

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
telephone with any department of the
Deseret News, will save themselves and
this establishment a great deal of an-
noyance if they will take time to notice
these numbers:For the Chief Editor's office No. 74,
3 rings.For Deseret News Book Store, 74, 3
rings.For City Editor and Reporters, 359, 3
rings.

For Business Manager, 359, 3 rings.

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CRITICAL INQUIRIES.

The Deseret News is asked once more
whether it is proper for anyone but a
priest or elder to pass the sacramental
emblems to the partakers, when the
revelation concerning it says the elder
or priest shall administer it. The in-
quirer seems to think that deacons have
no right to officiate in this ordinance,
and therefore he undertakes to set up
his judgment against that of the Ward,
Stake and Church authorities. Perhaps
he does not think of it in that light but
a little reflection would show it so.Once more we reply to the question:
The meaning of administration, in re-
gard to the Sacrament of the Lord's
supper, is the consecration of the em-
blems, the form of which is given by
revelation. It tells how the elder or
priest shall "administer" it. The hand-
ling of the plate or the cup after the
form of consecration has been com-
pleted with, is another matter. The
elder or priest gives it to the person
or persons who pass it to the members,
and thus it is administered under the
authority he holds. One member may
pass the plate or cup to another mem-
ber without holding any office in the
priesthood, and the fact will remain
that the emblems are administered by
the elder or priest who blessed them
and handed them to the officer or member.There is no need to ask the Deseret
News questions that have been de-
cided by the Church authorities or that
can be officially answered by the Ward
or Stake authorities. Our friends should
bear this in mind. And they should
avoid being too technical and conten-
tious. Inquiry for information should
be encouraged, but queries to puzzle
and excite criticism should not be in-
duced in. We are pleased to see the
desire of our young people to under-
stand doctrine, but we are not delighted
at the disposition some folks exhibit to
show their own acuteness and raise
disputes without profit.

A NEW YEAR'S BOON.

The merging of the Utah Light and
Power company with the Consolidated
Railway and Power company, seems to
meet with favor by all classes in this
city and state. There is no reason that
we can see why it should be otherwise.
There is a union of interests between
the twain which renders it natural and
profitable that they should become one.Under one management it is altogeth-
er probable that the public will be bet-
ter served in both departments and at
no greater cost. We are sure that it is
the desire and intention of the united
company to furnish both light and power
at the lowest rates possible, consid-
ering the rights and claims of the
stockholders, who have never yet shown
a disposition to profit by the needs of
the public. There has been no "water-
ing" of the stock. Indeed, the Light
and Power company cut down its cap-
italization some time ago, from four
and a half to three millions. We have
no occasion to expect anything of that
kind of inflation which some corpora-
tions indulge in, but on the contrary the
public welfare will be kept in view, and
at the same time the perpetuity and so-
lidity of the combined institution will
be maintained.There is no probability of any "ex-
actions" from the public either for
lighting or car-fares, as a result of the
merger. The blending of two capitaliza-
tions and the merging of two inter-
ests, in a manner designed to lessen
expenses and improve service, does not
carry with it the necessity to raise de-
mands upon the public in either direc-
tion. Returns up to a given point have
to be expended in gradual improve-
ments, and the prospect is bright, both
for the success of the combination and
the bettering of those conditions and
utilities in which the public are inter-
ested. We consider this union of the
companies one of the good things that
came to this city at the opening of the
new year.

THE POINT OF DISPUTE.

