DESERET EVENING NEWS: MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1904.

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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SALT LAKE CITY, . JAN. 4, 1904.

DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by telephone with any department of the Descret News, will save themselves and this establishment a great deal of annoyance if they will take time to notice these numbers:

For the Chief Editor's office No. 74, 3 rings.

For Deseret News Book Store, 74. 2 ringa.

Fer City Editor and Reporters, 359. 2 rings.

For Business Manager, 389, 3 rings. For Business Office, 389, 2 rings.

UNIONS AND THE CHURCH. Eastern papers are publishing the fulminations of a labor agitator and strike promoter in this city, in which he endeavors to arouse union men throughout the country in opposition to Senator Reed Smoot, on the ground that the "Mormon" Church is "an enemy to organized labor." His sole excuse for this falsehood is a newspaper story, to the effect that an address as to ensure getting the award. Still, was delivered in the Tabernacle on we think it does not look well for the Sunday, 27th ult., advising and urging city to advertise again after the disyoung "Mormons" to take the places of closure of the terms of former bidders. striking miners at the coal mines in Carbon county. The agitator, paying no attention to the denial of the re- fairest, easiest and wisest way out of port and the proofs that no such address was delivered or advice given, jumped to the conclusion that "the Mormon Church "openly declared war on organized labor in Utah" and therefore that a Senator elected by the votes of the Republican party of Utah should be unseated. His logic is on a par with his untruthful statement of facts. All this nonsense of his was telegraphed from this city to eastern papers, with the statement that he had sent a dispatch to Messrs. Mitchell and Gompers to the same effect. This having come to the notice of the First Presidency of the Church, they sent the following dispatch to the gentlemen named, on Saturday evening:

will be placed above personal and partisan schemes and ambitions, The message is an indication that the Mayor intends to proceed, as far as the council will aid him, in carrying into effect the wishes of the people who placed him in office. He invites the co-operation of the members. He is ready to consult with them. He recog. nizes the fact that the citizens who inited at the polls to rise above party consideration for the general walfare, expect an administration that shall be conducted on the same lines. It will be well for all the city officials to proceed accordingly and work together for

the common interest. It is perhaps too much to expect that party concerns will cut no figure in appointments and patronage; but the public have the right to demand that they shall not be placed above merit and fitness and efficiency, in the public service. 'The Mayor's assurances on this point are just what we expected of him ,and they should be met with a corresponding desire for hurmony and mutual understanding, and such co-operation in all the departments as will ensure the best possible results. There should be a disposition to unite with the Mayor in such measures and regulations as will secure a thorough business administration, and lift the municipality to a higher plane than it has occupied in the past. We welcome the new civic authorities to the places which they now occupy and hope they will fill them with honor and satisfaction.

THE PIPING CONTRACT.

We publish today an address from the Poard of Public Works to the City Council. The statements and arguments it contains appear to us, in the main, clear, reasonable and conclusive, Conceding that there has been no fraud, connivance or intentional error in the proceedings mentioned, it seems to be the best policy to accept the proposals and suggestions of the board and ratify its action in relation to the bid of Kennedy & Co. for water mains and sewer pipes. We say this because the bid was the lowest offered, and is generally re-

garded as affording very small chances for profit. The advancement in prices during the past year is not to be ignored in considering this matter, and the honor of the city is also a feature of the transaction, the lowest responsible bidder having at least a moral claim on the municipality.

The conclusion so positively reached by the board, that the bid "must be lower than we can hope to get it again," may be plausible but there is a possibility that it may not be correct. The figures being known, there may be ways and means by which contractors will see the way open for lower bids, so

sured, both abstainers and non-abstainers, come from what the company calls the "lower middle classes." This is shown by the fact that their policies average practically the same size, about \$1,500 now, and about \$1,000 in the earlier years of the company's history. Statistics, of course, are not infallible; but their testimony is, nevertheless, important. In this instance it coincides with the testimony of the scientist and the moralist. Total abstinence is recommended by all. The fact should not be lost sight of by any to whom life, health and happiness are desired.

THE WAR RUMORS.

Notwithstanding the warlike aspect of the latest advices from castern Asia, it is difficult to believe that the outbreak of hostilities is about to take place. It is difficult to believe that Russia is prepared to enter the ring against Japan at this time, and that she will not rather rely on the kind of dipionacy of which she is the master, for an exit from the difficulties encountered. Russia has an army as vast as the swarms of grasshoppers that sometimes darken the sun and hinder the progress of railroad trains. But her financial ability to sustain an army is perhaps not greater than that of Japan. As for the navy, rumor has it that corruption has been rampant in the supply department, and Russian officers are said to be annoyed on account of the condition of the ships. And if reports are true the internal conditions of the country are not such as to encourage the government to court a serious war. A Russian nobleman recently said to the Vienna correspondent of the London Times: "Until this year I have treated the talk of a revolutionary spirit as moonshine, but on returning to Russia three months ago I was struck by the change on the faces of the people during the last year. The

peasants and the workmen have a scowling expression; they are no longer respectful; a large proportion of them have lost their religion and nearly all seem filled by a revolutionary spirit. I hope that I may be a false prophet, but things I have seen and heard in Russia this year have destroyed my optimism." A country with a dissatisfied population cannot be safely plunged into a war. In case of hostilities it will undoubt-

edly be the aim of the other powers to confine the struggle to the two combatants. Should, however, China be involved against Russia, France would be expected to come to the aid of her ally. In that case Great Britain would be under treaty obligation to take sides with Japan, and as the countries actually engaged, if successful, would be entitled to part of the spoil, Germany would naturally appear on the scene at one stage or another of the game. The possibilities are there for a conflagration that will extend over two continents. But undoubtedly it will be

says a contemporary. Panama can afford to be generous.

