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DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
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ENCOURAGING REPORTS.

The statement made by Professor
Swenson to State Engineer Doremus
in relation to the Utah Lake reservoir
proposition, is very encouraging. The
examinations under his direction, it ap-
pears, have demonstrated the feasibility
of the project, and he will soon render
an official report thereof to Chief En-
gineer Newell. This will contain details
as to the conditions existing, plans for
the work to be done, and estimates as
to the cost of the undertaking. We un-
derstand that the Professor is favorable
to the project, and will make recom-
mendations accordingly; also that Chief
Engineer Newell entertains views in
the same direction.It is well known that Mr. Doremus,
who is chairman of the Arid Land Re-
clamation Fund commission, appointed
by the Governor, and is also the State
Engineer, is strongly of the opinion that
the Utah Lake scheme is not only
feasible, but the best plan in view for
securing to this city and county an
adequate water supply. Therefore it is
sure that he is pleased with the ac-
count given by Prof. Swenson of his
official inspection and examination.The only thing that we know of that
now stands in the way of securing the
financial aid required from the govern-
ment, is an agreement among the water
users in this county, whether as indi-
viduals or companies, as to their re-
spective claims and responsibilities. It
is of no use to appeal for any portion
of the funds to be devoted to arid and
semi-arid land reclamation, until the
prospective and actual users of the wa-
ter have come to "a unity of the faith"
and a concert of action. "Candid con-
sideration of the matter is therefore
pressing and important.Definite proceedings cannot be had,
of course, until the official report is
presented and made public. Then the
project with its propositions, estimates
and benefits will be fully set forth,
and all parties concerned will be able
to weigh them, and learn what is in-
volved in entering upon a debt to the
government which will have to be paid
according to contract. The terms will
be fully explained, and some conclu-
sion ought then to be reached which
will be of general as well as individual
good.Here is where we wish to offer a word
of advice. It is that the people of
this county proceed in a patriotic and
fraternal spirit. We would not ask
anyone to relinquish a single right, or
forfeit any acquired privilege, or plunge
into any obligation without a full
equivalent. But we do ask and expect
that people who have come here to
build up the country and make it a
pleasant habitation for all who dwell
in this favored region, will have regard
to the desires and necessities of their
neighbors and associates, and come to-
gether in harmony for mutual benefit
and the general welfare. "And who is
my neighbor?" Let the answer
come from every one's own heart and
conscience.

SPEAKING OF FAMINE.

Dr. Ira Remsen, president of John
Hopkins University, recently stated, in
an address before a scientific association,
that we may look forward to a time
when this earth contains more people
than it can produce food for, unless
more scientific methods than those now
prevailing are employed. His idea is
that the time is coming when, for
lack of proper fertilizers, the earth
will not be able to yield even as much
as it does now, while its population
will be enormously greater. He de-
clared that the best opinion is that the
saltpetre beds will be exhausted in
thirty or forty years. The only substi-
tute yet proposed is that a supply
of nitrogen can be obtained from the
atmosphere. But it is rather disap-
pointing to learn that, thus far, chemists
have not been able to make, except in
very small quantity, substances useful
as food, and that there is absolutely no
prospect that they will be able to do so
within a reasonable time.It is safe to say, though, that it is
not necessary to worry about that con-tingency. The Supreme Power that
launched the earth upon its course
through space, and placed man upon it,
to complete his career here, made no
mistake as to the calculations regard-
ing the necessary food supply. In other
words, it will be found that the ele-
ments needed for the sustaining of life
are more than sufficient for the time
life on earth is to last. The Captain of
the universe has not embarked without
ample provisions.A "scientist" on board an ocean ves-
sel, if he knew exactly the contents of
the storerooms, and the number of pas-
sengers, might calculate with exactness
the day when the provisions would give
out, but no such calculations would
annoy the passengers, for they would
know that long before that day they
would be in the harbor on the other side
of the ocean.There is less cause for fear as to the
shortness of provisions in God's crafts
that sail in space. The journey will not
be ended because of miscalculations as
to the provisions. Everything is fore-
seen, everything is provided for.

THE PANAMA MESSAGE.

