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SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 2, 1908.

NO PRIZE FIGHTS HERE.

The order given by Mayor Bransford prohibiting prize fighting in this city is in full accord with the sentiment of the general public. The citizens, no matter what party they belong to, some time ago we called attention to the designs of the sporting element to give exhibitions in this city, and expressed the hope that the Mayor would prevent it. We have reason to believe that we spoke for a great majority of the citizens. A morning contemporary endeavor to explain that the Mayor's order is only temporary, and was issued owing to prevailing hard times, but the real truth we believe to be that the Mayor was influenced in his decision no less by the expressed sentiment of many voters, than by his own inclination to do his best to keep the rough element out of the city.

There is absolutely no valid reason why promoters of a brutal and brutalizing sport should be permitted to ply their trade here, in defiance of both law and sentiment. The fact that thousands want to pay money to witness the "fun" is no reason why they should be given an opportunity to do so. We fancy that if somebody should advertise an exhibition of cannibalism, that, too, would draw thousands at a very high entrance fee. But that is no reason why anyone should be permitted to make money on an exhibition of savagery. And yet it is a question whether a public exhibition of cannibalism would not be less demoralizing than a brutal prize fight. We hope Mayor Bransford will see to it that this city, during his administration, is free from that kind of revolting amusements.

THE DRY FARMING CONGRESS.

To fully measure the results that will come from the sessions of the Trans-missouri Dry Farming congress, which convened today in Salt Lake, is not the privilege of those whose judgment may take into consideration only the data already matured. A great industry is just in its beginning. A new method of soil culture is just beginning to show its first results.

To tell what this industry is, to explain what this soil culture can do to eliminate from the West the sagebrush wastes, this Congress is at work. To crystallize sentiment into future legislation is a branch of its work which must not be overlooked, and which may become important.

Utah, a pioneer in caring for the arid western soils, should feel proud to house and offer hospitality to these visitors from surrounding and neighboring states. We have half a dozen arid valleys, where it is probable no stream of water will ever run. Five years ago we counted them waste desert. Today we know that their value can be measured in bushels of wheat, in other less bulky arid crops. Their rabbits and sagebrush and lizards are gone to return to old familiar haunts no more.

Two years ago the fires were lit all along the Levan ridge, which meant that sagebrush, undisturbed since the receding waters of prehistoric lakes had left soil enough for sage to find a rooting in, was making its last stand, and would have to surrender its brown vistas for yellow ones, rich in maturing grain.

Today the passenger on the railroad line through Juab valley sees no longer the endless sagebrush wastes. Instead he is told the land so yellow with grain is all redeemed, is all of value, that it will take over \$16 to buy what a year or two ago couldn't be given away.

In the moving of the world, the new significance to farming brought about by the methods of soil culture employed in arid land treatment, is one of its most important new things. Outside of the West its significance is wholly unappreciated. Even within the West its results are such as to incite the incredulity of those not actually in touch with what is being done. If this congress can spread the zone of information wider from the arid acres of the West, it will be doing a great service, and this is one of its certain accomplishments.

ELECTIVE STUDIES IN SCHOOLS.

To what extent should high school pupils be given freedom of choice in the matter of their studies? Is a question that educators have long debated. And it is gratifying to know that today the best thought is in favor of giving them full liberty, under proper parental and school directions.

No two persons are alike by nature. No two have precisely the same tastes and inclinations. Why should they therefore be given exactly the same intellectual diet? Why should not our schools recognize individual differences as the basis of individual progress? It seems to be the only proper thing to do. Once there was but one course of study, which every boy and girl was expected to follow, or not be graduated at all. Later came several equivalent courses—such as the English, the scientific, the classical, the commercial, the domestic arts—of which a pupil might choose any one, according to his peculiar bent of mind. And this idea is at present in vogue pretty generally east and west. But why should there be pre-

cisely four courses of precisely twelve, or any definite number? The truth seems to be one step further—that there ought to be as many courses as there are individual students. And this is the idea adopted by the best high schools in the East—everything is elective, nothing prescribed.

Some important advantages there must follow the adoption of the elective system by any high school. The pupil, the teacher and the parent will be compelled to give the matter of the selection of studies more careful attention than it will receive otherwise. This will bring teachers, parents, and student into closer relationship to one another—a thing indispensable to the proper advancement of young people. Then, too, the fact that the scholar has exercised a choice will increase his responsibility, so far as concerns the given subject, and therefore bring about a better mastery of it; for we do better what we choose to do than what we are compelled to do. We are therefore pleased to see that one of our Church schools—the Latter-day Saints' University—has adopted the elective system as a part of its future policy. So far as we know, this is the first secondary school in this part of the country to do this. The L. D. S. is therefore to be congratulated on its desire to keep abreast of the times.

