DESERET EVENING NEWS: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1904.

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);

Six Months One Month

NEW YORK OFFICE.

In charge of B. F. Cummings, manager Foreign Advertising, from our Home Of-fice, 1127 Park Row Building, New York, CHICAGO OFFICE.

In charge of B. F. Cummings, manager foreign advertising from our Home Office. & Washington St. Represented by P. S. Webb. Room 515.

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

Correspondence and other reading mat-r for publication should be addressed to he EDITOR. Address all business communications

Address and all remittances: THE DESERET NEWS. Sait Lake City. Utah.

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

SALT LAKE CITY. - FEB. 5, 1904.

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ARE ELDERS "MINISTERS?"

The La Crosse, Wisconsin, Chronicle of recent date, gives particulars of a will contest in which a very peculiar brief has been filed, on behalf of the estate of William Campbell, deceased, by an attorney named C. L. Hood. It appears from the statement of the case that one William Campbell, a Quaker, and Mrs. T. Booher, a Catholic, both of whom were very old persons, were married in 1902, the officiating minister being Elder William C. Keysor, a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

He complied with the laws of the State which authorize certain civil officers to solemnize marriages, and also "any ordained minister or priest in reg-

priest or minister, but this idea is expressly negatived. 'It says he is an elder. The law does not confer any power to perform the marriage rite upon elders or deacons. This elder is sent by the authority of the Church of Latter-day Saints on a mission to the northern states to preach the gospel and minister in all the ordinances pertaining to his office. What office-the office of an elder or nissionary and no other,"

We have not learned yet of the ourt's decision on these matters. We do not think any sane judge would hesltate long as to the question of the Lat. ter-day Saints' faith as a religion, whatever kind he might consider ittrue or false, wise or foolish. And we surmise that the ministerial functions of the Elder, as set forth in his certificate of appointment, could not remain in reasonable doubt. The authority conferred therein by the Church "to preach the gospel and minister in all the ordinances thereof pertaining to his office," ought to be sufficient to settle that point. And that Elders are "ordained" to that office is so easily proved by the commonly accepted scriptures, and by the standard writings of the Church to which Elder Keyser belongs, that it is beyond rational dispute. We do not believe Mr. Hood will hoodwink the court. It is remarkable how lawyers will quibble over strained technicalities, and how ready most persons are to attack anything and everything relating to 'Mormonism." Under the laws of Utah, "ministers of the gospel or priests of any dnomination, in regular communion with any religious society." may solemnize marriages, and it has never been disputed, or doubted that Elders of the "Mormon" Church come within this category. We give place to these particulars to emphasize the fact that our missionaries are all "ordained ministers of the gospel," and to show to what lengths otherwise sensible people will go, in their uninformed hostility to the Church of Jesus Christ restored to earth in these latter days.

THE PENDING QUESTION.

BAYS

The Troy, N. Y., Press copies from the Milwaukee Wisconsin an account of an interview with a Salt Lake gentleman, a portion of which we clip and stage insert below. The Press comments upon it in its usual style, showing a mixture of ignorance and assumption on the "Mormon" question, characteristic

of that paper and which we need not reproduce. The Wisconsin of Jan. 28,

"I know Reed Smoot personally," said J. H. Woodman of Salt Lake City at the Plankinton house this morning, "and have known him for a number of years. He is not my choice for United Senator from Utah, because States believe that we have other men who could represent the State better, but 1 am not opposed to him on account any religious beliefs be may hold. am not a Mormon myself, although I have lived in Utah for twenty-eight years. Smoot is a good, conscientious, able man, and I do not believe that he has practised polygamy at all. Whether or not he has taken an oath to the eavy or light the expense is tremen

the leading Mormons for that practice

sulted by the Senator, it was stated is

Rev. A. H. Henry's romance called,

"By Order of the Prophet," which was

reviewed in these columns some time.

ago. The idea that information about

"Mormonism" could be obtained from

"digging into" a novel written for the

purpose of making it hideous, is cer-

tainly remarkable. But we notice that

the Yakima Daily Republic, published

'I know,' he said to the Republic

this morning, 'that a great many min-

isters are in the movement to prevent the seating of Smoot, and many of the

churches of this state have petitioned Senators Foster and Ankeny to vote

against him. I could not join in this movement myself. If I had been in

his election, but now that he is elected

he is legally entitled to the seat. "In my judgment there is no better

reason why a man who believes in the Mormon religion should be excluded

from the senate than there would be for the exclusion of a Methodist. I have in

"The case of Smoot is allogether different from that of Hoberts, Smoot is a Mormon, and presumably, as he is

me of the Mormon apostles, he is a be-lever in all of the Mormon teachings

eliaves the doctrines, but when he

isked for a sent in the house, he was practiting polygamy, He was admitted-by a law-breaker, as there is a federal sintute asainst polygamy. Of course he had no right in the country's legisla-

T am very well acquainted will

Read Simont. He is a spheridid feilow capable' and progressive as a citizen and in his colligious belief 1 have no

man, and thely life together is happy

WAR REFLECTIONS.