The President shows positively, in
his message to Congress on the Pan-
ama question, that the attitude of this
government during the isthmian crisis
was perfectly correct. He denies the
several insinuations that the revolution
was effected by the aid of any one con-
nected with our government, or that
anyone in Washington had guilty
knowledge of what was going to hap-
pen. He also points out that but for
the attitude of this government, blood-
shed would have ensued and much
property would have been destroyed. The
President declares:"By the unanimous action of its peo-
ple, without the firing of a shot—and
a unanimity hardly before recorded in
any similar case—the people of Panama
declared themselves an independent
republic. Their recognition by this gov-
ernment was based upon a state of
facts in no way dependent for its jus-
tification upon our action in ordinary
cases. I have not denied, nor do I wish
to deny, either the validity or the prop-
riety of the general rule that a new
state should not be recognized as in-
dependent until it has shown its ability
to maintain its independence. This
rule is derived from the principle of
non-intervention, and as a corollary of
that principle has generally been ob-
served by the United States. But, like
the principle from which it is de-
duced, the rule is subject to exceptions,
and there are in my opinion clear and
imperative reasons why a departure
from it was justified and even re-
quired in the present instance. These
reasons embrace, first, our treaty
rights; second, our national interests
and safety, and third, the interests of
collective civilization."The critics of the government have
been guilty of several mistakes. They
have assumed that "we" took Panama
away from Colombia! that "we" pre-
vented the republic from putting down
the rebellion; that "we" established the
new republic, etc., all of which is
shown to be the flimsiest fiction. All
this country did was to notify the two
parties to the dispute that neither of
them could carry on military opera-
tions along the strip of land traversed
by the railroad. The United States
had but a single gunboat at Colon, and
the commander of this vessel did not
intervene in the slightest way to pre-
vent the landing of the Colombian force
that had been sent to the scene of
trouble. But, when the Panama gov-
ernment had been set up, and the
Colombian commander had notified the
commander of the United States vessel
that he should insist upon his assumed
right to carry on military operations on
the line of the railway, it became nec-
essary to intervene under our treaty
obligation to keep traffic open. When
this had been done, the commander
of the Colombian troops yielded to the
inducements of the merchants of Colon
to sail for Cartagena, leaving no local
authority on the Isthmus except that
of the Republic of Panama. For fair
criticism, facts should be considered,
and not fiction.

ABOUT LEAP YEAR.

Of course everybody knows why "leap
year" came to be necessary in our
measurement of time. It was not al-
ways so. The earliest astronomers of
our history counted an even 365 days
in a year, and let it go at that. But
the consequence was that they lost
about a day in every four years, or
nearly a month in a century. Con-
fusion ensued. Autum came in the
summer. To correct this, Julius
Cæsar consulted an Egyptian sage, who
advised him to add a day to every
fourth year. He also added 80 days to
the year in which the calendar was
changed, in order to restore the spring
equinox to its proper date. As time
passed however, it was found that the
Julian calendar was imperfect, too,
for a year is not exactly 365 days and
6 hours, but 365 days, 5 hours, 48 min-
utes and 46 seconds. The Julian year
was, therefore, a fraction of an hour too
long, and by the year 1582 it was found
that the spring equinox had receded
from March 25, where Julius Cæsar had
put it, to March 11. Fourteen days had
been added. Pope Gregory XIII then
undertook a second reformation by
suppressing ten days. Since it was
known that the error in the Julian ca-
lendar amounted to three days in 400
years, the Pope ordered the extra day
of February to be omitted from all
centenary years excepting those that
are multiples of 400. Thus 1600 was a
leap year, but 1700, 1800 and 1900 were
not. England adopted the Gregorian
calendar in 1752, but it has not yet been
adopted in Russia. In that empire the
last three centenary years have been re-
garded as leap years. Hence the origi-
nal ten days' divergence between the
old style and the new has now in-
creased to thirteen. It is not to be
supposed that the Gregorian civil year
is exactly coincident with the solar
year. It is about 26 seconds too long.
But it is near enough to cause no in-
convenience.

WARNED OF MASSACRE.

