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# MEMORIAL SERVICES.

For years it has been the custom in the wards throughout the Stakes of Zion to commemorate the birthday of the Prophet Joseph, by special services, on the Sunday nearest the date of that anniversary. In accordance with this practice we suggest that Sunday, Dec. 26, this year, be devoted to the memory of the great Prophet of this dispensation, and that appropriate services be held in the Sunday schools, ward houses and other places where the religious services of the Church are held, on that day.

JOSEPH F. SMITH, JOHN R. WINDER, ANTHON H. LUND, First Presidency.

Salt Lake City, Dec. 11, 1909.

# MAY HAVE TO INTERVENE.

President Zelaya's reasoning is plaus ible enough, when he argues that Groce and Cannon were amenable to the laws of Nicaragua and that he, therefore, had a perfect right to stand by inactive and see them shot to death. He may have had a legal right to permit their execution, but it is not always best to do a thing simply because it can be done under the law. In some parts of Africa the ruler of a tribe might have had the "right" to let them be roasted and eaten, but if this had been done, civilization would have demanded that such a ruler be taught an impressive lesson. And this may be the case with Zelaya notwithstanding his "rights." It may be necessary to teach him, and others at the same time, that the de-mands and ideals of civilization are superior to the antiquated laws of any country.

The two Americans were duly commissioned officers in the insurgent It is to be presumed that they had joined the rebels because they conscientiously believed in that cause. It is true, the insurgents were not recogas belligerents, but they were such in reality, and the two Americans would have been treated as prisoners of war by any civilized government. If Zelaya had been anything but a small-souled despot, he would have said to those two Americans: "Gentlemen, your lives are forfeited, but if you will give me your word of honor never again to take up arms against my government, you are free." He would then have let them go, and they would probably have left his country for ever. But being a very narrow-minded, petty tyrant, he let his minions take their lives.

And there is reason to believe that he did so to satisfy his thirst for revenge upon the United States. There is reason to believe that the bullets that pierced the hearts of those two Ameri-cans were really aimed at Uncle Sam. In those two Americans, Uncle Sam was, as it were, shot in effigy. Zelaya intimated that, himself, when he enumerated to a representative of the Associated Press, several instances of hostility against him in the United States through paid articles appearing in American newspapers. In one of these instances, he said, he was endeavoring to raise a loan in France, when his eneterpose an objection through the French embassy at Washington on the pretext that the money sought was in-tended for the purchase of war materials, when in reality it was to have been used in the construction of a railway. It is evident that Zelaya thought saw a chance to getting even with Uncle Sam for alleged acts of hostility, and that the shooting, therefore, was an act of retaliation. Under the cir-cumstances the United States government seems to be justified in accepting the challenge and see the matter through to a finish. The Central American states are all suffering from the misrule of Zelaya. One of the chief obstacles to these states obtaining American capital is the brutal autocracy of theNicaraguan pres-ident. It is now believed that with him out of the way, peace will come to all the Central American states, and the way will be opened for their unification. Central America is a fine country, rich in resources. The mines there are as rich as any in the world, and the agricultural resources are simply imme-But capital is timid, as long as the governments are uncertain. With a united Government strong enough to keep peace and protect investments capital would flow in, and Central America would become a strong republic 'The United States may have to help matters along, for the protection of American citizens and property.

turalization papers in this country, he would have been permitted to land without question. At the time of every election mer and women are found who regret that they cannot vote because they have ne-slected to become citizens. They have no voice in public affairs, though they know of wrongs to be righted and carnestly desire to do what is right. An experience such as that of this Italian shows that complications may arise in which not only voting, but the entire future status of a family may be concerned. Those who intend to live in this country should famili-

arize themselves with its laws and institutions, and qualify themselves for the performance of all the duties of citizenship, and then apply for their papers. Do it now.

DENATURED ALCOHOL.

Will alcohol become a commonly used fuel in this country? The law of Congress permitting the use of alcohol for industrial purposes free of tax, if the alcohol has been suitably denatured, was enacted in the hope that some source would be found which alcohol could be produced for general use in the arts and industries. This expectation has not, thus far, been realized.

Many plant products have been men tioned and a few of them investigated with this end in view. In the arid West attention was early called to the merits of the cactus, or prickly pear, as a source of alcohol. Since alcohol is composed of carbon, oxygen, and hydrogen, the constituents of sugar with some water added, it is ordinarily prepared by the fermentation of those various plant products called carbohydrates, such as corn, beets, starch, sugar, and molasses.

In Germany and Sweden crude alco hol for use in the arts is made from potato pealings, and when we last heard the price of this alcohol quoted, it was about fifteen cents per gallon in those countries.

