

# DESIRET EVENING NEWS

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## LEGISLATIVE OUTINGS.

The Senate of the Utah Legislature is to be commended for declining to take the trip to Provo which was decided upon by the House. It appears to us that these journeys by the Legislature to visit public institutions are neither necessary nor economical. Not that we would have any of those establishments neglected, or their affairs remain uninvestigated, or their desires for State aid ignored. But we believe that all that is essential for these objects could be accomplished by committees appointed for the purpose, who would have better opportunities to examine and inquire into the conduct and needs of those public concerns, than is possible for an entire legislative body paying a flying visit chiefly in the way of recreation. Reports could be made which would convey all useful information on the subjects inquired into, and the time of the Legislature could be more profitably spent in forwarding legislation, so that the period allotted by law should not be over-run.

We do not begrudge our lawmakers the pleasure of a run into the country, or the opportunity of making speeches outside of the legislative chamber, or being feasted by the people who desire their presence and seek for their aid in obtaining good-sized appropriations. But we think that the custom of devoting an entire day, every now and then, to these visits would be more honored in the breach than in the observance. Time is precious, legislation needs careful scrutiny, the public interests are paramount importance, and the sixty days allotted for the work of the assembly should not be extended, as the term generally is for days in excess thereof. We do not wish to find fault with that which has been done, but make the suggestion that, in future, the trips taken by the whole legislative body could be avoided by the substitution of committee work of inspection, to the benefit of the institutions referred to and the welfare of the general public.

## LADIES MISREPRESENTED.

The Woman's Journal, published in Boston, has an article denying a story that has been in circulation among the woman suffragists, that Miss Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. May Wright Sewall favor polygamy. We have been requested to copy the article into the "News." There is no need for that, as the people of Utah understand very well the position taken by those ladies in reference to the "Mormons." We will say, however, that there is no truth in the story, and that it probably was fabricated by anti-"Mormon" agitators who cannot bear to see or hear anything that is at all laudatory of the Latter-day Saints.

An effort was made last summer by persons of that class to exclude from the International Council of Women, representatives of the women's societies connected with the "Mormon" Church, which are associated with the national organization. This was opposed by Mrs. Sewall, as these societies had belonged to the Council for many years, and the question of polygamy was not in any way involved thereby. Mrs. Sewall expressed the opinion that it was a good thing for the "Mormon" women to be connected with the Council, so that they might obtain ideas concerning the ideal of marriage entertained by the women of America. The notion was based on the incorrect supposition that our women are not acquainted with the world's affairs.

That lady herself has most pronounced monogamic views, but is broad minded and liberal and is against everything in the shape of persecution and intolerance. Miss Anthony made the remark, not long ago, that she had "more respect for a Mormon who imagined that he had a religious sanction for his deeds, than she had for a nominal Christian who lived an immoral life." That cannot be fairly construed as an endorsement of plural marriage, and there is no real ground for the story that has been circulated on this subject.

The writer of the article in the Woman's Journal argues that many "famous men who were strongly opposed to equal rights for women have advocated polygamy." "One of them was John Milton, another was Napoleon," and these with others were advocates of the subordination of women to the lords of creation. Napoleon is quoted as one whose code "deprived women of almost all personal and property rights, but who wrote 'I consider it a great mistake that a man is allowed to have only one legitimate wife.'" This argument, it should be understood, does not come from either Mrs. Sewall or Miss Anthony, but from one of their

strong admirers and defenders; to-wit, Alice Stone Blackwell.

Part of the hostility that has been exhibited against the "Mormon" delegates to the Women's National and International Councils is the result of misinformation. The term "Mormonism" has been represented as synonymous with polygamy, and this impression has been deepened by the efforts of some professed ministers of the Gospel and a number of women lecturers, hired for the purpose of maligning the "Mormons" and arousing prejudice against them.

The ladies whose names have been mentioned in this article understand the facts pretty well, and are not deceived by the misrepresentations of the class referred to. While they give due credit to the "Mormon" people for the work they have done in reclaiming the desert places, and in recognizing and advocating equal rights for both sexes, it is well known that they have no sympathy for plural marriage, and are not believers in those features of the "Mormon" faith that are considered unorthodox in Christendom.

## A PURITY PAPER.

The Chicago Review is a daily paper (Sundays excepted) which is in some respects unique. Its chief aim is to give to the public current news from all points, with the exception of that which is criminal, vicious and sensational. It is intended for the family circle, and therefore contains nothing suggestive of immorality or lawlessness. Its advertising columns are similarly exclusive. It is a movement in the direction of "clean journalism."

