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SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 25, 1906

WILL "MIND ITS BUSINESS."

The Boston Herald, among other prominent public journals, has been caught by the canard disseminated throughout the land by a press dispatch from this city about the "Mormon" Church going "out of business." In an editorial which we reproduce in full in another part of this issue of the Deseret News, that paper gives due credit to the "Mormons" for their industry and business sagacity, and the leaders of the Church for their wise management of its temporal affairs. But at the same time the Herald makes remarks that show it to be in error on some important points, as nearly every newspaper in the country is when touching on "Mormon" topics. On the whole, however, the article is well worthy of consideration.

We have to repeat our denial of the story about the Church "going out of business," and to express regret that the press agent who sent the bogus news over the wires did not exercise judgment enough to find out if the story was correct or had any basis in fact, before echoing uncertain sounds and taking for granted statements from a notoriously deceptive source. The Church sold its interest in the Salt Lake Beach and Railway to a responsible company, and that was all there was to report. The rest was fiction and conveyed not only misstatements as to alleged transactions, but inferences that were unwarranted and absurd.

The tithing system of the Church brings into its control various kinds of property. The tenth of a member's interest annually is paid "in kind," that is, in whatever is produced by the labor or enterprise of the individual, whether cash, produce, cattle, sheep, horses or anything else. This sort of income requires careful management and also investment in other kinds of property. Prudence and business sagacity have to be exercised so that the Church shall gain and not lose by the change. The establishment and maintenance of industries for the employment of working people has been one of the results of this system, and there has been no announcement or intention on the part of the Church to "go out of business."

The idea that "the laity" only are the tithers and that they are taxed or in any way compelled to tithes their income is incorrect. The leaders of the Church both local and general are among the strictest observers of the law of tithing. They believe in it as a principle of religion. They show their faith by their works. Tithing is a voluntary contribution, attended with both temporal and spiritual blessing to the honest observer. The income is not the property of any individual or body of persons but belongs to the Church and is sacred to the Lord, every cent to be used for the interest and benefit of His work on the earth.

As a matter of fact it is so held and used, no matter what people may think or say who have no business with its payment or disposition, not being members of the Church.

As to the "hierarchy" limiting its authority to "ecclesiastical propagation and defence of the faith" as mentioned by the Boston Herald, no intimation has been given by the Church to begin with there is no "hierarchy" in it, and the policy of the Church as to its temporalities has not been changed. "The laity," as the Herald designates the body of the Church, although most of its members hold the Priesthood, cannot be any more free than they are and have been, "to serve their interests by independent and individual discretion." Like the members of other churches they now have "personal freedom." There is no such communal order of living or business among them as that paper and many mistaken persons suppose. It is a part of the "Mormon" system. Every member of the Church who has property of any kind, holds it in his or her own right, and is free to go into any trade, or business or occupation that the individual may select.

The operations of the Church in the field of business are also much misunderstood. It has no monopoly of any kind or character. It has embarked in some industries, as we have stated, but usually as a shareholder therein, and not to the exclusion of individual participants in the enterprise. Concerns which the Church is popularly supposed to control are in the hands of stockholders, some of them non-Mormons, and the Church of the shares. Business men in Utah do not even hold a majority of the shares. Business in all its branches and diversities is as free in Utah as elsewhere, and all the stories about "Church domination" are utterly notorious and most of them malignant and vile.

The "Mormon" Church will "mind its own business" according to one of its mottoes, and attend to it faithfully whether it be spiritual or temporal, and will leave other people's and other churches' business alone. It would be well if they would follow this example. The properties of this Church belong to it legitimately and will doubtless be managed in the future with as much intelligence, acumen and care as in the past. While its members are satisfied with its conduct it is no concern of anybody else, and when it becomes wise and beneficial to dispose of any of its temporalities or to engage in others, it is likely to do so without consulting the

adversaries or feeling the pulse of public opinion. It has a mission to perform for the uplifting of humanity both spiritually and temporally, and with the blessing of God it will continue to go on and prosper.

PRESERVE THE ANTIQUITIES.

The measure for the preservation of American antiquities now ordered favorably reported by the Senate committee on public lands, should be acted on without unnecessary delay. This country has some very valuable relics and monuments of past civilizations. They should be protected from the depredations of the thoughtless, who but imperfectly realize their importance to students of history. By the bigoted vandalism of early explorers of the American continent archaeological treasures of inestimable value were lost for ever, to the irreparable regret of the student. The sins of the first "conquerors" should not be repeated. It is the duty of the government to take care of the witnesses of a wonderful past, that still remain, and it is the duty of every good citizen to co-operate with the government in this work.

