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SALT LAKE CITY, JUNE 12, 1900.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

Salt Lake City is confronted with a serious situation. Its population is rapidly increasing, but its water supply remains inadequate even for present actual necessities. Every succeeding year this lack becomes more forcibly emphasized. Every new house that is built requires a new water connection. Every new lawn that is made cries out for additional sprinkling. As the residence districts extend and push out to municipal limits, there is a further demand for the essential liquid.

In some parts of the city the supply is comparatively plentiful, except in late summer when economy has to be enforced everywhere, but in others there is a great scarcity, and even now the pressure there is so light, that in case of fire there would be great danger even if the full strength of a stream could be utilized. The extension of street sprinkling, too, creates a larger requirement and more water is an absolute need. What is to be done to meet the imperative demand?

Improvements are needed in our present waterworks; a reservoir has been commenced near the east bench; plans have been entered into for better service in parts that are suffering; the increase of facilities in City Creek and Parley's canyon have been arranged for; but these are only means for present relief, the needs of the future are also staring us in the face.

Money must be raised by some means to pay for the work already laid out. How is it to be obtained? There are only two methods suggested: one is to issue bonds for the purpose, the other is to impose a heavy special tax. Which will the people of Salt Lake City choose? It is proposed to submit the bonding question to the citizens. That will probably be the next thing the taxpayers will have to decide. The majority of the city authorities are, no doubt, in favor of the proposition, and the people will be asked to pass upon it.

There is a well grounded prejudice against further bonding. The interest goes on as certainly as time flies. The debt once contracted remains a weight upon the body politic which nothing but payment can remove. We are already in debt almost up to the chin. It will not take very much more to overwhelm us. New bonds cannot legally be issued except for water purposes, and they only by popular consent. If the vote is in their favor present actual necessities may be relieved, and with the increase of population may come the increase of public revenue sufficient for future responsibilities.

Suppose the taxpayers vote against the issue of bonds. What will come next? It will be a special water tax of perhaps five mills, to be added to the regular road and cause a general outburst of indignation, with the probable forfeiture of many small homes for failure to pay the enlarged sum required. This would certainly work very great hardship on many poor people and occasion widespread dissatisfaction.

The people of Salt Lake, however, will have to face the situation and decide whether they will have the bonds or the tax. We see no way of getting around the difficulty. Much of the work to be done is contracted for. It is an urgent necessity. It is no fancy scheme. We may as well look at the matter from a common sense standpoint, and out of two evils—if it be conceded that the bonding and heavy taxes are both evils—come to a wise conclusion and choose the least; one of them appears to be inevitable.

In our opinion, the urgency of the conditions and the necessity of action in relation to them will force themselves upon the attention of the taxpayers, and the result will be the acceptance of the bonding proposition. It is the easier of the two methods of raising the money required, and it leaves the coming generation and the people who will in future share the benefits that will arise, to help pay for the improvements that must be made. Let every citizen of Salt Lake think the matter over carefully, and then act as wisdom shall direct.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The trustees of the Agricultural College have made a wise choice, in selecting Professor W. J. Kerr to be President of that institution. His long experience as an educator, and the work he has done at the head of the Brigham Young College at Logan, have amply fitted him for the task before him and prepared him for further responsibilities.

It is pleasing to know that a Utah man occupies the place of President in this Utah establishment. It is supported by national funds, but we may justly regard it as one of the great institutions of the State. We hope it will continue to sustain the high reputation it has already achieved, and we have no doubt that this will be accomplished.

The choice of Professor John A.

Widmore for director, who was also named for the presidency, we believe will prove to be beneficial to the institution. He is a thoroughly trained educator and a man of excellent character, and he will render efficient aid in the conduct of college affairs. The prospects for the college are of the best, and we look for its advancement to a very high standing among the educational establishments of the country.

THE RACE PROBLEM.

Word comes from Philadelphia to the effect that steps are contemplated looking toward the formation of a national negro party, with the object of putting a colored candidate in the field for presidential candidate. The manipulators of the political machinery of the country anticipate a great deal of trouble, should the plan mature and take tangible form.

Even the friends of equal rights and justice to all men predict danger in this movement. The formation of such a party would mean the aggravation of conditions already bad. What is needed is oil on the troubled waters, not something to intensify the storm and to incur the fury of the roaring waves.