RUSSIAN CONDITIONS.

Some days ago New Yorkers were treated to a lecture on the revolutionary struggle in Russia, by Prof. Paul Milinkoff, a member of the third duma and the founder of the Constitutional Democratic party of Russia. He came all the way from Russia to explain to the American people the situation in his country. From all accounts of the address, it seems that it was a scholarly and conservative effort. The speaker is no demagogue, no agitator.

The Constitutional Democrats, he explained, occupy a middle position between the revolutionists who would establish a republic and the reactionaries who desire to re-establish autocracy. The Constitutionalists would establish true parliamentary government under a constitutional sovereign. That is to say, the Czar would yield up of his own volition to the national assembly certain of the powers which he now possesses. While the revolutionary party hopes to gain constitutional rights through a revolution, the Constitutionalists hope to obtain the same object by the co-operation of the Duma and the Czar. The Reactionaries are opposed to all popular measures.

As for land reform, which is the most pressing question of all and the one in which the vast majority of the people of the empire are vitally interested, the three parties differ as follows: The Revolutionists demand "the whole land for the people," the people to make the division in their popular assemblies. The reactionaries are for no change whatever. But the Constitutional Democrats propose an extension of the reform of 1861, by making additional allotments to the communities from the Crown lands and from the larger private estates, the latter to be expropriated by means of a compulsory sale at a fair price, to be agreed upon by committees of representatives of the peasants and the land owners.

The speaker admitted that the prospect of success for his party was not encouraging at present. Yet he had not lost hope. The constitutional principle, he explained, may flicker, but must remain alive; and among the sources that feed it is the sympathy of the American people.

The peasants, it seems, are still laboring under the delusion that all would be well if only the Czar did not have so many bad counselors. The peasants must be enlightened as to the real conditions.

THE SCHMITZ DECISION.

Great impatience is manifested by the press throughout the country at the decision of the District Court of Appeals in San Francisco on the illegality of the indictment of the late mayor, Eugene F. Schmitz. The decision reversed the lower court in many of its rulings, and declared that the indictments on which both Schmitz and Ruef had been brought to trial, were void in that they failed to state a crime.

The opinion was written by Justice Cooper, and is concurred in by the other two members of the court, Justice Hall and Justice Kerrigan. Its effect will apparently be the liberation of Schmitz, who may now apply to be admitted to bail on the other indictments pending against him.

Schmitz and Ruef were indicted for extorting money from business houses. The court holds that the threat on which the money is alleged to have been extorted was not a threat to do an unlawful act. It is pointed out that the taking away of a liquor license from a house conducted for immoral purposes is not an unlawful act, but on the contrary a very proper act, and as the code makes it necessary that the threat be to do an unlawful act, the indictment is held to be null and void.

There is also another point which was urged against the sufficiency of the indictment in that it does not show that there was any injury to "property" involved, a business, or a license not being property in the strict definition of the law; but this point is passed over by the justices, who hold that the indictment falls on the other point. If this is the law of California, and we suppose it is, no fault can be found with the court of appeals for declaring what the law is. The decision, however, is yet to be reviewed by the supreme court of the State.

Some papers express the fear that the ex-mayor and even Ruef, who has confessed, may yet go scot free. But this is only a remote possibility. There are, including the extortion cases, forty-five indictments against Schmitz and 122 indictments against Ruef. If the five extortion indictments against Schmitz are dismissed, to gain his liberty, he will have to furnish bail on forty other indictments, amounting to \$400,000 bonds or \$200,000 cash. If the five extortion indictments against Ruef are dismissed, to gain his liberty he will have to furnish bail on 117 other indictments, amounting to \$1,700,000 bonds or \$850,000 cash.

The endless technicality of the law tends to defeat the very object of the law. At the same time it would never do to permit the judges and courts to construe the law as they think it ought to be rather than as it is. American law is very jealous of the rights of accused persons, preferring that if necessary ten guilty persons should escape rather than that one who is innocent should suffer. But this very virtue has become a vice. "The law's delay" awakens the continuous exasperation of the people. The present case is only another illustration of the tendency to delay and prolong trials and so to defeat justice by technical objections as to points of procedure.

At the same time, the decision is a reflection upon the ability of the prosecution, yet if it is the law, all should abide by it and work to change the law. The courts, we believe, are too much inclined to lean toward the sufficiency of technical objections. They should find some means of giving to all accused persons a speedy as well as an impartial trial.

Mulst Hafid is a very stubborn person.