To the Latter-day Saints this is of especial importance. They firmly believe that the Book of Mormon contains a part of the true history of the ancient inhabitants of these continents, and so testify to the world, because they know that the Prophet Joseph was raised up by the Almighty, and inspired, to bring to the light that remarkable volume. They as firmly believe that the study of American archaeology will disclose many facts corroborative of the Book of Mormon, just as students of the archaeology of the Old World have found innumerable proofs of the authenticity of the historical part of the Bible, as well as many facts the knowledge of which aids them to a correct understanding of the sacred Scriptures. The same, we believe, will prove true with relation to the Book of Mormon, as the study of American archaeology proceeds. We therefore deem the preservation of the ancient monuments of the utmost importance.

As we understand it, scientists now recognize the existence of mainly three different centers of ancient American civilizations: the Maya, to the south, the Aztec and Toltec further north, and the Pueblo, still further north. Besides these, there were roaming tribes that have left but few traces of their wild life. The origin and historical connection between these civilizations are not known to science. Le Plongeon recognizes the Maya civilization as the most ancient, and it is certain that it was the most advanced. It is perfectly clear that, as far as the facts are known, they point to the historical accuracy of the Book of Mormon. We look forward to the day when America's past will be an open book to scientists, because we firmly believe that thereby the Prophet Joseph and his work will be vindicated. Not that any evidence that can be brought forth by scientific research is stronger than the testimony of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of those who are willing to do the work of the Father. There is no stronger testimony than this, and that is available to all who shall comply with the conditions on which it is promised. It is nevertheless important, especially as a reply to the objections of unbelievers.

SHOOK AND GOT WELL.

The other day we briefly noticed, in these columns, the fact that the San Francisco earthquake seems to have had a wonderful effect upon the general health of the stricken people, perfectly curing many cases of sickness, some of long standing. Individuals who had been doing themselves with medicine for years were suddenly compelled to hustle about, change their diet, sleep wherever they could, and do many things which they thought they could not do. The result was that they forgot their ailments.

This statement is corroborated in a letter written by one of the celebrated physicians of the country, Dr. Emmet Rixford, to a local doctor. He says concerning the health conditions of the people of San Francisco:

"The health of the town is remarkably good. The dyspeptics must have all died. There are none. Everyone is glad to eat bacon and beans. Neurasthenia is a thing of the past. The neurologists will surely starve, for there is nothing for them to do. In fact, I suppose most medical men will turn surgeons, for people still continue to grow tumors in spite of quake and fire."

This statement by an eminent physician as to the effect of the San Francisco catastrophe is really noteworthy. There are, he says, no dyspeptics or sufferers from neurasthenia. Dr. Rixford knows whereof he speaks, for he has every opportunity of ascertaining just what the facts are.

Dr. Allen, of this city, informs us that it was commonly observed among physicians during the so-called hard times, that people did not need medical aid as much as they do during times of prosperity. This is another illustration of the truth that many ailments are conquered by the exercise of energy. A plain diet, simple mode of living and the necessity of working hard are splendid aids to good health and longevity.

A HEBREW UNION.

A movement recently commenced in this country, among the Hebrews, has for object the union of all American citizens of Jewish origin in an organization with the object of promoting Judaism and to aid in securing the civil and religious rights of the Jews in all countries where such rights are denied or endangered. The leaders of this movement believe that such an organization will be able to exercise an influence for good and be of material benefit to the oppressed race, especially in Russia and Roumania, and other countries where oppression is the rule.

The New York Mail says that on Feb. 4 a committee, headed by Louis Marshall, was appointed to draw up a plan of organization. The suggestion of this is, that a call be issued to the Jews of the United States to choose delegates who shall assemble in convention for the organization of the conference, and the transaction of such business germane to its objects, as may arise. Said convention is to consist of 100 delegates, to be apportioned among the

Jewish residents in the several parts of the United States according to the ratio of population. The delegates are to be elected by the incorporated Hebrew congregations throughout the country, and the vote of each congregation is to be regulated by the payment of fees.

This is an important movement. It is a natural expression of sympathy for the numerous victims of race-hatred and bigotry, who are sacrificed every year in the countries mentioned, because of the wild falsehoods that are circulated about the Jews, as a people, and popularly received as truth. If the proposition receives the support it deserves, the organization should become strong enough to exert an influence upon the European cabinets.