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on the Utah senatorship:

abolished.'

stimulants, it leaves the victim exhausted, unfit for work for a long time. The history of wars proves this. They leave both the conquered and the conpreciated. querors worse off than before the conflict, and this reacts upon all the markets of the world. For if two powers are rendered poor by a destructive war,

the markets will be depressed for a long time. But will there be war? It certainly looks threatening. All the peace rumors have emanated from St. Petersburg, either directly or via Paris; the czar, it has been said, was for peace; the replies of the Russian government were so moderate, as to give Japan no excuse for declaring war, etc. But these rumors were evidently sent out for the purpose of giving the world the impression that Japan is alone responsible for the hostilities, if they break out. But that is an old dodge. It is no secret that Russia's aggression has provoked war, if it comes, The wonder is that Japan has permitted the long delay which Russia has uti-

lized to so good advantage. There is no doubt that the national existence of Japan is feopardized by the castern expansion of Russia. The empire that has assamilated the great-

er part of Poland, Finland, and other countries, now reaches out for Manchuria and Corea. Japan will be next on the program. At least this is what the Japanese fear. They can therefore not be expected to change their attitude, unless Russia retreats. It would be idle to speculate at this time on the probable outcome of a war

between the two countries. But it is not doubted, that if Russia wins, she will aspire to the sovereignty over all China. It is not imposisble that Japan has similar aspirations. Either power, at the head of the Chinese millions, trained and equipped for war, would, perhaps, be able to overrun the rest of the world like the Goths, the Huns, and the Vandals in the early ages. Whether

Russia or Japan comes off the victor, an Anglo-Saxon union might be neces. sary for the preservation of the balance of power in the world. Jailbirds of a feather flock together.

All pugilists lag superfluous on the

Hunter and Rice call that confession Munzey's weakly,

Being already on the stage, what good is a divorce to Nordica? If Governor Odell sues Schwab, will Schwab sue for peace?

Has the Czar really played the Mikado for a "sucker?"

International weather bulletin-Look out for blows in the far east.

Even the thought of "red onions" brings tears to the eyes of some people. Whether the ships of the navy are

republic, 'sovereign and independent." One's sense of humor, if nothing else, compels this, for the solemn mockery of the situation could not otherwise be ap-

Pueblo Chieftain, The general opinion expressed in the United States is that under the treaty with Panama now pending in the sen-ate, the United States in return for the canal concessions is practically pledg-ed to a protectorate of the new republic, and cannot permit any attempt to conquer any part of the territory that has been recognized as independent by the United States and the other great powers,

Chicago Record-Herald.

Many Yale university professors and business men of that city have sent a petition to Senator Orville H. Platt of Connecticut urging Congress to rat-ify the treaty between the United States and Panama. Among the signers are Professor William H. Brewer, Thomas R. Lounsbury and nearly forty other Yale professors and prominent graduates. The incident forcibly il-lustrates the folly of jumping at conclusions regarding the sentiments of university men upon public questions on the basis of individual expressions of opinion.

The Muncle Star.

United States senators who have been opposing this country's attitude in af-fairs down on the 1sthmus for the sake of mere politics are beginning to get full information of the irrepressible fact that their constituents, regardless of political affiliations, indorse the president's course. The people of this country want the canal con-structed and controlled by this government. They would, naturally, re-sent any undue or underhand move on the part of this government to attain the part of this government to attain such an end, but circumstances to date do not warrant such an opinion of the policy of the president and his advisers in their dealings with Colombia. It was Colombia that essayed to "work" this country, but exposure and detection came and with it this government's prompt action that insures the building of the canal in the interests of the but for the especial benefit of world, each and every country in the western hemisphere.

Los Angeles Times.

Panama proposes to retain \$8,000,000 of the money the United States is to pay her for the use fo the canal zone, for the "future benefit of the republic, but late advices from Bogota would indicate that she may possibly have to draw on the fund in order to be able to meet Colombia in mortal combat with guns of long range and quick fire. But if she does it will be a cruel waste of good hard cash—cash that might better be expended in demalariaizing the isth-mus and in teaching the young Panamamma how to shoot his ideas to the best advantage.

New York World.

Panama facts are to be made public if not in the President's opinion "In-compatible with the public interests." The true incompatibility is not between publicity and the fact, but between se. crecy and the public.