Being thus special and particular in shutting out accounts of crime and vice, it is of course greatly curtailed as a newspaper, according to the popular definition of the term. It will therefore undoubtedly have but a limited circulation, at least for some time to come. The public appetite hungers for sensation, and the plea is made that live people want to know what is going on in the world in every department of society. A paper that will not feed this demand is looked upon as outside the lines of modern journalism and devoid to a large extent of general interest. No such newspaper, unless it be supported by some institution that does not mind continual financial loss, is likely to survive for any great length of time the drain upon its resources, which daily occurs and which means eventual bankruptcy unless the tide of public opinion turns and subscribers and advertisers come to the rescue.

Notwithstanding these facts, we are pleased to note the publication of a paper of the character we have here described. It is especially suited to the home circle, where the general news of the world is not the subject of conversation or inquiry. But experience shows us that such families are comparatively few and far between, and that to publish a daily paper which will meet expenses, to say nothing of bringing in a profit, however small, competition is required to keep up with the general run of public journals containing something about everything that interests men and nations.

The ideal set up by the Chicago Review is lofty and admirable, and we shall be pleased indeed if it succeeds in its venture and sets a pattern for the newspapers of the world to imitate, in however a small degree, until they, too, arrive at that high standard. But this involves, without doubt, a thorough change in the public desire and in the public morals. We wish success to the Chicago Daily Review.

## THE MURDER OF SERGIUS.

The assassination of Grand Duke Sergius, the uncle of the Czar, is one of the deplorable incidents of the Russian revolutionary movement. It is so regarded by Russians at home, and Russia's friends abroad, and the assassins are justly condemned. But it would be an injustice to the people struggling for liberty, to conceal and forget the fact that the murder of Russian autocrats is more than offset by the massacres of hundreds of peaceful petitioners in the streets of Russian cities, on the instigation of the cowardly wielders of despotic power. Providence, that sometimes makes the flames from the fiery furnaces of the earth, or the scorching winds of deserts, its messengers of wrath, at other times makes use of the angry waves of human passion, to lay low the mighty ones who are the oppressors of men.

One thing is certain. The assassination of one so near the Russian throne should convince the occupant of that exalted place, that the revolutionists now are in dead earnest. It is not probable that the commotion will be stilled, until their reasonable demands are granted. To adopt further measures of suppression is but to invite more bloodshed. The pope, it seems, has addressed a letter to the Czar, venturing the suggestion that perhaps the wishes of the Russian people for more liberty had better find a responsive echo in his heart. The deplorable murder should emphasize the wisdom of that suggestion.

The conservative revolutionists, to whose hands Russia's fate must finally be entrusted, do not ask for impossibilities. They demand that the Czar establish and gradually introduce the principle of inviolability of the person and of private dwellings. Nobody, they say, should be subject to punishment or be restricted in their rights without the decision of an independent judicial authority. For this purpose they demand that all officials be made responsible. Again, freedom of conscience and religious belief, freedom of speech and liberty of the press, and liberty of meetings are to be guaranteed. All citizens should be made equal before the law, especially the peasants are to be freed from their onerous tutelage and be made absolutely equal with the rest of the population. Local self-government, now restricted to but a part of the empire, should be extended, they say, to the rest of Russia. Finally, administrative repression is to be put a stop to, and pardon is to be extended to political prisoners.

These are all practical measures. The

Czar, with the knowledge he has of constitutional government as it is carried out in England, for instance, knows very well that it is an antidote against anarchy, and, to some extent, against official corruption. He should also know that his throne would be more secure, if surrounded by the affections of a nation than if safe-guarded only by a Chinese wall of mediaeval despotism, such as that which the revolutionists now are breaking through, by means of the bombs of assassins.

## THE TROUBLE IN FRANCE.

The new French ministry is continuing the work of adjusting the difference between the interests of church and state, and it is supposed that complete separation will be the final outcome, unless something unexpected happens. The plan is to abolish the concordat, to withdraw all payments now made by the state toward the support of public worship and to turn all ecclesiastical associations into civil corporations under government control.

In this country it is difficult to understand why the European nations do not separate church and state, as the United States have done from the beginning. The unholy union was effected long ago by worldly potentates for political purposes entirely, and not for the good of the church. It was accomplished at a time when spiritual errors had commenced to dim the vision of the professed Christians, and they did not perceive clearly where they were going. The new departure was sanctioned by ambitious prelates who saw in the union an avenue to worldly honors, power, and emoluments. It has been kept up under the misunderstanding that the church needs the strong arm of the state to lean upon, and that the establishment of a state church is equivalent to the conversion of a kingdom of the world into the kingdom of God—a most disastrous error.