The precise questions at issue be-
tween Japan and Russia are not gen-
erally understood. The dispatches have
conveyed contradictory accounts of
both Japan's demands and Russia's
concessions. Recently it was said that
an ultimatum had been sent to St. Pe-
tersburg, with Jan. 7 as the time limit
for a reply, but this was promptly de-
nied. The only thing that is perfectly
clear is that both countries are pre-
paring for war on a large scale.Japan's indignation at Russia dates
from the struggle with China in 1894.
At that time China claimed to be the
guardian of Korea and Japan decided to
oust China and assume the position of
guardianship. To Japan, expansion of
influence is as vital as it is for the
European powers, and the Asiatic con-
tinent opposite the island empire is the
natural way out of isolation. Japan
commenced the war that ended in the
humiliation of China. As a result
Formosa and part of Manchuria were
ceded to Japan. This placed Korea
between Japan's territorial frontiers,
gave Japan the greatest military and
naval stronghold in Asia—Port Arthur
—and brought her within striking dis-
tance of the capital of China. The
Japanese were delirious with pride.But at this point Russia stepped in.
Aided by France and Germany she de-
manded that the ceded part of Man-
churia be returned to China. Russia
appeared as the good Samaritan among
nations, pretending to restore to the
victim of Japan's greed, the stolen
property. In the role of philanthropist
she was upheld by other powers. But
it soon became evident that Russia
stepped in for the purpose of securing
for herself the booty she had compelled
Japan to give up. Russia built a
branch of her Trans-Siberian railway
to Port Arthur, which she "leased"
from China. Russian troops were moved
into Manchuria. Russian officials ad-
ministered the government of the coun-
try, and now Russia occupies and has
virtually annexed the province out of
which she ousted Japan eight years
ago. And this is not all. Russia has
steadily encroached on Japan's in-
fluence in Korea and has shown a dis-
position to secure territory and sea-
ports from that nation. The Russians
have thus far baffled the plans of Ja-
pan in Korea. This is the trouble. Ja-
pan seeks to force Russian influence
out of Korea. If she were victorious
in a Russian war, she would, no doubt,
force her out of Manchuria, too. Vast
interests are at stake on both sides.Various compromises have been sug-
gested, but the underlying question is
whether Russia's march toward, and
possession and control of, the Pacific
coast, is to be checked. There can be
no compromise on that issue. Russia's
diplomacy is employed to postpone war,
but there is no change in the policy
of aggression. War may yet be
averted for a time, but the probability
is that it will come sooner or later.
That is the view expressed by Japanese
statesmen.

BOOKS AND READING.

Perhaps no statistics show more
plainly the progress of the world, than
those setting forth the demand for
books and periodicals. There was a
time when a book represented a little
fortune. Only the wealthy people
could afford to own a few volumes.
The valuable products of literature
were chained to the walls of libraries,
and scholars traveled far in order to
see and read works that were famous.
Then the art of printing was made pos-
sible by the invention of cheap paper,
and books became accessible to the
people. Still, only a century ago, Bi-
bles were so scarce that a girl is said
to have tolled and saved for six years
to buy a Bible, and then she had to
walk fifty miles to find a person who
could tell her where to find a copy that
was for sale. At that time few were
able to read. The multiplying of
books and schools has remedied all
this, and now books are seen in every
house, besides the volumes reposing in
thousands of libraries.The secretary of the Brussels Inter-
national Bibliographic Institute, M.
Paul Otlet, estimates that the total of
printed books since the invention of the
art of printing to the beginning of 1900,
amounts to no less than 12,163,000 dif-
ferent works, and that the number of
periodicals is from 15,000,000 to 18,000,000.
If it is remembered that some of these
have been printed in millions of copies,
and all of them in thousands, the enor-
mous total of books may, to some
extent, be realized.The editor of the Publishers' Weekly
gives the following output of books
for the countries and years mentioned,
representing very nearly their present
annual output:

COUNTRY.	1890	1900	1902
Germany	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
France	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Russia	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Italy	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
United States	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Great Britain	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Austria-Hungary	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Holland	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Belgium	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Roumania	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Sweden	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Switzerland	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Denmark	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Spain and Portugal	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Turkey	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Argentina Republic	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Norway	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Canada	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Chile	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Egypt	189,250,976	190,849	190,849
Iceland	189,250,976	190,849	190,849