News from the far east is so conflicting that it must come on an alternating current wire.

So gallant General Longstreet is dead at last. A good fighter and a good rebel, he died a good citizens of the republic.

Eastern Indians are as good again as the western ones. The Carlisle Indians beat the Sherman Indians, at Los Angeles, twelve to six.

Governor Peabody has commuted martial law at Telluride into modified martial law. This is something new in jurisprudence if not under the sun.

An exchange tells how the President may lose the nomination through the opposition stampeding the convention, He has been a cowboy and rough rider too long to let a stampede he success-

The action of the Board of Pardons in commuting Lynch's sentence to life imprisonment will meet with public approval throughout the State. The "News," we believe, was the first paper in the State to call attention to the merits of the case.

THE ASIATIC WAR CLOUD,

The New York Evening Post. Evidently the Japanese feel that they have exhausted the resources of diplomacy, and are nerved for a collision. The only hope of peace lies apparently in some concession by Russia. And since her diplomacy knows neither scruples nor chagrins, a retreat or a propoal to continue the status quo is well among the possibilities. Meanwhile, the war spirit is so strong in Japan that any untoward accident might precipitate the inevitable conflict. Naturally, the insurance papies are raising Far Eastern risksclarifying business comment on certain obscure passages of diplomacy.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The war stories from the Orient and the big Euporean capitals do not only vary from day to day, twenty-four hours of the dark clouds of war being followed by the bright sunbeams of peace, but they are construed according to the color of the journals printing them. For instance, yesterday some papers in this city found ominous signs of an immediate conflict in the news from Tokio and London and St. Petersburg, while others read only a message of peace in the conflicting statements sent out as news. It is a case of "you pays your money and you takes your choice."

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the diseased membrane

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gists or by mail; Trial Size, 10 cents.

New York World.

Russia's old ally, Delay, is hers still. Japan has all the advantage of nearness to the scene of conflict and of coaling stations and repairing docks. Even her little army might for a time compare well in effectiveness with the Russian, hampered as it is, by he endless task of transportation over the Siberian railroad. In the long run there could be no doubt that victory would favor the "heavier battalion," unless powers were in the mean tim drawn into a general war. The possi-bilities of such a conflict are so appalling that the civilized nations of Europe are bound to use every endeavor to maintain peace.



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Salt Lake City, Jan. 2, 1904.

Reports having been circulated that he "Mormon" Church had used its influence against organized labor, and had endeavored to fill the places of union strikers with non-union men, we hereby emphatically deny that the Church over which we preside has taken any such steps or issued any in-structions on this matter. The whole story originated in a false newspaper report. JOSEPH F. SMITH. JOHN R. WINDER, ANTHON H. LUND.

The views entertained on the question of labor organizations by leading men in the "Mormon" Church have been many times expressed in these columns. There is no need to recapitulate them today, for our readers will recognize, in the following digest and summary of the rulings of appelate courts in this country on cases that have come before them, the very same views that have appeared editorially in the Deseret News. Vice Chancellor Pitney, of New Jersey, has epitomized those judgments as follows;

'First-That all sorts of laborers may lawfully combine and form unions for their mutual benefit, and that they may use all lawful means to promote their own interests, being careful in so doing not to infringe on the rights of others

"Second-One lawful means to that end is the refusal to work on terms offered by the employer. "Third-An unlawful means is to hin-

der or prevent others from working for an employer under such terms as they shall see fit.

"Fourth-One means of such hinder-ing and preventing is in various ways to render it either difficult or uncomfortable for such willing workmen to This is an unlawful means.

"Flith—Another unlawful means in common use, to hinder or prevent will-ing employes from working and to com-pel employers to accede to terms which they would not otherwise adopt, is the boycott in its various forms."

Labor union men, "them's our sentiments!

THE NEW CITY OFFICERS.

The City Council chosen by the voters at the last municipal election entered upon their duties today. The selection of Mr. Frank J. Hewlett as President of the council was anticipated, as he was the logical candidate for the position as one of the majority and as an active member of the previous council.

The preliminary message of Mayor Richard P. Morris will be read with interest by all who are concerned in the welfare of the city. It is brief, to the point and animated by a spirit that will be generally approved. If it is responded to by the council in a manner to be desired, we will have a businesslike ad- the abstainer's 35.8. At 40 years of age ministration of municipal affairs, and the needs and advancement of the city

Unless there is some good reason for it which has not yet appeared, the this controversy is, in our opinion, to adopt the suggestion, made in all candor and honor by the Board of Public

A POPULAR TOPIC.