Rumor has it that another Kishineff
massacre of Jews is planned, to take
place on the seventh of this month.
The rumor comes from Russia, in a
dispatch that is said to have been
carried by a messenger 700 miles acrossthe Russian border, to a village in
Austria. The purport of the message
is to call the attention of the powers
to the danger in which the Jews again
are, and to induce them to enter ef-
fective protests in time.Russian fanatics are perfectly cap-
able of committing another outrage
upon the hated race. The seventh of
January is Christmas day in belated
Russia, and it is possible that the plan
is to celebrate the birth of the Savior,
by sacrificing some of the people who,
in the estimate of ignorant fanatics,
are responsible for the crucifixion. In
order to accomplish the sinister pur-
pose, agitators are said to be at work,
distributing inflammatory circulars no
less effective because they are made
up of vile falsehoods. Thus, circulars
are being distributed picturing "three
Jews holding a Christian girl dressed
in Russian costume. A fourth Jew is
in the act of cutting her throat, while
an old woman of the hated race holds
a vessel to catch the blood." What
this picture presents, the Russian peas-
ant firmly believes, that human sacri-
fice—the murder of Christian children
—is a part of the Jewish ritual. So long
has the falsehood been circulated; so
often has it been repeated that it is
firmly believed. The tactics of the
Jew-baiters in Russia are not different
from the tactics of bigots in every
country, our own not excluded.The Russian government does not, of
course, believe these absurd stories. But
it does fear the growth of the Jewish
religion and of the revolutionary spirit.
In a country where the emperor is also
pope, it is natural that the growth of
any religion other than the orthodox
should be anxiously watched. For that
reason it looks with calm upon atrocities
that strike the rest of the world
with horror. It adopts restrictive laws
against the Jews, and tells friendly
neighbors that this is done for their
protection.There is no relief possible to the Jews
in Russia. There they will always be
"captive" slaves. In Zionism is their
hope. And probably the fanaticism of
their captors will persuade themselves
and the world at large of this truth.
Protests are of no avail. However,
if this massacre occurs, as scheduled,
it takes place after the world, the Rus-
sian government included, has received
warning of its coming. If no measures
are adopted for its prevention, it can-
not escape the burden of responsibility.

All is not cold that glitters.

The snow is of a very fine quality.

What it lacks is quantity.

The cold weather makes pooled wa-
ter a little more seasonable.It takes very little snow to make the
sleigh bells jingle merrily.General Wright will be expected to
write his name large in Philippine his-
tory.Perhaps Russia and Japan are wait-
ing until the war correspondents ar-
rive.If the Mikado is as reasonable as the
Czar pretends to be conciliatory, there
will be no war.New York market reports quote eggs
"strong." It can readily be believed
at this season of the year.The atmosphere of our town makes it
certain that there must be some fire
where there is so much smoke.If Diogenes lived in these days he
would probably be hunting for a rich
man rather than an honest one.The theaters of the country seem to
be so unsafe that it may be necessary
to introduce the Greek open theater."Senator Shaw's plan is thought to be
incapable of execution," says a
Boston paper. If this is so, then it
kills it.During the last year 31,165 patents
were issued in Washington. This
makes it patent that we are a nation
of inventors.It looks as though the Board of Edu-
cation intended to add nepotism to the
school curriculum. Don't. The people
do not want it.Taylor will lead the anti-Smoother
craze. He doubtless belongs to the rail-
road of Tooley street family, who posed
as "we, the people."Consul Heenan says the Kishineff
Jews are more scared than hurt. Pos-
sibly, but they were pretty well hurt,
if death and torture be hurt.Mr. Bryan has been writing on
"farming." He may supplement this
article, when he returns, by one on
"Great men who have met me."Congressman Dixon of Montana
would wire fence the Canadian border
so as to keep out Chinese. If his idea
goes, it will employ all his spare time
to keep his "fences" in repair.When the keen poignancy of sorrow
over the Iroquois theater fire shall
have been somewhat dulled, the per-
formers who were on the ill-fated stage
will almost surely utilize their experi-
ence for advertising purposes.It is hard to see just why an inves-
tigation into the cause of the Iroquois
theater fire horror should be made by
union labor organizations. They are no
more interested than the general pub-
lic. But if such an investigation can
throw any light on the subject, it will
be welcome."The New York World rather thinks
it has got indubitable evidence that
the control of the United States Steel
corporation has passed from the Mor-
gan group to the Rockefeller combina-
tion. Perhaps. But what's the differ-
ence?" says the Boston Herald. That
of a name merely, and there is authori-
ty for saying that a rose under any
other name would smell as sweet.The Logan Republican issued a very
handsome new year's edition on Jan-uary 1, which not only presents a fine
typographical appearance, but contains
much information of value and inter-
est. The cuts are finely executed, the
cover is neat and pretty and the whole
number exhibits talent and enterprise.
Northern Utah particularly should
prize the publishers of the Logan Re-
publican. It is the best publication
ever sent forth from Logan city.The Los Angeles Times midwinter
number, published on New Year's day,
contains 100 pages, 50 of which are in
magazine form and set forth the pro-
duces, enterprises and prospects of the
Golden State in splendid style. The il-
lustrations are particularly good. And
the portraits, which are legion, are clear
and distinct and, in newspaper por-
trance, are too numerous to mention in
detail. The City of the Angels is not
behind any part of the country in its
live, up-to-date and progressive public
journals. The Times looms up among
them in strength and beauty and fairly
earns its prominence and extensive cir-
culation. We wish its publishers and
editors continued influence and pros-
perity and also a happy new year.

THE NEW YEAR.

Kansas City World.

