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THE DESERET NEWS

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SALT LAKE CITY, OCT. 7, 1897.

CITIZENS, WAKE UP!

It is no wonder the world apologizes for corruption and cynicism is rapidly growing in our political "classics." "Influence in politics," and other machinations of the nation's leaders are at their lowest ebb. It is particularly true that it happens by keeping up the agitation to conceal the actual stains of the finances of the City, and its own part in bringing about bankruptcy. This is the tactics of the scoundrels that came into office in its own right's interests. It is the badge of the thief that comes to escape public attention by raising a hue and cry of his own. But it will avail no longer.

According to the figures published, when the present administration took charge of the City's finances, there was about \$100,000 in cash on hand. On September 20th this year there was an overplus against every fund—amounting to the tune of the money of the City—and the total overplus amounted to \$35,000. But this we are told does not represent the entire deficiency. Contractors have claims against the City that are due, and there are three more months of the year. The probability is, therefore, that the City will be about \$100,000 in the hole at the end of the year.

The taxes will cover only a part of this. Against the contingent fund, for instance, there is an overplus of \$20,000. The taxes available to cover this balance, supposing that every cent is collected, will amount to about \$10,000. By the end of the year this fund alone, if the present ruinous policy is not stopped, will be short about \$50,000.

Where has the money gone to? The value of the taxable property has increased several millions, and the tax rate has been raised two mills. The taxes collected together with the money on hand at the close of the previous administration, have been squandered. That is plain. But for whose benefit?

At sundry times the apologist for graft has told us dupes that there was \$100,000 to pay for a previous City government, and that the improvements cost tremendous sums. The fact is that the \$100,000 shortage story was proved to be a fake. And as for the improvements, the citizens have paid, or will pay, for the greater portion of them, by mortgaging special taxes. They have not absorbed the regular taxes to any great extent. Besides, in order to make a showing, it has been found necessary to claim improvements made and paid for years ago, for the present administration, which proves that the improvements for which the City ought to have credit are not half as extensive as the daily falsifiers would have us believe.

It is time for the citizens to wake up to the financial situation. We believe the necessary steps should now be taken to prevent a crowd that seems to be utterly incompetent from further squandering the people's money.

FAKE CLAIMS.

Repeated official declarations have been made by the anti-Mormon crew to the effect that this paper had in some way been guilty of "forgery" and had succeeded in tampering with the assessment records of this county; also that as a patriotic public servant, the Tribune had lied to the "News" and exposed the "swindles."

These accusations of the Tribune constitute a full and complete lie which to judges the value of that paper's anti-Mormon biasness. When the reiterated charge had reached by repetition and discussions rendering a point of intensity which might have led certain people to suppose it contained some truth, we took occasion to refute it utterly by the simple and direct course of publishing the assessment and tax records for both the Deseret News and its assistant. The record shows in brief, that the "News" pays more thousands of dollars to taxes than the Tribune pays unicorns, and that for the past four years the taxes paid by the two papers were approximately:

Taxes paid by Deseret News, \$21,000. Taxes paid by Tribune, \$1,000.

In the light of this record, what becomes of the injustice of the Tribune that the "News" does not pay its taxes, that the Tribune's patriotic public spirited does so, and that its duty, therefore, is to publish to the world that a Mormon newspaper "denies the nation," "insults American manhood," etc., by avoiding the payment of its just share of the public revenue?

We have never concerned ourselves with the individual or corporate affairs of our state-breeding contemporary nor do we propose to do so again further than may be necessary to repel its unprincipled attacks and to refute its more flagrant falsehoods. We have several times been told that the Tribune is a paper that is not incorporated, in this State. It is really a foreign corporation. Its property assets are valued at so little here that it would not be really conceivable to any citizen of this State in financial damages. Paper brought for its publications and given to the satisfaction of judge and jury, the slandered citizen might get judgment, but would not need it.

And this is the paper that gloats in publishing in the "World" in repeated editorial articles and under various headlined the false, ridiculous and defamatory charge that the Deseret News is in some criminal way

getting out of the payment of public taxes. We wonder that its readers do not see the reason. Impudent, its callous and unprincipled course of vilification of public and private institutions, the recent persistent course of attempted character assassination of men both in private and public life, and its constant new and inflammatory appeals to certain class interest against a people whose only real offense is that they discuss the advice of a few so regardless as that paper has shown itself to be, the recent course of that paper, we say, has apparently reached the lowest level of unprincipled villainy.