The surprising feature of this table
is that the United States is represented
as being behind Japan and Russia, as
well as the German states, France, and
Italy in the yearly production of books
and pamphlets. The explanation,
however, is found in the fact that the
newspaper and magazine literature is
so far ahead of all the other countries,
as to entirely distance them. Whether
this is for the benefit of the country,
or not, is a different question. News-
paper articles are not always well di-
gested. Facts are often misrepresented
leading to the utter impossibility of fol-lowing everything up for verification
before printing it in the daily press. It
is different with books and pamphlets
that are revised again and again, be-
fore sent out for the enlightenment of
the public.Americans, it seems, have had little
time for solid reading. Their literary
wants have been satisfied by the skim-
ming over of headlines, and the cursory
glance at the body of the articles that
may appeal to their curiosity, or pecu-
liar literary taste. But it is claimed
that a change for the better is taking
place. People have more time to read.
Books containing information and in-
struction are in better demand. The
newspapers are aiming at literary ex-
cellence. All this shows that we are
improving.

THE "OPEN DOOR."

Speaking of the "open door," the past
is closed, with all its opportunities,
whether these are neglected or im-
proved. With some there, no doubt, is
regret at many a chance lost. If the
Old Year could be lived over again,
many would take a different course;
or they think they would. In the light
of the experience they have, but the doors
of the past are closed. They cannot be
opened. What is written is written,
and neither regret, sorrow, nor pray-
ers can open that which is past, to be
lived over again.But the future opens its doors wide.
The new year comes with new oppor-
tunities, new chances to all whose
earthly missions are not yet finished. It
is well if through experience we have
been taught the value of such oppor-
tunities, and if we decide to grasp them.
A moment's neglect, and the door may
be closed forever!

SOCIETY TO THE DOGS.

Christmas trees for dogs is the newest
idea of our novelty-hunting time. Ac-
cording to the New York World, one
of the ladies singing in "Babes in Toy-
land" has conceived the idea of having
a Christmas party for her dog and for
some distinguished dogs of her friends.
The item states that the lady had her
dining-room tastefully decorated and a
small cedar placed in the center of the
room. The tree was hung with presents
of rubber toys that could walk, talk
and cry. Is this a beginning to a form
of social amusement? If so, what will
the end be? Why should dogs alone be
remembered with Christmas trees and
toys? Cats, and horses, and pigs, and
chickens, etc., might as well have their
parties in beautifully decorated din-
ing-rooms. And then, just fancy what
the future society page may contain
in the form of illustrations and notices!
In the meantime, it is to be hoped that
the lady who was so kind to the dogs,
did not forget that there are orphans
whose hearts would have rejoiced at
the tree and the toys the dogs did not
appreciate.

RESULT OF IMITATION.

An Associated Press dispatch from
Hazelton, Pa., a few days ago told the
story of girl strikers who imitated their
male brothers to the extent of assault-
ing their sisters who got tired of strik-
ing, and defying the police. About 300
girls employed in silk mills at Hazelton
quit work three weeks ago and ef-
forts were made to fill their places.
Sixteen girls were being escorted
through the streets to the mill by the
chief of police and a patrolman, when
200 strikers attacked them. Sheriff
Jacobs and seven deputies, so the story
runs, hastened to the scene and charged
the mob. But they were as power-
less to cope with the strikers as the two
policemen. The officers did not care
to draw clubs on the girls and the dis-
order continued nearly an hour. And
thus it is that the gentle sex invades
the sphere of the party of the other
part. A glance at the newspapers at
hand the last few days reveals the
astonishing fact that Miss So-and-So
runs a pool-room "for ladies only;" that
Mrs. So-and-So gave her dressmaker
a black eye; that Mrs. What's-her-
Name? assaulted Mr. Blank with her
doubtless success, and that Mrs. Some-
body contracted, without the knowledge
of her husband, whiskey bills to the
amount of \$5,000 and got delirium trem-
ens. It has been feared that the de-
sire for imitation would sometime re-
sult in the descent of woman from her
own level, where she is the object of
admiration and devotion, to that of
the lower levels of man. And if the
daily press reports are to be credited,
the fears are not wholly without founda-
tion.

