DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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TOPHEAVY MAJORITIES UNSAFE.

One of the evils of a huge political majority in nation, state, county or city, is that the party's nominees for high office, fit or unfit, can hardly fail of election. When the managers are sure that the "slate" will go through, there being no likelihood of a large enough body of voters to impede its success, they are less careful in the matter of nominations than if there were fears of a sufficient defection of independent voters to bring defeat to unworthy men. Herein is the great danger of large majorities; for while they are a compliment to the good men and to the good principles of any party, they are also an invitation to the undeserving men and the evil elements, the combination caring less for the common welfare and the perpetuity of decent government than for immediate personal advancement. If local leaders have not seen the truth of these remarks exemplified on a small scale in recent conventions, their intelligence is barely of that order which comes within the common definition of patriotism.

Taking a larger view of the question, friends of the Republic discover much to be concerned about in the extreme confidence with which one of the great parties enters upon the next presidential campaign, and the same time prominence which the "mention" threatens to assume in meeting the nomination. There is hardly a Democrat sanguine enough to expect that the opposition can make so poor a choice and his own party so good a one as to give the latter any hope of election. The Republicans, on the other hand, are more than confident—they feel sure of the success of their ticket. As to the political complexion of the man who shall be elected President, the News cares nothing; but like every body else who is interested in the nation's credit and well-being, we desire the election of no irreproachable, stalwart, representative and honest citizen. There may be no disappointment in anticipating such a result, for surely the Republican party contains plenty of such material. At the same time there is an assumption of authority by the "bosses," and an expressed determination of the "hurrah-boys" to have an inning, which are disquieting to say the least. The history of the party perhaps furnishes no parallel to the energy and the boldness with which the various state bosses are laying their plans for the capture and delivery of the ballots in the nominating convention. Insisting upon the ability of the party to elect any man who may be named, they are entirely unabashed in the program of bargain and sale, of pledges exacted, of special consideration for the "workers in the trenches" and for the manipulators at the headquarters. If they can have their way, a ticket will be put up which represents the shrewdest political management and the utmost determination to look after the special welfare of those who made the selection of that ticket possible.

Hence the suggestion, expressed in the outset, that too large and too safe a majority is at times an actual evil. It does not keep the party on its good behavior, nor tend as always to the best accomplishments. That a Sanitary, Stable, Independent vote has its evil tendency also, will be readily admitted. And yet that kind of an element, especially if legally identified with a regular party but courageous enough to break loose from the same when proper levels of purity and propriety are departed from, furnishes one of the surest safeguards of the nation against the state of affairs who pompously call themselves its friends.

OWLS, HAWKS, CROWS, ETC.

With the suggestions of Prof. Whiting, published in last evening's News, relating to the preservation of certain species of birds, such as owls, hawks, crows, etc., the News is and always has been in complete accord. This paper has more than once advised previous Legislatures to concentrate the energies of their intellect upon a question seemingly so trivial, yet fraught with vital consequence to the agriculturists of the State. It has too long been permitted to half-baked "sportsmen," or ignorant and zealous gunners, to try their skill upon any and everything that happened to cross their path. That they have not wiped out these particular birds entirely is due to the happy fact that the sensible hunters have generally been unable to hit anything. It is high time, however, that they be prohibited by law from even shooting at them. A fairly healthy owl or hawk is worth more to the community than the average creature who shoots at him; and the law ought to recognize the fact to the extent of providing immunity for the former while fixing dire penalties for the latter.

There is much talk about the preservation of fish and game, and the statutes on the subject ought to be rigorous and long; but no statute can escape. At the same time we again suggest the propriety of protecting also a hardy and forever the owls, hawks, crows, gulls and other birds which do so finitely more good than harm, and which to the extent to which they are for upon machinery by the destruction of field vermin and insects are worth their full weight in gold. The preservative measure may as well be specially useful as also fly sentimental.

TOO SCARCE BY FAR.

An Idaho exchange quotes a letter from one of its subscribers, who is a commoner, as follows:

If fully stop my paper for the future, as I have access to all newspapers in the postoffice and any payment I may make on subscription is virtually thrown away.

Our contemporary then goes on to ask several pointed questions as to the moral status and the hope hereafter of "one who runs into a postoffice 'in a county where a newspaper is struggling to build up the country.'" While we cannot endorse the flippancy of all its strictures we cannot but approve the course of its criticism. And while upon the subject, it may not be improper to make mention of the fact that the News office is in receipt of frequent letters from subscribers living in the very town where the thrifty postmaster above referred to resides, complaining of the irregularity of the mails and the non-arrival of their papers until a day or two after they are due. The matter is under investigation by the proper authorities, and if certain suspicions are found to be warranted, somebody will be a fair way to have his fingers scorched for taking liberties with property which does not belong to him.

Meddling with letters not one's own is a very grave offense in the eye of the law, especially where the offender is in the employ of the postal department. How much less heinous it is for a postmaster to withhold for personal newspapers passing through his hands, is a question which we are unable intelligently to answer. As to the moral wrongfulness of the act, however, there can be no doubt; and while there may be a sincere hope that the suspicions and insinuations created by the above communication and circumstances are not such as to get any good man into trouble, there can be no impropriety in observing by way of warning that unpleasant notoriety and an important element of risk will be avoided by every public official's performing his plain duty as speedily, squarely and openly as he knows how.

UNLOVELY—BUT WAR.