It is also possible that a deeper study of the various questions relating to Judaism and the Jews, would lead many members of such an organization to the firm conviction that there is no final, or permanent, solution of those questions except that which is abundantly set forth by the ancient seers as the hope of Israel, viz, the nationalization of the people in the land of their fathers. That does not, of course, mean a general exodus of all the Hebrews from every country where they now dwell. It would mean the centralization of Jewish nationality and worship in one country, and such powerful influence as a nation commanding the wealth of the world would exercise upon the fate of other nations. In the final reunion of the descendants of Abraham there are possibilities which are well characterized, by one of the New Testament writers, as "life from the dead." That happy event will give new life to the world.

Russia's first law isn't like heaven's order.

When Andrew Carnegie skiddooed he Skibos.

Reversing the order of disaster in San Francisco, Ogden's earthquake followed her fire.

Socialism "levels down." And a way down, too.

The Sevier river is on the rampage. This will be severe on the farmers of Sevier county.

The land fraud folk read it thus, "Thou shalt not steal, was never written of the soil."

And now the sweet-girl-graduate-to-be is all absorbed in the question of what the graduation gown shall be.

More political prisoners are being sent to Siberia. There doesn't seem to have been enough amnesty to go round.

The way in which the McKitticks got money from unknown sources was just like getting "money from home."

Secretary Taft says that he is an optimist. He has to be engineer successfully the management of the Panama canal.

Captain Hobson says that he does not want the presidency. It shows a philosophical mind not to want what one cannot get.

Senator Burton says he has no thought of resigning. It would be interesting to know just what his thoughts are.

The Book of Forms "goes" but without authority. If it proves a success it will not be so very long before it will get the authority.

How do grammarians explain this? In this country we say "the United States is," and in England they say "the government are."

Engineer Wallace has made another reply to Secretary Taft. But how tame when compared with the Bailey-Tiltman-Chandler statements.

The consummation of the union of the Cumberland and Presbyterian churches having been officially announced, what is the next consummating devoutly to be wished?

Mrs. Montefiore says if she were not busy guarding her own home she would go and break the windows in Mr. Asquith's. Does she aspire to become the Carrie Nation of Great Britain?

The British and Foreign Bible society now distributes the Scriptures in no fewer than four hundred languages. And yet there are plenty of professing Christians who do not read it in one of them.

Mrs. Dora Montefiore refuses to pay taxes to the British government because "taxation without representation is tyranny." That is true. It is also true that taxation with representation is generally thought to be tyranny.

A PERFECT FLYING MACHINE.

American Magazine.

Gulls are masters in the air. I have watched by the hour birds similar to these following along in the wake of a steamer, but had never before had such chances with a camera. Often they pause, resting apparently motionless on outstretched wings. It is a difficult feat. A small bird can't do it. A sparrow hawk can only pause by the rapid beating of his wings. The gulls seem to hang perfectly still, yet there is never an instant when the wings and tail are not constantly adjusted to meet the different air currents. Just as in shooting the rapids in a canoe, the paddle must be adjusted every moment to meet the different eddies, currents and whirlpools, and it is never the same in two different instants. A gull by the perfect adjustment of its body, without a single flap of the wings, makes headway straight in the teeth of the wind. I saw one retain a perfect equilibrium in a stiff breeze, and at the same time reach forward and scratch his ear.

"WHAT A PEOPLE!"

From Colliers.

Frederick Palmer, writing in Collier's for May 19, quotes a German who was in San Francisco on a Pacific steamer as saying: "What a people! Here they are in ruins, and they are talking of a world's fair in 1915." Mr. Palmer says he saw him a week later. His steamer had not yet gone, because it was having difficulty in provisioning: crowds of refugees were departing by every train. He was looking at the first poster to be put on the boards since the fire—a poster laid over bills of plays in theaters that were ashes. It declared that everybody must get to work to make "Prisco a city of a million population by 1915, and incidentally told you the best medium of advertising. Two hurrying men with "Greater San Francisco" labels in their

handbags went hustling past us as I stopped to speak with the German. "What a people!" he repeated. "And very likely they will do it."

UNNECESSARY RESEARCH.

Manchester Union.

Over in England the scholars are getting interested in the question of the origin of the word "hoax." A correspondent of the London Speculator contributes to the discussion, by furnishing the information that in South Africa the Hottentots use the term "baas," and call the head of the family "ou baas," or old boss. He then goes off rummaging round in the ancient classics to prove that Cleero once said that the Egyptians called the god Vulcan "Obas," from which the deduction is made that the direct connection between the "ou baas" of the Hottentots and the Vulcan, or Obas, of the ancient Egyptians, that the Dutch took the term from the Hottentots, and that from the Dutch the word boss has spread throughout the world. It may all be very interesting, but in New Hampshire, where such an inquiry is wholly unnecessary. Everybody here knows who the "old boss" is and what he is.