In New Mexico, the abundant fruits of some of the prickly pears, or tunas, are found to contain from five to fifteen per cent of sugar, and the New Mexico Experiment Station has been investigating the possibility of making denatured alcohol from tunas and other sources

tin 71 of that station. They show the folly of theoretical calculations as to the amount of alcohol obtainable from any material when these calculations are based on the percentage of starch or sugar, or of the obtainable nitrogenfree extract, which the material contains. The experiments indicate that the stems of the prickly pear cannot, by present methods, be successfully used for producing alcohol at a price that would enable it to be used in manufacturing

The heating value of alcohol is about 70 per cent of that of gasoline, one gallon of which contains about six pounds of combustible matter, while alcohol has but about four pounds. These two substances are similar in composition "To compete with gasolin twenty cents per gallon," says bulletin 93 of the Iowa experiment station, "94 per cent alcohol must be sold from thirteen to seventeen cents per gallon, and 90 per cent alcohol from eleven to fif-teen cents per gallon."

But alcohol is three times as effective in heat production as is kerosene oil, and on account of its cleanliness it would replace the latter and gasoline also, long before its price became as low as that of either of these fuels.

The New Mexico bulletin mentions the fact that people will usually pay more for a fuel that is both convenient and safe. For this reason kerosene is now generally used in lamps though gasoline appears to have vearly four times as much lighting efficiency. From the candle power hours given for the two fuels in the bulletin it may be seen that, when burned under those conditions if kerosene is worth 25 cents per gallon, we can afford to pay 80 cents for a gallon of gasoline and get the same efficiency, yet many continue to use kerosene because of its greater safety and convenience. lighting efficiency of alcohol is 2.5 times that of kerosene, when used in lamps similar to those used in the abo experiment, one could afford to pay 50 cents per gallon for alcohol to be used in lighting, if it had none of the other advantages of safety, cleanliness, etc., over kerosene Prior to the Civil war, the use of alcohol for industrial purposes was extensive. In 1861 it became necessary to raise large sums of money for the prosecution of the war. In order to raise this revenue for the government, a tax of 20 cents per gallon was placed on all distilled spirits. This revenue tax was increased from time to time until now it amounts to \$2.08 per gallon on high proof (94 per cent) alcohol. This high revenue tax and the introduction of cheap methyl alcohol, which could be used as a substitute in most cases caused the latter to almost entirely supersede the tax paid ethyl alcohol in the industries. Methyl alcohol could be bouht for about 75 cents per gallon while ethyl alcohol, taxed, costs \$2.50 to \$3 per gallon. Ethyl alcohol is preferable to methyl alcohol for most purposes and can be produced at less The steadily increasing demand for alcohol in the arts, and for a cheap source of liquid fuel to take the place of gasoline and kerosene, finally resulted in the passage by Congress law which took effect September 1, 1907, permitting the use of tax free domestic. denatured alcohol for general purposes By denatured alcohol is meant ethyl alcohol that has been rendered unfit for use as a beverage by the addition of certain poisonous or repugnant sub-stances which will not interfere with its use for industrial purposes. These denaturants must be of such a character that they cannot be easily re-moved from the alcohol by distillation or otherwise. Methyl alcohol ir the denaturant in most general use. It is difficult to estimate the exact of production of alcohol itself. aside from the cost of the raw mate-rials, but at the large distilleries it is said to be from 15 to 20 cents per gallon. By using tunas the cost could perhaps be reduced to 14 or 15 cents, but such production would require a con-

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## A STRANGE CASE.

Foreigners who intend to live and die in this country but who neglect to apply for citizenship should consider the case of one Paul Ruggiero careful-ly. It is one that shows the folly of neglecting a simple duty. Ruggiero came to this country at the

age of 17. For six years he has been married, and his wife and children have their home in New York. His children are Americans, though he is children are Americans, though he is not. A few months ago he caught a severe cold, and his physican recom-mended a sea voyage. He sailed to Italy, stayed in that country one week, and returned here, but he was refused to land. An order for his de-portation was promptly issued because it was found that he had developed it was found that he had developed tuberculosis. Had he taken out na-

BOSTON TRANSCRIPT. From the report of the adjutant gen-ral of the army it appears that fully 75 per cent of the officers and men of the continental army are stationed in the United States, or nearly 62,000, whereas there were in the Philippines 1,240, exclusive of 5.729 "scouts" or na-tive soldiers. Alaska and Hawaii cali for about 1,200 each, and the military duty in Porto Rico is done by the lo-cal regiment, which is about 700 strong. In spite of the presence of 60,000 regu-lars on home soll our liberties do not appear abbreviated to any appreciable extent.

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