Officers of all parties would do well to inquire what extraordinary personal interests, what plots of private revenge by disappointed office-holders, what schemes of personal gain and what visions of public plunder would induce of this astounding and shameless exhibition of dishonesty and disloyalty journalism which the Tribune is daily displaying in its efforts to hold together the so-called "American Army." No filth is too coarse for me to mention for its adoption and publication, provided that it serves the present purpose of stirring up classes hatred and religious strife in the hope of thereby winning a city election.

The general public is well aware that false charges that are made with more or less vehemence just before an election, and then dropped as soon as the election is over, are really not worth anything as campaign stuff. Enough for the present.

THANK YOU!

We acknowledge the receipt of the following explanatory letter from Mr. George Promised, Adjutant of the Salvation Army:

Salt Lake City, Utah, Oct. 1, 1897.
Editor Deseret News:—We wish to thank you for the sympathetic article you have published regarding our work. We appreciate it very much. I was in charge of the work here during General Grant's visit to Salt Lake City, and won the opinion of the party that you are one of the best writers of the General's meetings in this country.

"May God bless you."
Faithfully yours,
GEORGE PLUMSTEAD,
Adjutant, Commanding Officer.

The "News" is always pleased to give a helping hand to any work that has for its object the elevation of mankind, and the alleviation of suffering, no matter what are the methods used, or the needs under which it is performed. We heartily accord to others the privileges we demand for ourselves.

STANDARD OF VALUES.

Some of our contemporaries, discussing the high prices of food prevailing all over the world, almost, express the opinion that the increase is directly at least, to the increasing volume of gold, which is now the international standard of measurement; and it is further hastened, it is argued, by the constantly increasing standard of living, coupled with increased population without corresponding increase in food production.

The Pueblo Chieftain thinks grain would be a better standard of value than gold, or any other metal. It says:

"The metallic basis of money is a futile and artificial one, as has been demonstrated by many economists of renown. If it were possible to base money upon some food unit, such as a bushel of wheat, beans, rice, etc., and would have a permanent and unvarying value, it would be a far better standard of value than any metal, the comparative value of which must depend upon its scarcity or plentiness as compared with the things that are the actual necessities of life. Some theorists have advocated a monetary system based upon multiple weights and measures, for instance, of bushel of wheat, a pound of cotton cloth, and have advocated a government issue of paper money based upon such unit, and wholly independent of any metallic coin."

The discussion of this topic lends new interest to the fact that a certain measure of barter was, according to the book of Mormon, the standard of value among the inhabitants of this continent at one time. By the enactments of Mosiah the various local standards of value of the Nephites were reduced to one common standard, gold and silver coins were made, and a measure of barley is especially mentioned as the unit of value on which the monetary system, or the value of the coins of the Nephites was based.

"One shekel was worth one measure of barley, and its multiples were, of course, multiples of this measure of barley, but we have no information as to what the contents of this measure may have been." Story of the Book of Mormon by George Bergman. Page 502.

AMERICAN SCULPTURE.

The situation that America has produced no sculptors, and that she is not holding her own in the plastic art, is evident in an broadside win in the New York mail, which states that a man can always find what he wants when he knows where to look for it. Then it says that the place to look for it, is the studio of the sculptor.

London Chronicle.

It is in day of great trials and high damages, but we suppose that in no court in the history of time has there ever been such a fine imposed as in the judgment given last Friday in the case of the \$10,000 on trust. A penalty of \$10,000 is more like a war indemnity than a penalty in a civil trial. It is true that Judge Landis inflicted the maximum fine, and that the counts in trial came to nearly fifteen hundred. When we also remember that if all the charges were proceeded with, the sentence would go up to something like \$17,000,000, we only stand and repeat the commonplaces about Americans doing things on a fine scale, from earthquakes down.

With a series of trials like this state might save its revenue and knock off taxation. It might even do off-set pensions out of the iniquities of its trusts.

same window advertising the same articles.

The conclusion to be arrived at is that art should be recognized, wherever it declares itself, particularly when it has such uniformly cheerful manifestations.

When limited trains collide there seems to be no limit to the casualties.

All the nation's inexhaustible resources may be exhausted but its "hot air" never.

Edward Rosland is to be operated on. Leo George Bernard Shaw goes and goes.

Nation ranks symphony concerts and belted bands as among the absolute novelties of life.

Back to the farm and nature—the horses and agricultural products exhibited at the fair.

And now the President has taken to the hills of Louisiana and the bears will take to the woods.

Heavy, heavy hangs over your head, life or superlative? "Fine," answers the trout magnate every time.

If it is as evil to give a bribe as to take one, why shouldn't it be as evil to drink a cocktail as to give one?

