

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sundays excepted).

Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Charles W. Penrose - Editor.
Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance):

One Year	\$3.00
Six Months	1.50
Three Months	.75
One Month	.25
Saturday Edition, Per Year	2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year	2.40

NEW YORK OFFICE.
In charge of E. F. Cummings, manager.

Foreign Advertising from our Home Office,
1127 Park Row Building, New York.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE.
In charge of F. J. Cooper, 78 Geary St.

Correspondence and other reading matter
for publication should be addressed to
the Editor.

Address all business communications
and all remittances:
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake
City as second class matter according to
the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 25, 1905.

DESERET NEWS PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
telephone with any department of the
Deseret News, will save themselves an
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IN ITS OWN TRAP.

A number of highly respectable citizens
of Utah, many of them non-Mormons,
have recently testified before the
Committee on Privileges and Elections
of the United States Senate, that
after the issuance of President Wilford
Woodruff's manifesto, and when the
movement for the admission of Utah
into the Union as a State was un-
der way, the situation here was
like this:

"The Gentiles in Utah had fought
long enough; and they were grateful
for peace. They deplored anything
that looked like a renewal of the old
strife. For years they kept their
mouths closed and their eyes shut
permitting men to go on living with
their plural wives, showing neighborly
respect and consideration, and believing
that without special consideration of
what was known as unlawful cohabitation,
they could very well leave the
situation for time to remedy."

The words we have inserted above
convey the gist of their evidence. But
it is quoted from the editorial columns
of the local morning paper that has
been throwing mud at them, every day,
for making just such statements as
that. The sheet that assails them de-
clares that, "Every word of the fore-
going quotation from the Tribune is
true." That is just what they testi-
fied. Every man and woman who has
lived in Utah for any length of time
understands that those are the facts
in the case. They have been reiterated
by the newspapers of Utah, Idaho,
Oregon and Nevada, and by many in
Colorado and Wyoming, during the in-
vestigation that has been had into the
doctrines of the "Mormon" Church and
the doings of a number of its leading
authorities, under the guise of an in-
quiry into the right of Hon. Reed
Smoot to a seat in the Senate of the
United States.

Yet the paper from which the quota-
tion is made is engaged in vilifying,
berating and blackguarding the wit-
nesses who have given that testimony,
and in heaping upon them its choicest
collection of billingsgate terms,
with which its readers are disgust-
edly familiar.

Funny, isn't it, as well as
indecent? The testimony is true, but
those who uttered it in Washington are
to be everlastingly condemned by
friends at home for their frankness.
And why? Simply because it is con-
sidered favorable to the gentleman
whom the Republicans of Utah chose
to send to the Senate of the United States.

It seems it was all right for the libel-
ous sheet that is doing its utmost to
wreck this commonwealth, to inadver-
tently express those views at home, but
it is most decidedly and terribly wrong
for those prominent citizens to give
voice to them abroad. In the editorial
columns of the daily defamer "every
word of it is true." But on the lips of
the gentlemen under oath it is different
and is denounced as "a vicious, de-
praved and cowardly testimony," be-
cause "given by some Gentile wit-
nesses at Washington," and is likely to
aid the choice of his party and State
to retain his seat.

As to the ladies who were humbly
bugged into making minims of them-
selves and signing a silly telegram to
Washington, they were not accused of
anything. Nobody singled them out as
"condoning" or "tolerating" polygamy
or anything akin to it. There was no
need for them to bristle up their
feathers and cluck about "condon-
ation," or "toleration," or "cohabitation."
And coming down to the solid
truth, although they were not specially
accused of doing, or neglecting, or ap-
proving anything, have they not, in
common with the great body of this
community, coincided with all that is
set forth in the paragraph quoted
above, from the paper which stirred
them up to deny the very statements it
contains? That paper now says:

"So far as the utterance of the Tri-
bune is concerned, the 'News' knows
it to be true. It knows that Gentiles
did seek to avoid knowledge of neigh-
borhood affairs, to the extent that they
treated polygamous cohabitation, and
particularly such cohabitation by men
with the wives to whom they were
married previous to 1890."