The harvest of every year is about the
same. There are some tares in every
sheaf of wheat, some dregs of bitter-
ness in every cup of joy. While some
can smile with a complacent sense of
achievement there are others who must
contemplate in tears their "harvest of
barren regrets." At the close of the
annual struggle humanity may be di-
vided into two classes, the victors and
the vanquished. In the same never-
ending procession are those who have
been crowned with the bay leaves of
success and the sad, the weary and the
empty handed.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Chicago horror closes the old
year with its most appalling disaster.
The fires in the Brooklyn theater, the
King theater in Vienna, the Opera Co-
mique and the charities bazar in Paris,
and in the Victoria theater in Sunder-
land are already remote and are
dwarfed by comparison with this. Af-
ter each of these disasters the demand
went up that theaters be so constructed
as to render such ghastly calamities
impossible. It will be heard again in
vastly increased volume, and this time
the warning must not go unheeded.

Pueblo Chieftain.

Every human being makes good resolu-
tions, and every human being breaks
them. The promise of reform made to
one's self or to some one else that
stands the strain and results in a per-
manent benefit, character is the ex-
ception and not the rule.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

Taken as a whole, the new year com-
mercially opens favorably. Holiday
trade has been large, and the merchants
have got rid of their seasonable winter
goods. Last year November and De-
cember were so warm that commercial
firms were weighted down with old
stocks, but fortunately that is not the
case this year, a circumstance which
gives assurance that the retail mer-
chants can pay the wholesale mer-
chants. The year closes with a much
easier money market than was pre-
dicted ninety days ago. In truth, rates
have been recently falling. Everybody
is becoming cautious in extending busi-
ness, and that is a bulwark of unques-
tioned safety. Collections are more en-
couraging than they were sixty days
ago, and therefore the general outlook
is better.

Worcester Spy.

The United States is big enough to
withstand a few mistakes. It is big
enough to reorganize its business in-
terests, if necessary. What we all
want to see established, first of all is a
condition that provides a job for every-
body. It is quite right and proper
afterward that we make an effort to
increase production so that the wages
of every man who has a job shall grow
larger and larger. The great enemy of
good wages is idleness.

Baltimore Sun.

The new year will be one of great po-
litical excitement and activity, and
Congress will have its hands full in
dealing with questions of tariff with
the United States of Colombia, with the
new republic of Panama and with the
construction of the isthmian canal, and
during a good part of the year the
country will be in the throes of a pre-
sidential campaign, at a period most cri-
tical in our history.

Collier's Weekly.

In foreign politics we have had our
usual luck, a convenient incident prob-
ably bringing nearer the isthmian canal,
the Alaskan award being in our
favor, and the European world contin-
uing its attentions to the newly popular
Colombia. We have ceased to
friction the industrial world abroad as
much as we did a year ago, and talk
of a European coalition abroad against
us has subsided, but we are still as high
on top of the tidal wave of prosperity,
and good luck, and there is no sign
ahead of darker fortune.

MUSIC TEACHERS.

All who desire to consult the list of
the representative professors and
music teachers of Salt Lake should
read the "Musicians' Directory"
in the Saturday "News."

GRAND THEATRE

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PRICES: Night—25c, 50c, 75c, 1.00.
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'Tis the season for sweaters—that will keep one warm. Sweaters are in big demand this winter. Being
fashionable they have cut a big figure with coats—supplanting them. Silk sleeved sweaters at half price, at
the time they are needed. We have them for boys, girls and ladies—is a stylish and economical investment, as
they go well with long skirt suits.

Boys and Girls.

88c for 43c.

\$1.00 for 50c.

\$1.50 for 75c.

\$2.00 for \$1.00.

\$2.50 for \$1.25.

..HALF..
OFF

Ladies.

\$1.75 for 98c.

\$2.50 for \$1.25.

\$3.80 for \$1.75.

\$5.00 for \$2.50.

\$7.50 for \$3.75.

\$10.00 for \$5.00.

Four days until the linen sale
closes.The special sale in women's re-
ady-to-wear garments continues.

The big shoe sale continues.

SWISS SCARFS AND SQUARES to match with a row of Battenburg insertion and lace on each, are
specials as follows: Scarfs, 60 cent value for 40 cents; squares, 80 cents a pair.BURNED LEATHER TABLE COVERS AND CENTER PIECES AT HALF PRICES; \$4.00 for \$2.00; \$1.50
for 75c; \$6.50 for \$3.25.

Tea is served at 10 cents a cup.

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section.

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The modern store, moderate prices for everybody.

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you may then depend upon it
that they will be filled correctly
and that you will not be over-
charged.

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