-NEXT ATTRACTION-

"THE GAME KEEPER."

SALTTHEATRE GEO.DFYPER LAKETHEATRE MANAGER LAKETHEATRE CURTAIN 815

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

An interesting article in the current issue of Leslie's Weekly is captioned "Confessions of an Animal Trainer," and explains the mysterious ability of horses and dogs apparently to perform mathematical calculations on the stage.



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ular communion with any religious society," and further, the "llcentiates of a denominational body or appointee of any bishop while serving as a regular minister or priest of any church of the denomination to which he belongs.' The laws require that "before any person shall be authorized to solemnize a marriage he shall file credentials of 11cense or appointment with the clerk of the circuit court of the county in which is located the church under his ministry." Elder Keysor filed with the clerk of the circuit court of La Crosse county his letter of appointment, as follows:

"To all persons to whom this letter shall come: This certifies that the bearer, Elder William C. Keysor, is in full faith and fellowship with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and by the general authority of said Church has been duly appointed to a mission to the northern states t preach the Gospel and minister in all the ordinances thereof pertaining to his office, and we invite all men to give heed to his teachings and counsels as a man of God sent to open to them the door of life and salvation and to assist him in his travels in whatsoever things he may need. And we pray God the Eternal Father to bless Elder Key-sor and all who receive him and minister to his comfort with the blessings of heaven and earth for all eternity in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. "Signed at Salt Lake City, Utah, De-

cember 3, 1901. In behalf of said Church.

"JOS. F. SMITH. JOHN R. WINDER, "ANTHON H. LUND, 'First Presidency,"

The husband died shortly after the wedding, and a contest over his will was commenced by his relatives. Their attorney raised the question as to the right of the "Mormon" Elder under the law to perform the ceremony. The chief contentions to the contrary in the brief were, the position held by the Elder, as set forth in his certificate filed with the clerk of the court, and the status of the Church that gave him that position. The attorney argues that Utah when Mr. Smoot was a candidate for the senate, I should have opposed

"There is no evidence before the court that the 'Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' purports to be a re-ligious society. The cortlicate docan't sky so. It is true they use words often used in religious literature-Elder, Jesus Christ Saints, gospels, etc. But all thase words might be used in the forms of many societies, theosophical, philosophical and in the many mutual benefit societies all over the country, and the use of these words do not make the society a religious one,

He then goes on to give what he claims to be a history of the rise of the Church, the discovery of "tin plates" by Joseph Smith, and a lot of nonsense gleaned from anti-"Mormon" works. the purpose being to show that the "Mornion" Gospei is not a religion. But he fatuously admits that "Religion is defined in the lexicon as a system of doctrine and worshin regarded by Its adherents as of divine authority." Apparently sensing the weakness of the doubt he is as conscientions as any i sotion that "Mormonism" is not a religion, he goes on to show that if the court decides against him in this partioniar; his decise that the curtillente of Elder-Kerser shows that he is a prost

Japan, the United States is ilself an The first decision is a rectal-thet ins heater. Eder William ' Key nur, is full faith and tellowship with from the fleids of bulbterry, and day

month. And that have daily approach a minimum to the Marthalia distant Think-The playane of the spectra II be preach the therad had minim

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There is no birt in this document, it. Withink, U. Require time heats of i sample administ to only undersony a silver the increased without caused by

church which is more binding than his dously heavy. oath to his country is a matter which remains to be proven at Washington. Since the manifesto of a few years

It is pretty hard to teach children to be original, only less hard than to teach ago there has been practically no polygamy or polygamous cohabitation in Utah and none openly. The practice is no more apparent in Utah than it is them to be geniuses. The circus trust has decided to abol-

in Wisconsin. I do not believe there have been more than three or four cases brought to public notice in ten years. I was a member of two grand juries ten or eleven years ago which brought indictments against some of ish free street parades. If it does, it will abolish nearly half its receipts. A Los Angeles man who was very badly burned has just saved his life by the skip of his friends instead of by the

and since then it has been practically skin of his teeth. The Chicago Evening Post, a short The Central High School of Kansas time ago, had a Washington dispatch City is to have a spiral firestide. Slidin which it was stated that Senator ing down it should give the pupils a Burrows was "certainly digging into 'Mormonism' " Among other works con-

polish that no other course can. "A wise son maketh a glad father." Austen Chamberlain defends the policies of Joseph Chamberlain. "A wise son heareth his father's instructions."

Everybody knows who Isidor Rayner, United States Senator from Maryland, is. He is the attorney who conducted Admiral Schley's case in the Schley-Sampson controversy.

at North Yakima, Washington, where Mr. Henry now resides, copies the dis-"Misquotation of public speakers is patch with the following comments, fast becoming a national evil," says an which we copy because they show a exchange. But they are compensated disposition to fairness on the part of by their own misquotations of facts, Dr. Henry, in regard to the controversy figures and authors.