Stanley T. C. Platt says that he never married Miss C. Wood. And the son only knows what he is talking about.

The Real Issue.

Little White—Say, pa, what is the issue of the day?
Pa—The daily papers, my son.

Wouldn't Risk It.

Kind Lady—Would you work if given a chance?

The Hobo—No, ma'am. I ain't takin' no chances.—Chicago Daily News.

I suppose you go to the city at least once a year, and when the summer boarder, I used to," replied the old farmer, "but I don't hear that for nigh onto three years now. Since we got rural free delivery I kin get banked just as well by mail. D'goth!"—Chicago Daily News.

An Infallible Symptom.

First Student—Whoo! whoo! you know that our father, poor chap, would go mad?

The Second—Sure; on the twenty-eighth of last month he wanted some money from me.—Translated for Atlantic Tales from "Meggenhofer Blätter."

Theater.

OPEN MORNING, 10 to 12, for beginners.

AFTERNOON, 2 to 5, ladies admitted free.

EVENINGS, 7:30 to 10:30, General admission 15 cents.

We reserve the right to refuse admission to any, whomsoever.

RICHARD ST. ROLLIER HINE.

New open, new floor, new skates, wood-work all newly painted, presenting the appearance of a brand new building.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Pau-puk-kewee, the Mischief Maker, is the central figure of the two-color cover of the October American Boy. The October American Boy is full of matter of interest to all. There appears the first installment of a new serial pronounced by the Editor to be the best sea story published in recent years, entitled "The Jolly Pirates" by Dr. Orville Ward Owen. The first chapter of another new serial, "A Boy of the Reservation," by Arthur J. Burdick, also appears. Further chapters of "Off the Reservation," by Edward S. Ellis, and "The Boy and the Beast," by J. T. Trowbridge, and short stories entitled "The Shop Brimble Saves a Washing," "A Narrow Escape," "Two Schoolboys," and "A Girl She Rocks." Job of Mickey, makes a lot of good story matter. Special articles include "The Fight for Peace," General Grant's Love for Horses, "The Florida Alligator," "The Life of the Harvest Fly," "The Sacred Bronze Bull," and "India Rubber Roots." There are many short articles, and pages filled with matter of interest to boy hobbyists along the lines of athletics, stamp, coin and curio collecting, photography, mechanics, and electricity, puzzles, etc.—Sprague Pub. Co., Detroit, Mich.

A Boston paper has been sued a thousand dollars for publishing a headline and article that influenced an important criminal trial. The fine is a small tribute to the power of the press if not to discretion.

Now it is the turn of the battleship Alabama to have to quit tarts practise and to be towed to the Brooklyn navy-yard with a disabled engine. Where will all Uncle Sam's battleships go for repairs on the Pacific coast if this sort of thing keeps up? asks the New York World. Mare Island and Bremerton.

A bequest of a million dollars has been made to Swarthmore college on condition that the management abandon all participation in intercollegiate sports and games. It should not be difficult to comply with the bequest and still participate in intercollegiate athletic contests. Just designate them as muscular Christianity exercises.

Ukah's distinction in being the only state left without a warship named after her may not be appreciated in that Commonwealth. North Dakota seems to have been preferred as the name of the latest 20,000-ton battleship, but Utah will undoubtedly get herself associated with a much bigger one in the near future, says the Tribune.

Uncle Sam's battleship is especially mentioned as the unit of value on which the monetary system, or the value of the coins of the Nephites was based.

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THE GREAT FINE AN ENGLISH VIEW.

London Chronicle.

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With a series of trials like this state might save its revenue and knock off taxation. It might even do off-set pensions out of the iniquities of its trusts.

ROBERT BROWN.

Secretary of State Root is visiting Mexico City and is being received with open arms by the Mexicans. There are some doubt about the degree of participation in which Americans are held in other Latin-American communities but there is no longer any question our country is making the most of the situation and the Mexican government is the strongest of the United States. Among the causes there is still a trace of resentment due to the memory of war with the United States, but that is being rapidly effaced by observation of the fact that American enterprise is definitely held on much to the disadvantage of Mexico. It is to be noted that the Mexican government is doing a great deal to improve the condition of the country for our own benefit. It does not exhibit itself. On the contrary, there is a constant exhibition of cordial appreciation of the assistance we are rendering and recognition of the progress it has given. Mexican progress is to be contrasted with Latin America. In South America, there would be a difference, but in Europe, the United States is in a position to help.

Anyhow that eye will have

recognition great improvement has been brought to the plastic art.

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DO YOU KNOW?

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