceed to business, it would be barred in future. That brought the recalcitrant monopolists to time.

Turkey has not paid the indemnity demanded by America, and agreed on as proper. The only foreign collector the Turk recognizes is a man with a gun, so the earlier an American warship calls for the bill the easier the settlement will be.

The Deseret News returns thanks to Senator Joseph L. Rawlins for valuable pub. docs. just received. The Senator's watchfulness over Utah's interests is duly appreciated by his friends, who are to be found in the ranks of different political parties.

A Chicago paper tells of a citizen who tried to show his chivalry by protecting a woman from the brutal assault of a man, presumably her husband. The result was that he was punched by the husband, doused with hot water by the unappreciative wife, clubbed by a policeman and locked up in the station. Is it any wonder that chivalry is now counted among the lost virtues?

"To go bubbling" is one of the most recent additions to the well supplied treasury of the English language. It means riding in an automobile. Etymologists are puzzled as to the derivation of that word. It is suggested that automobile is in the daily vernacular changed into "automobile" and automobabble and that to go "bubbling" is the natural offspring of that slang expression. But it is also suggested that the bubbling heard in the storage battery when it is ready for work is responsible for the new word. And thus the perplexing question of etymology has again come into discussion.

It is now given out that Lord Roberts' advance from Bloemfontein will be made the latter end of this week or the beginning of next, with 75,000 men as the first line of the movement. This being accepted as decided on, military experts are figuring this way: If the forced march from the Modder to Bloemfontein tied up the British army for weeks at the last named place, what will be the situation at Koonstad, when a like distance is covered through a more difficult country? Even to that point the hard work of the war causes grave uncertainty, and increases the difficulty of making any prediction as to the time when hostilities will be brought to a close.

FUNSTON CRITICIZED.

New York Mail and Express.

The report from Manila to the effect that Gen. Fred Funston, of the American army, has hanged two Filipinos without giving them the benefit of a trial and that he may be brought before a court martial to answer for the proceeding will not be credited in this country until it has been confirmed by something like competent evidence. Gen. Funston has proved himself a gallant and courageous soldier; he has distinguished himself by deeds of the finest heroism, and it was at the earnest request of the government that he returned to the Philippines, after having been honorably mustered out of the service at the expiration of his term of enlistment. His record fully entitles him to the benefit of the doubt as to the serious charge now preferred against him.

It may be found that the summary executions ordered by General Funston were justified both by the facts and by the laws of war. President Lincoln once spoke of the summary execution of a number of bushwhackers as one of those acts which a subordinate might do, but a commander-in-chief could not order. While the executions in the Philippines may come within this category, leaving latitude to officers in the field to punish the guilty without giving the accused any trial whatever, affords a precedent that may easily become dangerous.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

If Gen. Funston hanged two Filipinos, he probably had good reasons for the act. Of late the rebels have become vicious, and American soldiers who fall into their hands are brutally treated. In one instance a number of prisoners were murdered on the approach of the American column. There is only one way to strike terror to the miscreants, and that is to hang them as fast as they are caught, and let them swing as a warning.

Kansas City Star.

There is said to be a growing belief among the high officials in the Philippines that murder, arson and robbery must be dealt with by hanging the natives who pretend to be fighting, but who are really bushwhangers. The Filipinos have been treated with the greatest lenience and kindness. The only punishment inflicted upon them has been to give them as severe a drubbing as possible in battle. Certain Filipinos now repay the freedom they were given when taken prisoners by cowardly murders and the mistreatment of their peaceable countrymen. Gen. Funston would certainly make short work of these Filipinos if he was running the military government of the islands.

Springfield Republican.

Hero Fred Funston's act in hanging two Filipinos without a trial, or authority from his superior officer, if correctly reported, indicates that Judge Taft and his civil government are sorely needed in the Philippines. The accounts printed of the execution afford no justification of Funston's act. It seems to have been the performance of a young man reveling in the power of a petty despot.

PORTUGAL AND ENGLAND.

Chicago Record
Whatever be the facts, Portugal has taken a stand on the side of the British and against the Boers. At the same time it has angered continental Europe and sowed the seeds of discord among its own citizens. If it be a fact that the treaty gives Great Britain a colorable right to move troops across Portuguese East Africa, then it is patent that even the time the treaty was made Portugal was willing to concede a great deal to Great Britain. Such a treaty made under any circumstances between sovereign powers in effect amounts to a military alliance under certain conditions. While the permission given may be in harmony with the treaty, the fact remains that the treaty itself was and is, so far as Portugal is concerned, at variance with the prescribed usages of international law.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

It is not surprising to find the hysterical Paris press declaring that international complications of a serious nature are likely to grow out of the so-called incident in the Philippines. The position granted to the British authorities by the Portuguese government to transport troops from Beira to Umtali. The wrath of the French editors is increased by the news that a British force of 1,000 men has already sailed for Beira from Southampton. The report has

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undoubted significance in view of the recent Delagoa Bay award, which was highly unsatisfactory to Great Britain, and the latest concession may be naturally regarded in France and elsewhere as a sop more or less grudgingly thrown to the British lion. It may or may not be a step toward the cessation of Delagoa Bay, for which the British have been working ever since the outbreak of hostilities in South Africa, but it certainly seems going too far to claim, as do various French editors and politicians, that Portugal has by this act renounced her neutrality and become a belligerent.

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