

## DESERT EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 7, 1902.

## KEEP TO THE QUESTION.

The police controversy appears to be as far from settlement as ever. Probably the next session of the city council will dispose of some of its features, and it is to be hoped that the whole squabble will soon come to an end. The attitude of the *Desert News* has been taken simply on the rights of the city council and of each of its members. We have taken no personal ground. We have conceded the right of the Mayor, under the law, to remove the head of a department without bringing charges against him or stating any other reasons than "the good of the service." But at the same time we have recognized the rights of the city council, under the law, to approve or disapprove the Mayor's action in this respect. We have also repudiated the attempts to make this a partisan or a religious disagreement. It is purely a question for each member of the council to decide for himself, with a view to the public welfare and of justice to all persons immediately interested.

The efforts to drag into the contention the old, bitter, anti-"Mormon" charges and insinuations, has been opposed by this paper, and our position has received the support of nearly all our citizens. It was a foolish proposition from the start. There was nothing in the facts or in the arguments to justify it. Equally silly is the endeavor to make it a party question. The officer proposed to be removed is a Republican. If he were a Democrat there might be some shadow of a reason for claiming that partisan motives prompted the opposition to his displacement. But the four gentlemen who are being so roundly abused maligned and misrepresented because of their action on this matter, are just as strong Republicans as are those who favor the de-capitation. The Democrats who join with the four Republicans certainly have no party axe to grind, for they do not expect one of their party to be put into the place. The dispute is therefore evidently outside of either partisan or religious grounds.

The uninformed and disgruntled agitators who essay to support the movement for the removal of the Chief, and the retention of men already removed from office, proclaim the latter to be "Gentiles," and try to bring in the "Mormon" question in relation to their removal. Considering the facts in their case, their parentage and antecedents, the effort is laughable to those who are posted. So is the conjecture that the persons who are to be nominated to fill the vacancies will be "Mormons." "Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise," is a very old and trite adage. It is closely applicable to the mutterings, speculations and groundless assertions of those who cannot meet the facts and the reasonings in the case, except by irrelevant and incoherent imaginings.

The idea that on the main question, members of the council who belong to the same political party as the Mayor, have no other duty in the premises than to do what he desires, is so irrational as to approach the idiotic. Any attempt to make the police department a mere political adjunct to a party machine, will receive the strong disapproval of the great body of the people of this city. The endeavors to blackguard the dissenting members into submission, will also be resented by the masses of our citizens. They have a right to their views as to the advisability of approving the action of the Mayor, and the duty is placed upon them by the law to use their judgment, instead of being hounded and clamored into a course which would be opposed to their knowledge of facts and intentions relating to the subject. It is a pity that extraneous questions have been dragged into this controversy, and the sooner they are excluded and stamped out of sight the better it will be for all parties concerned.

## THE ALL-WOOL BILL.

The Pacific Northwest Wool-Growers association, in its convention at Helena, Montana, adopted resolutions unanimously endorsing the pure-wool bill, which is before the Congress of the United States. On general principles we are of the opinion that the measure is good, and for the protection of the general public as well as of the wool-producers of the country. It is certainly wrong to permit the deceptions practiced by manufacturers and dealers in mixed fabrics to continue. Goods supposed to be "all wool and a yard wide" which are mixed with cotton, hair or other materials commonly used to "pull the wool" over the eyes of purchasers, are a scandal to the public. To require labels to be placed upon them, describing the composition, which enter into their composition, is reasonable and just. If oleomargarine may be designated by law to prevent

deception in purchases of butter, the proposed requirements may be made by appropriate legislation, as to fabrics into which other than real woolen threads are introduced.

There is one feature of the bill, however, against which we have dissented and have already explained the reason why. It will do no harm to repeat it. The term "shoddy" is frequently used in the bill, and according to its definition in that document it is used improperly. Shoddy is defined as goods which are composed partly of wool and partly of other materials; whereas a mixture of cotton and wool, of silk and wool, of goat-hair and wool, and other mixtures, are not shoddy by any means or in the nature of shoddy.

It is properly a sort of felted goods made up of waste materials, sometimes old cloth torn into shreds and worked up in imitation of genuine woolen goods. The term shoddy originally applied to that kind of cloth, has come to be used to represent anything in the nature of a sham. It may therefore be argued that anything which pretends to be all wool and is not, can be classed as shoddy. But in the special case of fabrics such as we have mentioned, the term is misleading, and ought not to be employed in legislation designed to make manufacturers and dealers state to the public what the goods they offer really are.