General Weyler, the new commander of the Spanish forces in Cuba, announces a policy of severity as the one most surely calculated to restore peace to the distracted island. He asserts his intention to use every means in his power to defeat the insurgent armies, and to that end every resident of Cuba is to be held to a strict accountability for his conduct. Weyler will not tolerate spies, or givers of aid and comfort to the insurgents within the Spanish lines, nor even the negative disloyalty by dwellers within the Spanish lines shown in reticence or unwillingness to give the Spanish forces all the aid possible. He applies rigidly the principle, always applied in warfare, that a neutral or otherwise friend is at least a potential enemy and to be treated as such, and in so doing attacks one of the principal sources of Spanish failure to successfully cope with the insurgent forces.

There is nothing more severe in this program than accompanies so-called "civilized" war in any country—nothing more sanguinary than characterized the Germans in the quarrel with France or Sherman in his march to the sea. It may be unlovely—but it is war.

INSURANCE BY CYCLISTS.

Wheelmen generally will be interested in a late official declaration by the mutual accident insurance companies of the United States, in conclusion last week in Boston, to the effect that bicycling is "a hazardous occupation," and not to be henceforth included in such insurance except at double rates, or at the cost of reduced indemnity. The conclusion arrived at is variously regarded by newspaper critics, its supporters endeavoring themselves with referring to the statistics as to the extremely large number of bicycle accidents that have occurred during the comparatively few years since wheeling came into general practice. On the other hand, it is argued that the experimental period of bicycling is past; that city ordinances, rules of the road, and greater skill on the part of riders have combined to reduce the number of accidents to a minimum. It is further claimed that the same notions of the "hazardous occupation" of riding on railway cars and steamboats prevailed a few years ago with the insurance companies, and that as those grade those had to give way, so will the fears as to the nominal risks in "writing" a wheelman.

From a strictly business standpoint, it does not look as though the proposition to charge double rates or to escape the indemnity in case of disability, would prove a paying one. The wheelmen constitute a very large and important class of patrons of accident insurance; and they are as easily to be estranged as are any other people, among whom generally there is an impression that the insurance companies already have things pretty much their own way and make plenty of money out of the business as they manage it. As a matter of truth the experience of most policy-holders is, not that they expect to receive anything by way of indemnity in case of accident, but that the mere fact of having the insurance precludes by any possibility their chances of an uncle back as to meet with an accident whereby to get some of their money back.

HOOD RIVER, OREGON, JAN. 30, 1896.

Editor News: Personally at a time when running was deemed a qualification, how long a man's legs ought to be. His answer was:

That is a very serious question, and I have given much thought to it a great many times. Some should be longer and some shorter; but I want to tell you that a man's legs ought always to be long enough to reach from his body to the ground.

THE CALDWELL Tribune tells of a town called New Sweden, on the Upper Snake river, Idaho. It says: Hans Hansen is mayor, Peter Peterson clerk, and the common council is composed of Peter Hansen, Hans Peterson, Peter Hans Peterson, Hans Peter Hansen, and Peter Hansen Peterson—no relation.

FAULT-FINDING CORRESPONDENTS who have not had the usual quantity of seeds for distribution, and who have indulged in long tirades on the subject, have the grim satisfaction of inflicting their speeches upon their contributions in lieu of the seeds.

FIVE MARSHALS may have been sent, as the prize fight correspondents have been telling us; but they seem to have been well enough for him to see the danger of trying to take part in the advertised scenes with Fitzsimmons.

ONE FEATURE of special distinction between two great political parties is that the backwardness of Democrats in announcing themselves as candidates for the Presidency is not shared by their Republican brethren.

THERE IS not much trouble in getting public men to talk on public issues; but to get them to tell what their views are about public issues—that's quite another matter.

HOME of the butcher shops in Paris have "mumped" themselves to the extent of carrying camel's meat for daily sale.

MANY A MAN who is in favor of a law is opposed to its enforcement.

Ballard's Horehound Syrup.

We guarantee this to be the best Cough Syrup manufactured in the whole wide world. This is saying a great deal, but it is true. For Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, Croup, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Asthma, Crump, Whooping Cough, and all diseases of the Throat and Lungs, we positively guarantee Ballard's Horehound Syrup to be without an equal on the whole face of the globe. In support of this statement we refer to every individual who has ever used it and to every druggist who has ever sold it. Such evidence is indisputable. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Department.

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Mrs. Hamilton, Cambridge, Ills., says: I had the rheumatism so bad I could not raise my hand to my head. Ballard's Snow Liniment has entirely cured me. I take pleasure in informing my neighbors and friends what it has done for me. Chas. Handley, clerk for Lay & Lyman, Kewanee, Ills., advises us Snow Liniment cured him of Rheumatism. Why not try it? It will surely do you good. It cures all Inflammation, Wounds, Burns, Cuts, Sprains, etc. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Department.

A Sound Liver Makes a Well Man.

Are you Bilious, Constipated or troubled with Biliousness, Sick Headache, Bad Taste in Mouth, Foul Breath, Coated Tongue, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Hot Dry Skin, Pain in Back and between the Shoulders, Chills and Fever, etc. If you have any of these symptoms, your Liver is out of order, and your blood is slowly being poisoned, because your Liver does not act properly. HERBINE will cure any disorder of the Liver, Stomach or Bowels. It has no equal as a Liver Medicine. Price 75 cents. Free trial bottles at Z. C. M. I. drug stores.

Important Facts.

If you have dull and heavy pains across the forehead and about the eyes; if the nostrils are frequently stopped up and followed by a disagreeable discharge; if sneezing in the nose and bleeding from the nostrils is often experienced; if you are very sensitive to cold in the head accompanied with headache; then you may be sure you have catarrh, and should immediately resort to Ely's Cream Balm for a cure. The remedy will give instant relief.

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Better Set	8.00
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