In bank failures to the victims do not belong the spoils.

It's a rum shop that can make the desert blossom as the rose.

Berlin's unemployed are giving the Berlin police plenty of employment.

To preserve the forests—give the trees a coat of patent preservative.

It looks as though Uncle Tom's cabin would last as long as the pyramids.

Statistics tend to show that the divorce court is the last refuge of a scoundrel.

It is about time that St. Petersburg was sending condolences to Berlin.

Mark Twain has \$51,199 tied up in the Knickerbocker Trust company. Rather a tidy sum.

A man in Edinburgh found a five pound note and turned it over to a policeman.

The first gun in a campaign is fired for the noise it makes and not for the damage it does.

Perhaps publicity in the trial is relied upon permanently to cure Thaw of his temporary insanity.

Jerome and Evelyn Thaw are not neighbors, for they do not love one another as themselves.

The composers are making war on "canned music." They might find canister a valuable aid in their attack.

Dr. Henderson of Harvard contends that the use of salt is an index of civilization. Sure, for are not they who use most the salt of the earth?

How frank and ingenious a Senator Tillman gave an example of it when he said of Senator Aldrich: "We have to sit here until this great personage comes through the door."

If the Nevada legislature fails to provide some means for maintaining the peace of the state when riot is threatened, the United States troops will be instantly withdrawn, while a condition of anarchy will not unlikely supervene. It is true there has been no rioting at Goldfield, but if any lesson can be drawn from the troubles in the Coeur d'Alenes and at Cripple Creek, it is that only thorough preparedness to suppress trouble will prevent trouble. It is truly an anxious time for Nevada. And her well-wishers hope she may emerge triumphantly, a beacon light for law and order to all mining states.

PLEA FOR THE SPANISH RACE.
New York Tribune.

Omitting the Asian tongues and races of India and China, and also those of Russia as more than half Asian, the Spanish race and the Spanish language stand easily second in the world in point of numbers and distribution, and second, too, we should say, in scope of future promise. To them belong Central and South America, the whole western hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer, or more than one-fourth of the surface of the globe—for Portuguese Brazil must be reckoned in with its somewhat closer than country kin—and in addition one of the most valuable parts of Europe and a goodly holding in Africa and Asia. No other race save our own has a comparable field for growth, nor are we convinced that any other has within itself more unexhausted vitality. With all its mighty past, the Spanish is still one of the great races of the present and of the future.

MR. FOWLER'S CURRENCY BILL.

Washington Herald.

The differences of opinion among bankers and financiers generally respecting financial legislation are reflected in the marked contrast between the Aldrich bill and the comprehensive financial measure introduced in the house by Representative Fowler of New Jersey. Mr. Fowler's bill "to establish a simple and scientific monetary system, founded upon gold, guaranteed bank notes and silver," is the product of his own study of currency needs and conditions, and so far has no other backing than that supplied by its author's excellent reputation as a theoretical financier. Last year Mr. Fowler appeared as the sponsor of a plan for an asset currency—engrafted on the present national banking system; this year he has squarely abandoned all such makeshifts for a monetary system amounting to a revolution of that to which the country has become accustomed.

A CURIOUS SITUATION.

New York Evening Sun.

Greatness having decided that Cuba shall take up her hat and walk on Jan. 1, 1909, it is now suggested that our troops remain in the island until the fall of that year to see that the local statesmen don't do what they please with their own. It will be a curious situation. A government which is such de facto and de jure we understand. One which is only de facto is simple. But one which is de jure and not the other thing is so exceptional as not to be understandable. It would take a James Bryce to describe the sort of government that will be in existence in the Pearl of the Antilles for the greater part of next year if the present plans are carried out.

THROW IT AWAY!

That old tooth brush which is continually shedding its bristles in your mouth.

And Get an A. D. S.

Antiseptic Tooth Brush that you cannot pull the bristles out of, and you will be satisfied and take better care of your teeth. Every brush guaranteed.

35c Each.

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A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

(For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.)

You can't build a house out of driftwood and deadwood. If you do, it is bound to tumble. What you need, is good solid, well-seasoned lumber.

The business man builds up his organization in very much the same way as the carpenter constructs a house. He goes over his force of employees, retains the good material and throws out the driftwood and the deadwood. Driftwood floats along in a lazy current and produces nothing. A man who lets himself drift, is the man you want to shift. He deserves no place in a community of workers. He doesn't push his work, but rather lets his work lead him on. There is no energized system in his daily routine. He attends to things as they come up, and if they don't come up, they are never attended to. Such a man drifts along day in and day out, and if he runs into the slightest obstacle, he stands still and lets the tide of business flow past.