AS SEEN BY AN ORIENTAL.

A Forum contributor with a decided-
ly oriental name, Muhammad Barakatullah,
writes about the Russo-Japanese
embroglio. He estimates the Russian
army now ready for service against
the Japanese at 400,000, and the Mi-
kado's troops at 500,000. The naval
strength of the two powers in the east,
he thinks about equal. Speaking of
the effects of a war upon the rival na-
tions, he says:"The clock of their progress will be
set back at least a quarter of a century;
it is difficult to believe that Russia,
under the present circumstances, can
conquer the island empire and dictate
terms at Tokyo, or vice versa. Japan
possesses a decided advantage over her
opponent in having the base of opera-
tions and supply close by, while Russia
will have to bring everything from
across the continent—a necessity which
will tell heavily upon her armies of war.
She will no longer remain a dominant
power, as she is now, in reference to
world politics. If she should not come
off best in the fight, it may be that this
war will turn out the beginning of the
end of the Russian empire in the far
east, for an active anti-foreign agita-
tion is going on within China itself,
ho-hui, or Society of Triple Harmony,
from which emanated the Boxers who
figured so prominently during the
events of 1900. The following extract
from its circular inviting members to
attend the meeting to be convened on
the twenty-fifth day of the Second
Moon is rather suggestive: 'In these
days the hearts of all people are ill at
ease because foreigners are everywhere
selling our inheritance. We are
ground down in the dust. When shall
we be delivered?'"So it is possible that before the con-
clusion of the Japanese contest, Russia
may have to try conclusions with the
Boxers of the East, the Morning
Calm. Her reverse in the east wouldalso give an impetus to revolutionary
societies to make matters worse for her
at home. The general effect of the war
upon Russia would be similar to that of
the South African war upon England, if
not worse, so that both these countries
would be on a par for some time to
come in the necessity for improving
their condition. Politically, Germany
would then become the first power in
the world, and the commercial supre-
macy would be shared between Germany
and the United States. France, the ally
of Russia, would be of little avail to her
in the orient, for the people of the re-
public would not allow their govern-
ment to participate in a conflict in the
far east while Germany remained neu-
tral."This view is well taken. Russia can-
not afford to let Japan beat her. Her
internal affairs are not satisfactory.
When an image of world-power is built
upon incongruous elements, an effec-
tive blow upon the feet will cause it to
fall and break to pieces. Russia is
very much in that position. The frag-
ments of iron are held together by dust-
potism—only clay in our age and gen-
eration.

No news is better than news of war.