Why, certainly. That is what the
"News" has maintained all along. But
it is what our deranged contemporary
has been provoking the ladies to deny,
and for stating which the "Gentile
witnesses" of the past ten days at

Washington have been called the vilest
names in that contemporary's slum-
mering vocabulary. The point to be kept
in view is not the trumped-up charges,
and hot air reports, and Dame Rumor's
gossip that are taken for evidence on
one side of the present investigation,
or the alleged "ingratitude" of any-
body concerned, but the villainy of
abusing the "Gentile witnesses" at
Washington for telling that which their
malicious maligner declares to be
"every word true."

It is of no use to flounder and gyrate
and kick up lingual and acrobatic
antics. That only shows more distinctly
the naivety and deformity of the jour-
nalistic gymnast that takes any side
of a question or a policy required. The
plain fact stands out clearly, that for
advocating what that ground and lofty
tumble vouches to be true, gentlemen
whose character and reputation are of
the highest, are daily lampooned and
libelled and held up to public reproba-
tion, in the same columns that advocat-
ed in substance the gist of their testi-
mony. And thus it is.

We apologize to our readers for not-
ting the disreputable concern thus
pointedly, but its old-time inconsistency
and disregard of its own utterances
loomed up so ridiculously, that we
could not forbear giving it its
passing attention.

AS TO LICENSED MUSIC.

Utah musicians, we understand, are
contemplating the advisability of ask-
ing for legislation, limiting the right
of teaching music to artists, licensed
in the same way as doctors, dentists, etc.
This might be well, as far as the pub-
lic schools are concerned, but if the in-
tention is to make the rule so general
as to prohibit non-licensed singers and
musicians from practicing as leaders
of choirs, or teachers of the rudiments
of music in private, it would be a de-
tachment and not a help to our musical
development. We believe the musicians
themselves, on second thought will ad-
mit that. They will admit that it is
undesirable to make the large majority
of our laborers in the musical vineyard
dependent on a few experts, who have
as yet not come to the "unity of
faith," or rather methods of teaching.

Most of the real advancement of
music—the general dissemination of it,
and love for it—has been due to the la-
bor of the uncertified and ungraduated
musician, humble though he may have
been. The scholarly professionals have
not been above berating one
another over the differences of
styles and methods—due to their
various trainings. The more hum-
ble home product, however, has
been organizing singing classes and
choirs, etc., and popularizing the "di-
vine art" throughout our community.

It is admitted that our eminent in-
strumentalists, and vocal teachers find
much to undo, when the pupils of the
humble teachers graduate up to them,
but it must also be admitted that they
themselves would have to undergo a
similar experience if they changed to
go to any school, or teacher, other than
the particular one they have graduated
under. It is so the world over. "You
are all right as long as you use MY
method." So that is no good reason
why we should create a monopoly of
musical instructors in the State. Sure-
ly, the private pupil should have the
freedom to choose his private teachers.

As to the public institutions, if
they engage music teachers as they
engage other teachers—specialists in the
particular branch they require taught
—it will not need a law other than com-
mon sense to regulate the matter. If
musicians were engaged to teach
branches in which they are not special-
ists, just because they are eminent in
some other branch of musical art, trou-
ble would, of course, ensue. But there
is no reason why such an error should
be committed, even if license is not re-
quired. Let those in charge of institu-
tions of learning remember that music
has its individual, separate branches,
and that to be a singer is not neces-
sarily to be a pianist; nor the reverse;
and that to be both is not necessarily
to be a class teacher or a successful
disseminator of practical musical
knowledge to the normal student. Past
experience and proof of unqualified suc-
cess in the particular branch desired
taught, rather than a certificate from
some examining board, should be the re-
quirements.

We speak for many of our musical
friends when we say that musical red
tape is as little desirable as any other
variety; also, when we remind the pub-
lic of the fact that the world today is
doing homage at the shrine of a man
—Richard Wagner—who in his own day
possibly would not have easily passed
an orthodox examining board of musi-
cians. The most useful plants are not
always found in hot houses. Let music
be free as the air we breathe.

Utah musicians, both professionals
and amateurs, have done splendid work
in the State, and we hope to see this
development continued, until the high-
est perfection has been attained. Let
us not take any step that possibly may
be a hindrance instead of a help on-
ward.