The bill in question can very easily be modified in respect to the terms to be employed, and the labels which are to be placed upon the bolts of cloth put upon the market. The word "shoddy" need not be used in reference to anything except shoddy. If the goods are a mixture of wool and cotton or other material, the label can state the fact. If a bolt is all cotton, it could be so labelled. If labelled "all wool" and any other material enters into its composition, a penalty should be imposed upon the manufacturer or dealer who places it there. The purpose of the measure is all right and it ought to become a law, with the exception that we have noted. The public should be protected from fraud and every honest person in the land will agree with that sentiment.

## A UNIQUE VISIT.

The United States have on various occasions been honored with visits by personages connected with royal families. They have come, sometimes as fugitives to find an asylum here, and sometimes as tourists to see the sights and to have a good time. In the latter case they have generally traveled incognito. Even the present King of Great Britain has been here and been royally entertained. But the visit of Prince Henry of Germany, although he has no chance of inheriting the throne occupied by his brother, is different from all previous similar occasions. He comes as a personal representative of the emperor, offering the friendship of a great nation. His is not a personal visit, but a representative one. This fact sufficiently explains the fuss made over it on both sides of the water.

Leading Germans make no secret of the fact that they expect great results of this social call. The editor of *Norddeutscher Allgemeine Zeitung* is quoted as follows in the *New York World*:

"I believe that every single German sincerely wishes and confidently hopes that Prince Henry's journey to the United States and the reception awaiting him there will vastly contribute toward confirming and drawing closer the cordial relations which, fortunately, already exist between the two great kindred nations."

The editor of the *Vossische Zeitung* says:

"I earnestly hope the prince's visit will tend to cement the relations between the two countries. This is the wish of all true Germans who love their country and look with the greatest sympathy on the approaching visit. I believe it will produce lasting good."

This sentiment seems to be very general in Germany. There is a strong desire for most cordial feelings between the two nations, and the hope is evidently entertained that this social call will have the desired effect.

The relations between this country and the great Fatherland beyond the sea, certainly are most cordial, as cordiality goes between nations in this commercial and mercenary age. And the reception the prince will receive, will prove that, for the American side of the exchange of graceful courtesies. Here, too, the hope is strong that the good feelings existing may be still further strengthened, and whatever can be done with that object in view will certainly be done.

At the same time, no illusions are indulged in. The relations between nations are governed by mutual interests more than anything else. Aside from all political considerations, however, the visit of the prince under the circumstances in which he comes, is a courtesy that will be appreciated, and received in the spirit in which it was conceived.

## WHERE GIRLS CO-OPERATE.

The Philadelphia North American tells of a successful co-operative scheme which should be of special interest to women who work for salaries and live away from home. In the city of brotherly love, such women no longer need to pay high prices for uncomfortable, scantily furnished rooms. By clubbing together, they have found that they enjoy the comforts, and some luxuries, of life for from \$3 to \$4 a week, and save themselves much labor and worry, besides.

There are three such organizations in Philadelphia. One of them was started by one Miss Viola Richmond, who acts as its president and is entrusted with the buying of all provisions. Once a month the club has a business meeting, when suggestions are made and discussed. Whenever there is a vacancy, an applicant for membership is accepted on a month's probation, and if at that time she is acceptable to the other members, she remains. There are twenty-two girls in the little organization. Each in turn makes out the bill of fare for one week.

The other two clubs are operated on similar general principles, though differing somewhat in the details. The Lunch club occupies a stately Philadelphia residence. It commenced as a co-operative lunch room, but has now enlarged its scope. There are fifteen members who pay from \$3.50 to \$4.50

a week, according to the location of the rooms they occupy. They have a general parlor, prettily furnished, and a "rest-room," also gotten up in good taste.

Successful efforts of this kind deserve attention. The lot, especially of young women, supporting themselves as dressmakers, stenographers, clerks, etc., in large cities, away from the influence of home and friends, is not enviable. Associations of this kind must be of incalculable benefit, whether considered in their economic, social, or moral aspects.