And some resolved to make no resolu-
tions.If war comes the Russian bear will
hug no delusion to himself.Missouri is still after Millionaire
Ziegler to fill a long felt want.Already many of the new leaves that
were turned over have been turned
down.Joseph Chamberlain is going to Aus-
tralia. But will Australia go to Joseph
Chamberlain?Because the New Year came in on
Friday it is no sign that it will be an
unlucky one.Uncle Sam will take sides with
neither belligerent but sell to both as
a good neutral should.Down east there has been a cut in the
price of beef. Salt Lake seems to have
been cut off from the cut.The Colombian minister was absent
from the President's New Year's re-
ception. But he was not forgotten.Opponents of Panama's recognition
say that the administration proceeded
on the theory that the end justifies the
means.If Japan asks, in the event of a de-
claration of hostilities, upon what meat
does this our Year feed, the answer
will be easy—American canned meat.Mrs. Alice P. Norton of Chicago says
that "the homes of America are fifty
years behind the times." This is sim-
ply a little tale from Alice in Won-
derland.To hold the members of the "Blue-
beard" company in any way respon-
sible for the Iroquois theater horror,
would be to turn a tragedy into a
farce.During the last hour of the reception
the President greeted his callers at
the rate of fifty a minute. Why was
he not a little more strenuous, making
it sixty a minute?Senator Hoar complains that the
Congressional Record is printed in
such small type that it is difficult to
read. One reason may be that it is
largely filled with the talk of men of
small type.Years moving onward, onward.
Whence and whither, and why?
says Alfred Austin. If he, "poet laureate
and representative of all the race,"
cannot answer these questions, how
does he expect other people to.In his forthcoming book, General
Weyler, in one of the most interesting
chapters, will tell why he did not in-
vade the United States. No matter
what his explanation, the real reason
is, that he knew it would be absolutely
futile to attempt it.The general staff of the army and
the general board of the navy are
getting ready to respond strongly and
promptly to a diplomatic call from
the state department in the event of
war between Russia and Japan. Per-
haps they hope that the call will
come.It is said that certain members of the
new City Council have banded them-
selves together for the purpose of dic-
tating the policy of the new adminis-
tration. If this be so, it is a New
Year resolution that should be honored
in the breach rather than in the keep-
ing.Jessie Bartlett Davis, wife of the
manager of the Iroquois theater, speak-
ing of the terrible calamity there, says:
"It is all the fault of the
public that such things occur. That
sounds mightily like the wolf up stream
blaming the lamb down stream for
muddying the water."The new year in Oregon opened with
a morning paper. It is called the Ex-
aminer. It is Democratic on politics,
but promises not to be extremely parti-
san. It stands for trades unionism, to
the extent of organization for the ben-
efit of labor but against the strike agi-
tator. It aims above all to be a news-
paper, has the night press dispatches,
a special Salt Lake correspondent and
is published by the Union Printing
company, with Frank Francis as editor.
It bears strong resemblance in make-
up to the Standard but takes a positive
position of its own. We place it with
pleasure on the exchange list of the
"News."

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

Portland Oregonian.
The pope's suggestion that European
powers abandon their right of veto on
the papal succession is cleverly put, and
its application would facilitate the sepa-
ration of church and state. His points
are well made, and it is certainly perti-nent that if the powers deny civil
power to the Vatican by letting it alone
to their consistency by letting it alone
to their ecclesiastical administration.
The danger from the veto prerogative
has ceased to be very great, and as
there is no power to compel its aban-
donment, it is likely to linger in inno-
cent desuetude rather than induce an
operation for the removal of this vermi-
form appendix of the papal election.

New York American.

"Love one another," enjoins Jesus.
"Self-preservation is the first law of
nature," answers the world. "Love thy
neighbor as thyself," enjoins Jesus.
"Every man's first duty is to himself,"
answers the world. "Do unto others as
you would that others should do unto
you," enjoins Jesus. "Get ahead of
others or others will get ahead of you,"
answers the world. Jesus preached un-
selfishness; the world practices selfish-
ness. Jesus preached the return of good
for evil. The world returns evil for
evil, and thus, not unreasonably, evil for
evil, and thus, not unreasonably, evil for
evil. "As an ideal," says the world, "the
Gospel of Jesus is beautiful, and if we
were living in a millennial Arcadia,
where everybody trusted everybody else
and thought of the happiness of oth-
ers before his own, it might be pos-
sible to take Christ's maxims seriously
as rules of conduct, but human nature
being what it is, we must do as we do—
which is to profess profound reverence
for the gospel of altruism, and then go
each his own way, looking out for Num-
ber One. When human nature has been
changed mankind will become really
Christian, not before." Jesus under-
stood human nature infinitely better
than do the worldly wise, who libel it.

New York Examiner.

Any attempt to reduce religion—at
least the religion of Christ—to a science
nonsense. It is a transcendent science.
It belongs to a higher realm of thought
and experience. The preaching of
Christ crucified is a stumbling-block to
the Jew and foolishness to the Greek;
it is a science in the life of the world
no sane man can question. How can
"science" explain the power of the
cross? Explanations have been offered,
but their absurdity has been quickly
detected. It has been ascribed to halu-
cination, to the working of mere emo-
tionalism, and so on. But a bad man
transformed into a good man; a sinner
into a saint, puts all such feeble sug-
gestions to shame. No; Christianity is
not a science, not a philosophy; it is
the expression of the love and life of
God in the heart of man. Science has no
terms in which to describe such a phe-
nomenon. It can be stated only in what
Bunyan quaintly calls "the language
of Canaan."