RUSSIA IN A FERMENT.

It is quite possible that some of the
reports from Russia are exaggerated,
but even when all allowance is made,
it is evident that the revolutionists in
that country are working diligently to
bring about a general rising and the
overthrow of the government. And that
they are meeting with unexpected suc-
cess is also evident from the fact that
"strikes" are spreading all over the
country. In Russia it is unlawful
to strike; workmen who engage in
that mode of settling disputes can be
punished severely. That thousands
upon thousands nevertheless lay down
their tools is clear proof that a revolu-
tion is actually threatening.

For some time past the cloud on the
horizon has grown and come nearer.
Scenes of violence have marked the
departure for the war of the soldiers
on several occasions, particularly in
Poland. At Lodz on Jan. 15, to quell a
Social Democratic demonstration, the
military fired into the crowds and killed
a number of persons. At Warsaw 200
reservists are said to have been killed

by the troops. Famine prevails in Bes-
saratia, where almost all the factories
are closed and thousands of workmen
and their families are without bread.

A few weeks ago thousands of men
struck in the Baku oil regions, and vi-
olence marked the strike. A few days ago
General Trepoff was shot at three times
while bidding farewell to the Grand
Duke Sergius. Shortly afterwards it
was reported that bombs had been
thrown into the central police at Posh-
okhon, government of Yaroslavl. The
residence of the governor of Smolensk
was also partially wrecked by a bomb.

Then came the strikes in St. Peters-
burg, and at various other places, pre-
ceded by an attempt at the assassina-
tion of the Czar, while he was perform-
ing a religious ceremony. In short, the
Russian government is openly defied.
Its hands are tied up, retarding the
war preparations so highly needed.

Clearly the situation in that country
has never been so grave.

Some Russian statesmen hon-
estly believed that the time
for representative government in Rus-
sia has not yet come. They believe that
the people are absolutely unfit for the
reforms demanded. This may be true
to some extent, but unless a nation is
given an opportunity of exercising
self-government, it will never become
fit for it. In Russia the people are by
custom prohibited from talking about
politics. Whatever is done in this line
must be done in secret. Such condi-
tions are not favorable to the growth
of the nation toward political manhood.

But, let the bars down, as far as can
be done safely. Then there will be an
opportunity to develop. A beginning
must be made some time. The Czar's
opportunity is now to break loose from
the ancient shackles and emancipate
himself, and then bid the people fol-
low him toward liberty and greatness.

But will he grasp the chance? Appar-
ently not. The result will be chaos.
Even if the agitators are silenced in
death, the principles of truth will live
on. They cannot be done away with.
Russia will be free some day, either
with the good will of the rulers, who
ought to be the foremost promoters of
liberty; or over their dead bodies and
smouldering palaces. For the people
will win ultimately.

Hoch der Bluebeard!

"Now is the Winter Palace of my dis-
content."—Nicholas.

The days are not only growing longer,
but perceptibly longer.

Too much water in the stocks tends
to give them dropsy.

The Missouri legislature appears to
be killing Niederghaus by inches.

Thomas Lawson has broken out with
another installment of his frenzy.

That a job is not an office is plain.
Still there is often jobbery in office.

If ever men were striking for home
and country those Russian strikers are.

Unlike butter, the more rioting
spreads in Russia the thicker it be-
comes.

Nicholas knows that it is true that
uneasy lies the head that wears a
crown.

Governor La Follette's friends are en-
titled to shout: "La Follette first and
the rest nowhere."

Father Gapon may be the Marius of
the Russian revolution but where is
little Gavrache?

The typewriter girl has just reached
the age of thirty; that is, the species
and not the individual.

Ex-Ambassador Andrew D. White
says that the Czar is a weak man. The
past week's doings prove this.

Will the weather man please remem-
ber that a little snow now and then is
relished by the best of men?

If Colonel Roosevelt can make both
San Domingo and Venezuela behave
themselves he will work a miracle.

Now let Hon. Frank B. Stephens pre-
pare himself for a berating at the
hands of the anti-"Mormon" organ.

In accepting a contribution from the
brewers, Mr. Niederghaus never im-
agined what trouble he was brewing
for himself.