Booker Washington has several times pointed out that the salvation of the negro race is in its elevation through industrial education. Not long ago he said in an address before the Bethel Historical and Literary association at Washington, among other things:

"The foundation of citizenship, it seems to me, rests upon the intrinsic worth of each individual or group of individuals. No law can push the individual forward when he is worthless, no law can hold him back when he is worthy. The worthy may be inconvenienced, but never defeated. My own belief is that the time will come when the negro in this country will secure all the recognition which his merits entitle him to as a man and a citizen, but such recognition will come through no process of artificial forcing, but through the natural law of evolution. In a word, we have got to pay the price for everything that the negro shall have, not by second or third-rate imitation of someone else. If we are poor, let us be poor, and not attempt in our poverty to imitate the rich and thus hold ourselves up to the ridicule of the world."

To the question whether he would limit or circumscribe the mental development of the negro boy, he replied:

"Emphatically I answer with a hundred 'Noes.' I would encourage the negro to secure all the mental strength, all the mental culture, whether gleaned from science, mathematics, history, language or literature, that his pocket-book and circumstances will enable him to pay for, but I repeat with all the emphasis of my soul, that the negro's education should be so directed and controlled for years to come that the greatest proportion of the mental strength of the masses will be brought to bear upon the every-day practical affairs of life, upon something that is needed to be done, and something that they are permitted to do in the community where they reside. On this industrial foundation will grow habits of thrift, the love of work, economy, ownership in property, a bank account. Out of it in future generations will grow classical education, professional education, positions of public responsibility. Out of it will grow moral and religious strength. Out of it will grow that wealth which brings leisure and with it opportunity for the enjoyment of literature and the fine arts."

Booker T. Washington is recognized as the most advanced of the colored race, and it would seem the people he so ably represents should heed his admonitions and profit by his advice. And if the negro will earnestly endeavor to do so, he will succeed in gaining the respect and influence to which knowledge and accomplishments entitle their possessors.

The white people of this country should never forget that the negro came here much against his own will. A generation that is past is responsible for his presence here. It is no use ignoring the fact of responsibility. It should be the sacred duty of the present to right the wrong of the past, and to do so in the only way possible by according justice to all parties concerned.

THE NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

It would probably be a mistake to suppose that the latest aggressive movement of the Boers in the Orange Free State, indicates a turn of the tide in the war in South Africa. There are now more British soldiers in the field than there are Boers in the two republics capable of bearing arms, including both men and women, and Great Britain is in a position to send more soldiers still into the invaded territory.

But this is not all. The Boers have lost their main source of revenue, and when their treasury is exhausted, the war must stop, while the British have practically unlimited resources. It may be possible for Boer forces to cut railway communications, and for a short time harass the British army, but small and scattered as are their little bands, they cannot harm the forces under the command of Lord Roberts. To all outward appearances, the war in South Africa has come to a point where negotiations for peace would seem to be President Kruger's best resort.

Under the circumstances the question what will become of the Boers is timely. Their independence is declared forfeited. Will they undertake another trek, or will they submit to British rule? or will they, as has been suggested to them, leave African soil and establish themselves under the Stars and Stripes?

A business man of Baltimore suggests that \$25,000 be raised for the purpose of organizing Boer colonies in Maryland. The Baltimore American considers the plan seriously and remarks that the Afrikaners are principally stock raisers, who have been used to ranches of great extent. They are not farmers in the same sense as their Dutch ancestors, but they could learn to make a small, but productive area, a source of wealth to them.

It seems the Americans are offering the Boers aid and sympathy in the only way they can do so without violating the requirements of neutrality. They are offering them inducements for new homes, new settlements. But the probability is that such offers will not be considered. Some Boers may find

their way to this country, but the bulk of them will remain on their native soil, and they will submit to the new conditions, as their friends in Natal and Cape Colony have done.

The failure of these to rise at the outbreak of hostilities, proves that British sovereignty is not so objectionable to the Dutch race as it may be to some individuals. When the war is over there will be no difficulty in the further arrangements of the South African tangle. The United States will be open to those Boers who may desire to come here, but no organized effort in this country will be called for, to bring them over here. The emigration agents will do all that is needed, and probably all that is desirable, in this direction.

HERE PLENTY, THERE FAMINE.

The Kansas City Star says Kansas and Oklahoma have begun to gather the finest wheat crop that was ever harvested on a large area in this country. The same may be said of southern Nebraska. This wheat area will yield, it is estimated, 125 million bushels this year—enough to feed one-third of the entire population of the United States for one year.

The Star remarks that if all the rest of the country had been as productive as Kansas and Oklahoma this year wheat would sell at such a low price as to make the crop unprofitable. But in the entire area east of the Mississippi river the crop is short. In some sections it is practically a failure. And a prolonged drought in the Northwest threatens to greatly curtail the yield of spring wheat. The Kansas territory, therefore, is the only part of the country, except the Pacific States, that has a large crop, and this means that the wheat of Kansas, Oklahoma and southern Nebraska will command good prices. It is possible that the wheat crop of the Kansas region will yield upwards of 100 million dollars to its producers.