Works.

"Petitions and protests are still piling up before the senate against Senator Smoot's occupying the seat to which he was legally chosen. So bitter is the was legally chosen. So bitter is the war and so powerful his enemies that Mr. Smoot may be forced to step out. Senator Smoot's only crime is in this, that he is a Mormon-which is to say, he was unfortunate in choosing his birthplace. Had he been born in India, or Africa, to become a Buddhist or pagan, or had he been from Arlzona with no religion whatever, society had not worried a moment about his spiritual abberation. Mr. Smoot is neither a polygamist nor a proselyting fanatic. He is modest and attends to his own business. Not a flaw can be found in his character and his intelligence is unquestioned. Why, then, all this pow-wow against his wearing the sen-atorial toga? Simply this: he is a Morhence proscribed by the chaste and virtuous East."

The foregoing is from the Plateau Valley (Colorado) Stockman. It shows that all kinds of papers and individuals are taking an interest in the question of the furore against the junior Senator from Utah. The only question we can perceive before the committee on privileges and elections, is as to the force which religious prejudice is to have upon the eligibility of a Senator to the seat which he holds, by virtue of a free and fair election in the manner provided by the Constitution and laws of the United States,

We notice that the "special dispatch" wireworkers of this city to papers in the East, take particular pains to state that the "Mormon Church" does this, that and the other, in reference to the Senator's movements, the engagement of counsel to conduct his case, &c., &c., &c." Of course by the same rule the "Mormon Church" engages his sleeper, orders his meals, tells him when to go to bed and when to get up, and controls the conduct of all the states and territories surrounding Utah. We may not expect the lightning correspondents to care for the truth, but we think they might strive not to show that they are absolutely puerile and silly.

DRINK AND LIFE.

England has an insurance company that gives special rates to "teetotalers," on the ground that these are better risks than drinkers, or even moderate drinkers. The assertion that this is the case has been denied by some "experts," but the figures now published seem to justify the contention in behalf of total abstinence.

The actuary of the company has examined a number of "whole-life" assurers, the total being 29,000 abstainers and 32,000 non-abstainers. For nonabstainers the "expectation of life" b shown to be practically identical with that, at corresponding ages, as shown by the latest mortality tables based on the combined experience of the British life companies. For the abstainers, however, there is shown an expectation that is substantially 10 per cent better throughout the working years of life. As an illustration, at 30 the nonabstainers expectation is 35 years and these figures become 27 and 30. At 50 they are 20 and 22 respectively. The as-

the effort of statesmanship to confine the flames as much as possible.

A WORD OF DEFENSE.

The following letter in defense of the labor of Elders of the Church in the missionfield appears on the page devoted to religious subjects of the New York Evening Post of Dec. 26:

"THE GOOD THAT MORMONS DO.

To the Editor of the Evening Post: Sir-I am a man of simple faith in God, and my belief in religion is strong. Through your valuable columns I wish protest against the way the New York papers are attacking Mormonism. It may not be generally known, but it is a fact, that there is not now one Mormon in the East who has more than one wife, and, as I take it, the objection to the men who are trying to do good in spreading the latter-day doc-trines of Jesus Christ is built on the supposition that every Mormon in the East desires to have more than one wife. It is also said that the Mor-mons are seeking to invade the terri-tory where heretofore even angels should have feared to tread, namely, the stage, and to proselytize there. Well, I say, the Mormons could do more good at stage doors than wine merchants and counter jumpers. The average waiter at stage doors is not a man who earns his living by the sweat of his brow, and the Mormons are all hardworking men. If they can con-vert to the faith of their fathers some women of the stage, believe me, it would be productive of much good. I only hope to see the day when there is more religion and religious tracts in stead of corks and cigarette butts around the stage doors. This protest is not for the purpose of deriding those persons who earn a living as stage persons do, it is merely to see if your fair-minded editorial page cannot infurning of the public to believe that the Mormons are not devils blacker than they are painted, but God-fearing men, and who, if they do proselytize girls, do so in the girls' own good.

"JOHN CARRINGTON. "New York, December 23."

The reckless railroad is never wreck-1088.

A bird on the stove is worth two in the bush. It is easier to feed the hungry than

to drink the thirsty.

It's no use to say to Russia and Japan: "Love one another."

Cotton at fourteen cents is far from looking like thirty cents.

All is quiet on the Isthmus and things are going as smooth as Glass.

Nobody knows a good thing when he sees it like a child in a candy store.

Good day to you, Mayor Morris. A pleasant and successful administration to you! If it comes to a clash of arms, Russia

will find that they are not Japanned tin soldiers.

The outlook in this city is very dark and gloomy indeed, owing chiefly to fog and smoke. Russia wants the United States on

her side. The United States will be on the Pacific side. Boston continues to round up her tramps. Rounding out their careers for

them, as it were, "Panama can afford to be liberal."

Baltimore Sun.



READY

JACKETS



WEAR

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