Baptist Commonwealth.

The theological storm center at the
present time is the person of our Lord.
There are those who for the most part
are to be considered orthodox who have
a feeling of reservation when they
come to consider the divinity of Christ.
They are inclined to discount the story
of the virgin birth, and while ready to
acknowledge the divineness of the
Christ, they are not inclined to believe
him divine in the sense of being di-
vinity incarnate. Naturally, those who
would be orthodox emphasize as strongly
as possible the divinity of our Lord.
In fact, so strongly do they emphasize
it that they are inclined, many of them,
to take the position of being divinity
delivered in the sense of His being ab-
solute Himself. The position seems to
this writer one demanding careful thought
and definition so far as possible. He
claims to stand second to none in the
reverence he gives to Christ, and in his
acknowledgment of the Christ's com-
plete divinity. To him the virgin birth
presents no more mystery than birth
anywhere or at any time. The over-
shadowing of the Highest that came to
that Jewish maiden contains mystery,
it is true; but the genesis of life is
everywhere mysterious, and in the one
case no more than in the other.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The first number of the Forum for
the New Year opens with an estimate
by Henry Litchfield West of the pres-
ent situation in "American Politics,"
the principal topic considered being the
candidates and issues at the presiden-
tial election. A Maurice Low follows
with a review of "Foreign Affairs,"
including Russia's action in the far
east, the Panama revolution, and Mr.
Chamberlain's propaganda. "Finance"
is dealt with by Alexander D. Noyes.
Several notable advances of the past
quarter in "Applied Science" are de-
scribed and explained by Henry Harri-
son Staples. The greater part of Her-
bert W. Horwille's "Literature" article
is a criticism of Morley's "Life of Glad-
stone." Henry Tyrrell writes on the
present condition of "The Drama" in
the United States, and Prof. A. D. F.
Hamlin on "Architecture." There are
two educational papers, one by Ossian
H. Lang on "The Educational Outlook,"
and the other by Dr. J. M. Rice on the
results of his recent inquiries into the
methods and results of the teaching of
language. The magazine has special
articles on "The Russo-Japanese Im-
broglio," by Muhammad Barakatullah,
and on "International Chess Tourna-
ments," by Emil Kemeny.—New York.

Open Monday

We extend to you our best wishes for a
happy and prosperous new year and the com-
pliments of the season and hope that the
ensuing twelve months will see the relations
between yourself and Z. C. M. I. still more
firmly established and buoyed onward by the
spirit of good will and hearty co-operation.Store will be closed Friday and Saturday, Jan. 1st and 2nd to per-
mit of inventory taking. Open Monday, Jan. 4th, 8 a. m.Z. C. M. I.
Utah's Greatest Department Store.

CUTLER BROS. CO.

36 Main Street, Salt Lake City.

Have the following Christmas presents for sale:

50 Kinds of Silk Handkerchiefs.
500 doz. Ladies' Fine Handkerchiefs.
25 Kinds of Silk Mufflers.
25 Kinds of Suspenders.
15 Kinds of Ladies' Hose.
20 Kinds of Suspenders.
500 Ladies' Walking Skirts.
1,000 Men's Knitted Garments.
1,000 pieces of Ribbon.
50 Kinds of Men's Neckwear.
10 Kinds of Men's Socks.
10 Kinds of Ladies' Gloves.
500 doz. Ladies' fine Handker-
chiefs.
500 doz. Ladies' Union Suits.
1,000 Ladies' Lisle Garments.
1,000 Provo Mills Shawls.We guarantee our prices as low or lower than those who are Ad-
vertising Cheap Sales. We have Boys' and Men's Suits, Provo
Mills and California Blankets in Gray, White, Mottled and Vienna.
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