Naturally, the prosperity in this country at the present time, invites a comparison with the destitution of some other sections of the globe, notably India. That country is under British rule, but its resources have not developed in equal ratio to the increase of the population. There sixty million human beings are threatened with famine. Thousands are dying every day. The heavens are as brass and the earth as a parchment. Eyewitnesses say the birds are dropping lifeless from the burning sky, and the beasts of the field, lie down to die by the side. Men, women and children fall dead, mere skeletons, for lack of food and water. And it is believed the distress has not yet reached its climax.

Great Britain is doing much to relieve the distress, but when a population almost as large as that of the United States is threatened with annihilation, the situation calls for the exercise of the united philanthropic efforts of the civilized world.

THE JUNE BRIDE.

Dr. Hillis, the young preacher who has attracted much attention since he was called to fill the pulpit of the Plymouth church, Brooklyn, has again sent out a "winged word" that has been caught up by the press of the country. This time he has directed his criticism against the "June Bride." He has evidently subjected that lovely vision to a closer scrutiny, and found that the woman "burdened under a donkey load of tulle, is simply an incident to the marriage ceremony."

He contrasts the June bride of today with the charming Greek maiden of ancient times, who charmingly cast over her shoulders a white garment, and fastened a rose to her swelling bosom, and then was ready for the ceremony. Then, he says, the woman was the feature; now it is the dress.

Dr. Hillis deserves credit for courage in thus drawing the sword against prevailing fashion. But alas! he might as well engage in a wordy duel with the rising tide. Women naturally like to be admired, and who can dispute their right to establish such a desire? And if they find that the entire community falls down and worships a "donkey load of tulle" and glittering nothings, why should the June bride be rebuked for appearing thus arrayed, if she has the money to spend on it?

If the editors of social columns would pay more attention to the accomplishments of the woman, it would not take long before she would pride herself more on her intellect and moral qualities than on her tulle and ribbons. The June bride is, as society seems to love her, and the criticism of the pulpit would better turn against the social emptiness which makes the vision that annoys it, possible.

The wheat market keeps up-on the stock exchange. But the crop is not so heavy as to foreshadow any lower price locally than at the present time.

Ashantiand is a warm place just now for the British soldiery, but the savage tribes will be beaten into submission as they have been before.

\$1,000,000,000 in warships is promised as an outlay for the United States, the nation whose influence and profession is most for peace of any nation now in existence.

Gen. Buller has given further evidence that he is not opposed by a Joubert. He is permitted to record a victory over the Boers by Gen. Hildyard, of Colenso fame.

The Yaquis and Mexicans now appear to be about a "standoff" in the Bacatelle mountains. But the Mexicans, having the greatest backing, can wear out the Indians in time.

The gentleman who goes to Grand county to see the Robbers' Roost country is wise in viewing it from a safe distance, since the Roost is located in the east end of Wayne county.

The Governor of Missouri places the blame for the tumult in St. Louis on the city officials and the newspapers. If what he says is true, the country will not wonder at Missouri's disgrace.

The bicyclist "scorcher" still goes scot free. He also dispenses with the expense of oil for his lamp at night.

Yet the city ordinance makes both of these wrongs punishable by fine.

The situation of Americans in China is no better. Another cruiser has been called for, this time by Consul Martin, at Chinkiang. The United States may be fortunate in having a large naval force in the Philippines.

It doesn't seem probable that the Boers have captured Lord Methuen and his army, but the official dispatch from Capetown, that there had been no communication from Methuen since Thursday, June 7th, is ominous of further bad tidings for the British.

The Chinese emperor wants an international protectorate over his country. Almost anything would be better for him than the rule of the ambitious woman who now dominates China's policy and keeps the boy emperor a prisoner for her own schemes.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean won a victory over the Associated Press, and does not propose to be deprived of its victory if it can help it, hence it is seeking to prevent the creation of a new Associated Press, this one being under the laws of New York instead of under the laws of Illinois.

Gen. Otis says that, as the youthful Filipinos learn quickly, the solution to the Philippines question is the education of the people in American ideas. If success is not attainable by that means, then there is no other easily available, since the strength of a Republic, in all its parts, is in the people being educated to maintain its principles.

In view of the statement about the Chinese in San Francisco raising \$10,000 to have the quarantine against alleged bubonic plague removed, the action of the board of health there in deciding to raise the quarantine June 22, "if there is no new case," can easily lead to the suspicion that the promise to pay over the ten thousand matures somewhere near the date named.

Since the British loss this week of more than a thousand prisoners, the field of rumor has opened again at Lourenço Marques, and it is reported from there that 13,000 Boers are marching on Johannesburg. The history of the war has shown that the burghers know something worth a good deal more than hurling themselves against well fortified positions where the British would have them completely in their power. The Boers are not likely to attack Johannesburg this week.