The castle of Kronberg, famous as the "The Rev. Mr. Henry said today it Elsinore of Shakespeare's "Hamlet," is regard to this matter that it would be omewhat remarkable if his threatened with destruction from unshould be instrumental in turning the dermining tides. Here hen is evidence cales against Smoot, especially as himself is inclined to think that Mr. Smoot should be given his seat in the that there is "something rotten in Denmark.

Emperor William's voice is to be seconded on a metal matrice, and the matrice stored in the National museum at Washington. This makes it certain that the Kaiser's voice will go thunder. ing down through the corridors of time.

The morning contemporary that is continually exposing its ignorance of Utah affairs and Utah laws, is once more in a fluster at being brought up standing on its dull intolerance. As usual, it avoids the gist of the argument, files into tantrums, calls names and makes an exhibition of its inability to reason and its proneness to bad tem.

per. It needs a strait-jacket. One good turn deserves another. Presblent Roosevelt said Secretary Root was the ablest man in public life that had appeared in a generation. And new the ex-secretary of war says the Presi-dent is the greatest conservative force in Washington.

President Harper says that members of the University of Chicage faculty may criticise at will, favorably or otherwise, the actions of John D. Rockereiter. That is liberality in the true sense of the word, and doos honor to Mr. Rocksfeiler and the great institution ha tounded. Brown university practically hisminasi President E. B. Andrews traance he hold shows on the money spicetion that wore not popular in Rhoda labord stot other castom whiten. Blow trong the contrast in the two cases? THE PANAMA QUESTION.

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a distantiones the Permissis trants to of Foundation, where we stated in the ly should not be inegotion. (Awards on our one man . The contribution of level descendents in the other

A descriptive "St. Paul, the Pride of the Big on "St. Paul, the Print of Northwest," will attract attention. very instructive article on the naval strength of Russia and Japan, from the pen of Sidney Graves Koon, has interest at this time. There are many other excellent features .- New York.

In the February number of the National Magazine, "Socialism and the La-bor-Unions," by Senator Marcus A. Hanna, is a contribution of great sig-nificance. "Affairs at Washington," by Joe Mitchell Chapple, deals with current national affairs. Interesting observations /on/the character and habits of turkeys and geese form the basis of Dallas Lore Sharp's "Farm-Yard Studies." Joe Mitchell Chapple's con-tribution, "The Owner of the 'Rolling Peanut," deals with George Ade, playwright and humorist. "Our Unique Volcano," a natural wonder that we acquired with the Philippines, is des-cribed by William Raymond Blanchard, late of the Twenty-sixth Volunteers. One of the strongest contributions in One of the strongest contributions in the magazine is "1904," a political fore-east by Frank Putnam. Winter life in Uncle San's great western park is portrayed in "Ski-Running of the Yel-lowstone," by Lewis R. Freeman. In the line of poetry, the number offers "Fireside Journeys," by Jean Wilson; "Columbia's Emblem," by Edna Dean Proctor; "Revelation," by Frank Put-nam; there is also a variety in short stories. Some interesting features of "The Home" department are a witty analysis of typical Boston girls, by Kate Gannett Weils: "A Harmony Cure for the Blues," and "The Woman's Burden .-- Boston, Mass.

The Black Cat for February has five short stories, all of which are written in the style peculiar to this little mag-azine. The titles are, "A Threefold Cord," "The Flying Husband," "Where is Robert Palmer"." "Honeymoon Cot-tage," and "The General's Term of Of-flee.—Shortstory Pub. Co., Boston,Miss.

"What to Eat," for February has a varied and appetizing list of contents, in the shape of illustrated articles, of particular interest to housewives. Among the articles referred to are "Dietic Health Hints," "To Entertain "Dielic Health Hints, "To Entertain Little Ones," "Seasonable Dishes for February," "Pure Foods," "Illustrated Dishes," "Answers," and "Editorials," --The Pierce Pub. Co., Chicago.

The Christmas number of the Sunday Sun, published in Manila, has just reached this office. It is an interesting publication, showing that the newspa-per fraternity in the Philippines is up to date, whatever may be said of the rest of the people in that new domain of Uncle Sam. The Christmas Sun is in magazine form. Its cover represents a truly oriental scene, executed in rich colors. Its contents are devoted to the resources of the islands, but much reading of a general characetr is inter-spersed among the special articles. The number is generously patronized by vertisers, and its pages are finely li-lustrated. The editor and publisher, Mr. Edward T. O Brien is to be congratu', led on his splendid journalistic effort.

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