WHAT IT MEANS.

Boston Herald.

The true meaning and significance of the name of Russia's first Parliament are vividly explained by the reply of the first peasant elected to that body, when taunted by his adversary with the sneer that he didn't even know what the Douma meant. "The Douma," replied the peasant, "is the Douma, and for that each you can't belong to it." "What the peasant meant to say was that his opponent represented merely autocratic authority, rather than intelligence. In other words, the Douma literally means thought."

THE NEGRO'S HIGH PLACE.

Harry Stillwell Edwards in the Century.

Looking back through the American history of the negro and considering the vicissitudes of their life, the hardships some of them have endured and the resultant condition, their faithfulness in captivity, their peacefulness for two hundred years, their swift evolution from complete ignorance, their rapid adoption of the white man's methods and their amiable life as a people, the fair-minded and unprejudiced student must accord them a high place among the laboring populations of the earth. As a race they have done well. As a race they are doing well. As a race they can and do produce criminals. So does our own; so does every race under the sun, every State, every city.

SMOKELESS CLEVELAND.

Utica (N. Y.) Press.

The city which seems to be making the most headway against the smoke nuisance is Cleveland. There are in the city nearly 2,000 boilers, of which about 400 are for heating purposes. Of the balance, about 75 per cent are equipped with what are accepted as satisfactory smoke preventing devices. The newspapers of the city say it has been a campaign of education rather than of force. The smoke inspector has demonstrated successfully to the manufacturers and owners of large buildings that it is to their interest to do away with the immense quantity of carbon which pours from the tall stacks. As a result the owners of the boilers get more heat and power from the coal and the city suffers less from the smoke nuisance. There is an object lesson in the Cleveland experience.

THE SAN FRANCISCO PAPERS.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The newspapers that once occupied the principal skyscrapers in the city are being operated from four little rooms in the same block, no one of which is more than 25 feet from the ground. On one side of the room you can read the sign, "Subscription department," on the other, "Advertising department," while on the third wall is hung a rough sign, "Editorial department." One of the most fortunate papers, after much maneuvering, has managed to commandeer a second-floor bedroom. The nature of whose previous occupants is attested by the notice still hanging from a chandelier, which reads, "Don't blow out the gas."

JUST FOR FUN.

He Commanded Respect Anyhow.

New York Tribune.

Secretary Taft said of a certain domineering statesman: "He fills men with dread. They quail before him. They can't call their souls their own in his presence. Altogether he makes me think of a waiter I once met in the west."

"In a small western town many years ago I pulled up at the Palace hotel. 'I was assigned to a room. There was no water nor towels in the room, and I rang."

"I rang again. 'Still no reply. 'And again and again and yet again I rang, and finally a waiter appeared. 'This waiter was a robust, man of stern and forbidding aspect."

"'Did you ring?' he said, in a rumbling bass voice. 'I did,' I answered. 'Well, don't do it again,' said the waiter, with a menacing scowl, as he withdrew."—New York Tribune.

Harry, seven years old, came home from school the other day and rushed into his mother's room with the news. "Mother, what do you think? We're going to have physical torture twice a week now!"—Judge.

The Risk.

There is no insurance against the accident of birth.—Judge.

Justice.

Bill—Looks like the police got quite a bunch out of that poolroom raid. Tom—Sure! They've wrenched about sixteen innocent spectators, for obstructing the traffic.—Brooklyn Life.

Last Summer's Suit.

Hard luck! I found a dollar bill in my last summer suit. For joy, I went and blew it in. With several more to boot. —Catholic Standard.

The Humorist.

Drill Sergeant to awkward squad—"The bullet of our new rifle will go right through 18 inches of solid wood. Remember that, you blockheads!"—Melbourne Times.

Sympathetic.

Old Lady—"What are you crying for little boy?" Boy—"Please mum, my brother lost his hat." Old Lady—"But surely, you needn't cry about it." Boy—"Please, mum, I was a-wearing it when 'e lost it."—Judy.

Mrs. Shopper—"I wish to buy a present for a servant girl. Can you suggest something appropriate?" Salesman—"Certainly. Give her a traveling bag."—Judge.

Piggus—"I'm glad it is good form not to wear a watch with a dress suit." Dismisses—"Why?" Piggus—"Because I never have both at the same time."—American Spectator.

Bacon—"Have you noticed what ridiculously high prices have been paid for seats on the New York Stock Exchange?" Egbert—"Yes, of course. They've been bought from the sidewalk speculators."—Yonkers Statesman.

New Grand THEATRE

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