THE CHINESE IMBROGLIO.

Los Angeles Express.
"While there may be a large element in China who are favoring the Boxers, and are in sympathy with the movement for driving all foreigners out of the country, it would seem that the fact that there has been an engagement between these outlaws and the regular troops near Peking, in which a number were killed on each side, effectually disproves the report cable yesterday that they are being upheld by the government. This is something that the Chinese government cannot afford to do under any circumstances, as it would simply be suicidal, and would call forth at once the intervention of the whole civilized world. The Chinese leaders themselves realize this, and for their own protection they will at least try and put down the outlaws."

New York Evening Post.
The situation is made puzzling by the intricacies of the internal government of China, which few pretend to understand. The emperor is a weak young man, said by some to be only half-witted who is now entirely overruled by the Dowager-Empress. She presents the extraordinary spectacle of a daring and vigorous woman seizing the supreme power in a land where women in general are little better than slaves. It was even said a few months ago that she had "dethroned the emperor." What she really did was to name her heir to the throne, the emperor being without issue. It was therefore only the familiar Oriental custom of providing for the succession by adoption.

Chicago-Times Herald.
It will be remembered that the emperor disowned out as a reformer and issued several edicts which made the representatives of the old China shudder with aversion and dismay. Competent critics said at the time that his methods were so crude and arbitrary as to be utterly impractical, though they were inspired by correct motives. Events justified their prediction. Superstitions, long-established customs and abuses could not be overcome at a word, and the reform movement played right into the hands of the empress. Like many of her countrymen, she hated the foreigners. The reformers were the foreigners' friends. Hence China for the Chinese was the import of a counter-revolution, and such of the reform leaders as did not have their heads cut off were glad to escape to distant lands.

Boston Herald.
If the armed horde of the "Boxers" were to enter Peking or Tien Tsin, they would not have the least scruple in destroying every foreigner there, man, woman and child, a destruction which, if it were only partly realized, would bring the Chinese government, as we now know it, to an end, by the necessary intervention, in the shape of revolutionary reform, of all the great powers of the world.

Philadelphia Record.
Whatever may be done will be accomplished through concerted effort. That either of the intervening powers would be permitted to exploit the occasion to further individual ambitions or to gratify a lust of territory, is a possibility so remote as to require no serious consideration. Nervous persons need not stuff cotton into their ears in anticipation of the crash of the falling Chinese empire, for the very good reason that the interests of all the powers would be best conserved by maintaining the essential integrity of that political structure. Terminals, free transit and trade are what the nations are seeking in China—not territory. They can exploit the country without owning it.

Philadelphia Press.
It is possible that this revolution may mark the forcible throwing off of the old, conservative, self-concentrated Chinese policies through the protective intervention of the powers. It may, more than this, foreshadow the actual dismemberment of China, for, although the Chinese government has sent a note to the resident representative of the powers promising to suppress rigidly the "Boxers" throughout the kingdom, its ability to do so is very generally doubted. In such an event the landing of armed troops and the confessed weakness and instability of the Chinese government would furnish the required excuse for initiatory steps in partition or suzerainty.

New York Press.
The inexorable law of human progress is that he who fails to advance shall

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be overridden. Trade and civilization will have their own. Traffic will invade further and further. New missions will grow on the ashes of the first. And if foreign domination grows most rapidly by any one influence, it is by native lawlessness and the penalties that follow it. The hordes of yellow fanatics may not know this, but the Empress Dowager has had a number of experiences in the near past which should have been light to her soul.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Mr. Hamlin Garland's most recent work is a story of western life, entitled "The Eagle's Heart." In this an absorbing love story is skilfully woven into the fabric of peril and adventure. "The Eagle's Heart," illustrated by Mr. Harrison Fisher, will begin in The Saturday Evening Post for June 16th, and run through the summer numbers of the magazine.—Philadelphia.

The first number of El Progreso, published in Nueva Casas Grandes, Mexico, has been received. It is a weekly edited by Mr. F. E. Eldridge. The paper will be devoted to the interests of the region in which it is published. Part of it is in Spanish and part in English.

In all the history of modern warfare there have been no more picturesque sieges than those of the Anglo-Boer war, which now seems about at an end. The picturesque side of the three famous sieges—Kimberley, Ladysmith, and Mafeking—is brought out with telling effect by General Miles in an article contributed by him to this week's Collier's. The Klondike explorer, Mr. Tappan Adney, begins his services as special correspondent of Collier's Weekly in an article which amounts to a general survey of the situation of today in Cape Nome.—New York.

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