In order to avoid the dangers of an unnatural union, the church and state must be independent of each other, and labor, each in its own sphere. It is true the state needs the influence of the church—or rather of religion, natural and revealed—since civil law is inadequate for the building up of moral character; but that influence the church can best exercise when it is free, acting in its own independent sphere.

In France, as in all advanced countries, there are many and diversified interests. These can be prevented from clashing, only when full liberty is given to all. When the church leaves the intrigues of statesmen severely alone, and statesmen cease to interfere with the affairs of the church, both will labor for the building up and progress of the nation. Of course, politicians, as church members have ecclesiastical interests, and church members, as citizens of the state, have political duties to perform. But unless there is a disposition to create strife, these facts need not interfere with harmonious co-operation for the common good of all. A man may be a distinguished statesman, a sincere church member, a prominent delegate to a scientific congress, an active laborer for temperance, or for woman suffrage, or for the universal peace movement, and it is evident, that there need not be any clash between these various interests. He can attend to all his different duties, each in its own time and place.

What a foxy lot these bounty fraud fellows are.

No amount of whitewash can make a bad reputation good.

The Czar should arrange a modus vivendi with the terrorists.

The addresses made at the Mental hospital were a mental treat.

Some seem to think that they hold their offices in fee simple.

Well may the state auditor sigh, "Save our bones from Davies-Jones."

Mrs. Chadwick appeared in court the other day and was as chipper as ever.

Sergius' name has been forever engraved on Russia's pillar of fame or infamy.

Just now the Panama railroad company is getting more investigation than patronage.

J. Edward Addicks now knows how Thomas Niedringhaus felt on a certain day not long ago.

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown" doesn't even remotely express the Czar's feelings.

And now Colorado proposes to have an oil refinery. Haven't she enough troubles of her own as it is?

A New York bachelor has just given a hundred thousand dollar ball. That certainly was a highball.

There is no more reason why a public official's salary should be exempt from levy than a private citizen's.

A Roosevelt-Bryan composite photograph has been published by a New York paper. It looks as though it gave both cause for action.

Ex-Superintendent Byrnes, Big Bill Devery, everybody says that the New York police should be reformed. What everybody says must be so.

Thus far Stoessel is the only Russian general who has won any fame in the Far East. How different his position from that of Kuropatkin and Gripenberg.

"Even though every woman does not murder her husband, she often feels like it. Marital bonds weigh heavily on a woman. All laws weigh heavily on her," said Mrs. I. Goldfarb at a meeting of the New York Equal Suffrage league at the Hotel Astor the other day. In this case it is well to call the lady's attention to the old saying, "Don't judge others by yourself."

Gen. Henry L. Abbot, the distinguished engineer and long-time friend of the Panama canal route, admits that

"the advocates of the prompt construction of the best possible canal, now that we have secured what is known to be the best possible route, cannot but feel disappointed at the progress of events." Events have progressed fast enough but the canal, the great future event, has not.

## BEAUTY WITH ECONOMY.

Lady's Pictorial.  
Women have learned that they can look well without absolutely ruining their husbands or parents. Feminine extravagance is made the text for endless sermons, and when, therefore, we can say, as we can at this moment, that women have never been dressed more tastefully, picturesquely, sensibly, and withal moderately, from the financial point of view, we surely have very good reason to feel proud of ourselves.

## MORE THAN DIPLOMACY.

New York Nation.  
The American ambassador to England long since ceased to be merely a diplomat. To interpret us to England; to enter easily into the intellectual life of English literary and artistic and university circles; to be a dignified figure on public occasions, and to speak the right word when some anniversary or historic celebration brings out the spiritual kinship of the two nations—such have been his high functions.

## RUSSIAN ARGUMENTS.

Svet, St. Petersburg.  
Japan is not at war with China, and cannot take possession of her territory. Port Arthur was leased to Russia by China. Russia is also not at war with China, and the taking of Port Arthur by the Japanese, humiliating as it is for Russia, violates the integrity of Chinese territory.

## A POISON FARM.

The Tatler.  
A poison farm has been started by the American authorities on Potomac Flats, near Washington, with the idea of saving the \$2,000,000 now annually paid for imported drugs. Large plots have been laid out for the culture of the deadly nightshade, belladonna, foxglove and other deadly plants.

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