The Japanese are keenly watching
developments in St. Petersburg. And
enjoying them still more keenly, no
doubt.

Mr. Bryan wants the Democratic
party to forget itself and help the Pres-
ident. The advice may be good, but it
is very evident that Mr. Bryan does not
know the party that he has led twice to
defeat.

At the present rate of increase John
D. Rockefeller's fortune will soon reach
a billion dollars. To the poor million-
aire there is comfort in the thought that
Mr. Rockefeller's head is perfectly bald,
and that he cannot make one hair
grow where thousands grew before.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

Reuter's Transcript.

The resignation of Premier Combes
of France indicates that he interprets
the signs of the times as unfavorable
to his continuance in an administrative
capacity. Owing to the death of Presi-
dent Leube's venerable mother, the
work of forming a new ministry will
not be entered upon until Wednesday,
and we must therefore wait until that
date to learn whether, in abdicating his
high office, M. Combes has also lost his
power. Certainly his prestige has not
been lost even though it may have been
impaired. He has had many narrow es-
capes, and that of Sunday was one of
the narrowest, and accompanied as it
was with bitter and violent demonstra-
tions, it decided the premier to step out,
and perhaps by that expedient save his
policy. Should M. Brisson, who, as
president of the Chamber of Deputies,
assisted him in carrying out his pro-
gram, or another of similar views be
elected as his successor, it would in-
dicate that he was still a power in the
government; but the election last week
of an anti-Combes deputy as president

of the Chamber indicates a growth of
sentiment unfriendly to such a plan.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Though it is peculiarly difficult to
forecast the course of French politics,
it seems clear that the program which
begins with the fight for the law against
the religious associations will be car-
ried to its logical conclusion; for to
win any substantial clerical support the
ministry would have to modify the
existing plans relating to church and
state to an extent that would mean
their practical abandonment. This
course would not be tolerated by the
other opposition groups which might,
however, be brought into line if more
attention were paid to questions like
the income tax, in which they are most
interested. The present crisis illus-
trates again how French chamber is
dominated by groups rather than par-
ties.

Kansas City Times.

The Combes cabinet, which is retiring
from office, has served for two and a
half years—a surprisingly long time
for a French ministry, whose tenure de-
pends on coalitions of diverse groups.
Waldeck-Rousseau, whom M. Combes
succeeded, was in office, it is true, for
a full three years and then retired be-
cause of ill health. But his was an ex-
ceptional case. Prior to the advent of
the Waldeck-Rousseau ministry French
cabinets had been exceedingly unstable.
Their tenure was rarely so long as a
year. But the important issues of the
last six years, first the Dreyfus case
and later the conflict between church
and state, have unified the supporters
of the government. In dealing with the
question of church disestablishment M.
Combes has found it impossible to
please all parties, radicals and mod-
erates. His successor will inherit a dif-
ficult situation.

Springfield Republican.

There will be triumph for M. Combes,
however, even in defeat, if he is able to
dictate the name of his successor and
hand over to him his chief policies as
the main concern of the next admin-
istration. Success in accomplishing
that much would prove that the over-
throw of M. Combes is merely a per-
sonal defeat, and that the combination
of radicals and socialists and advanced
republicans who, under Waldeck-Rous-
seau and Combes, have ruled France
with so strong a hand for six years, is
still intact and doing business. It would
mean the carrying out even now of the
radical program, including the separa-
tion of church and state. In any event,
it does not yet appear that reaction will
now gain the upper hand. As for
France's foreign affairs, M. Delcasse
will remain foreign minister whoever
succeeds to the premiership.

New York World.

In reply to his assailants, M. Combes
made a plain bid for the allegiance of
the Socialist factions, which under vari-
ous names count 141 votes, by declaring
himself boldly in favor of workmen's
pensions and an income tax. He
also stood by his program of anti-
clericalism, but pleaded the need of a
reaction, and temporizing attitude
toward the Vatican. But it was too
late. It is the old story of French
ministries. Too great radicalism or too
much conservatism results inevitably in
a reaction. It would have been extra-
ordinary if any ministry in France
could have survived the program that
M. Combes undertook to carry out.

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GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.

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