Deadwood doesn't even drift. It is worse than useless—it is in the way.

The success of a business depends primarily upon the men in it, and employees who are no more active than office fixtures are not worth the powder to blow them up.

Get rid of the driftwood and the deadwood and take on a bunch of live ones.

JUST FOR FUN.

Holy Tea.

A young Englishman with a title and a healthy appetite recently went to spend a few days at a monastery in Switzerland. By chance he arrived on a Friday, when the fare was especially frugal. He had a little to eat that day and went to bed hungry. During the night, as is their custom, one of the fathers went to the cells with a benediction. "The Lord be with you," which, of course, he said in Latin. When he came to the door of the visitor's cell he knocked and said, "Dominus tecum!" "Whose there?" cried the young Englishman. The monk repeated, "Dominus tecum!" "Ah, thanks, I'm much obliged," said his lordship, getting out of bed. "Please put it down outside."—Bellman.

What Did He Mean?

Wigg—That bleached blonde says her hair weighs on her mind.

Wagg—That shouldn't bother her. It's light enough.—Philadelphia Record.

Young Wife—Am I very dear to you, darling?

Young Husband—Yes, love; just look at these receipts bills.—Baltimore American.

They passed before a madonna of the golden age of painting. "Hum!" Loaned by Smith," said he, consulting the catalog. "Smith has a catholic taste."

"It would seem so," said she. "And yet his people have been Presbyterians for generations."—Puck.

She—I see a good many of the girls are taking to this new game of diabol.

He—Yes, girls always like it when they can get something on a string.—Yonkers Statesman.

Bank President—What we need is a young man who has lots of patience. Do you think you would do? Applicant—Yes, sir, the last time there was a run on your bank, I stood in line for over four hours.—Life.

Finnerty (who takes a drop)—I see that wan ivy thin scientific gent says an occasional spree is beneficial for some min.

Mrs. Finnerty—Troth it is! I never yet saw a scientific gent that didn't wear fine clothes an' a dimint ring or two.—Puck.

"A man who loves his kind forgives his brother's slips." "A man who loves his kind doesn't have occasion to. He puts ashes on his pavement."—Baltimore American.

"Your dead husband wor a good man," declared the sympathetic Mrs. Casey to the bereaved widow. "He wor!" exclaimed Mrs. Murphy, dashing the tears from her eyes. "No two polacemins cud handle him."—Jude.

Mrs. Highmoss—I suppose at some time in your life you struggled with the Nibelungenlied? Mrs. Gaswell—O yes; I had an awful siege of that in '92. I had to take all kinds of nasty medicines before I got it out of my system.—Chicago Tribune.

SALT LAKE THEATRE

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THE MAN ON THE BOX.

A Comedy in three acts by Grace Livingston Furness.

Prices—Evening, 25c, to \$1.50; matinee, 25c to \$1.00.

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The play of the Century.

MAN OF THE HOUR

By George Broadhurst

Given here exactly as heard for one year at the Savoy theatre, New York.

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THROW IT AWAY!

That old tooth brush which is continually shedding its bristles in your mouth.

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Antiseptic Tooth Brush that you cannot pull the bristles out of, and you will be satisfied and take better care of your teeth. Every brush guaranteed.

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You will be surprised at the extraordinary price reductions we are making on Linens, Domestic, Flannels, Dress Goods, Etc., this week

Table Linens and Napkins 25% Off

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All wool waistings, ranging in price from 50c to \$1.00 a yard, will be sold at

HALF PRICE.

All White Goods in Persian Lawns, India Linens, Victoria Lawns, Nainsooks, Dimities, Piques, Waistings, Mulls, and Mazalia Cloth at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

Cotton Plaid Suitings, a beautiful line 27 and 36 in. wide a yard

15c

8-4 Pepperell Bleached Sheetting, regular 35c a yard, sale price

28c

9-4 Pepperell Bleach Sheetting, regular 37 1/2c a yard, sale price

30c

10-4 Pepperell Bleach Sheetting, regular 40c a yard, sale price

32c

42 in. Pepperell Bleach Casing, regular 20c a yard, sale price

15c

46 in. Pepperell Bleach Casing, regular 22 1-2c a yard, sale price

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36 in. Brown Sheetting, specially priced at, a yard

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White Nainsook, soft finish, 36 in. wide, worth 25c, a yard, in 12 yard lengths, the piece

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Willy Zimmerman, Kinodrome
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7c, 25c, Box seats, \$1.00.
Matinees daily (except Sunday and Monday), 2:15. 50c, 25c, 10c. Box seats, 75c.

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Herbert Witherspoon

First Congregational Church,

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