## CHAUTAUQUA READING.

The Chautauqua reading course for housewives is a new department, added to the courses of home reading known by that name. It is claimed that 6,000 women of New York state alone, enrolled themselves for that new course of reading, which is conducted by Martha Van Rensselaer. This would indicate that there is more popular interest among the women in the duties of housewives, than sometimes is supposed to be the fact. The course includes home sanitation, how to furnish the table, the best way to do housework, physical education applied to housework, and gardening.

The Chautauqua Assembly, as its official title is, is a corporation for the purpose of conducting a popular system of education. It provides for home reading and for summer schools, with lectures and entertainments. The summer school feature is pretty well known, but the home reading work has attracted less attention, though that is, perhaps, the most important. Over 200,000 readers have been enrolled. It is claimed, since the beginning of the organization, as members of its literary and scientific circle, and many more have taken parts of the home study courses.

The general plan is stated as follows:

(1) A four years' course, designed to give the "College Outlook." (2) Each year's course distinct from the rest. (3) Forty-two supplementary courses for special students. (4) A monthly magazine with readings, notes, and programs. (5) A membership book with special review questions. (6) Individual readers may pursue the entire course alone. (7) Local circles of three or more are recommended. (8) Twenty minutes a day will cover the required reading. (9) Expense, less than fifteen cents a week for nine months. (10) A diploma at the end of the four years' course. (11) Seals for written review work for extra reading.

It may be added that the object of this home study is not to make college or university education superfluous, but rather to furnish a substitute for the benefit of those who for some reason or other have been excluded from the benefits of higher educational facilities.

Police on earth, good will towards men.

There seem to be as many routes for an isthmian canal as there are ways of killing a cat.

Mr. Rockefeller has given a million dollars to Harvard. This should insure him a doctorate of laws.

The electric wire owners and the electric wire workers are both doing considerable wire pulling these days.

At the Hay-Whitney wedding there were presents without number. But it is safe to say there were none without names.

President Schurman's address on the Philippines has been published in book form. In Manila it was declared to be in bad form.

"The loss of wealth is the loss of dirt," wrote John Heywood. The possession of dirt is not the possession of wealth by a long way.

In the Philippines today the two chief political parties are the Optimists and Pessimists. It is one of the most sensible political divisions of recent years.

A Kansas paper tells of a man, a blacksmith, who has had no vacation since 1827 except one year, when he fought in the Mexican war. Surely he has been 'twixt hammer and anvil long enough.

More than a hundred thousand men killed, crippled or crushed and a thousand million dollars of treasure gone, is the net gain to the British in the Boer war. It is a great nation that can stand such losses and not crumble to pieces.

Andrew Carnegie, in his address before the Stevens Institute, said that a proper epitaph for himself would be: "Here lies a man who knew how to get around men much cleverer than himself." Uncle Sam, for instance.

Senator Tillman was compelled to desist from talking because, as he himself declared, he could not find a word hot enough to express his feelings. He might have used the Anglo-Saxon synonym for hades.

Ex-Governor Shaw as secretary of the treasury, will have to meet, at the very threshold of his duties, the problem of how to reduce a surplus without dissipating it. But it is not so arduous or discouraging as the task of closing up a deficit.

Captain Richmond P. Hobson is most urgent that the Monroe doctrine be extended to the walls of Pekin. Which version would be placard on those walls? Monroe's message of 1823, Mr. Olney's flamboyant declaration, or President Roosevelt's interpretation of 1901?

Everybody in these parts will be pleased at the news of the success of Miss Emma Lucy Gates in New York and in Boston. The title of "The Utah Nightingale," bestowed upon her in the cultured capital of Massachusetts, is very appropriate and indicates the appreciation of her charming voice and personality which is so well deserved. We hope to hear of her continued success.

An Athenian professor, it is said, has become a convert from Christianity to the religion of his classic ancestors. He has transformed a room into a temple, has set up two statues of Juno and Mercury, before which he sings and prays, and has erected an altar upon which he now and then offers up sacrifice.

He is thought to be insane, but why not? From some forms of "Christianity" to ancient paganism, the step is not very long.

A unique and most commendable provision of the treaty ceding the Danish West Indies is that contained in article 6, which provides that "In case of difference of opinion arising between the high contracting parties in regard to the interpretation or application of this convention, such differences, if they cannot be regulated through diplomatic negotiations, shall be submitted for arbitration to the present court of arbitration at The Hague." It is putting in practice what has been proposed.

Our readers will remember a series of lectures which were delivered in the Second ward of this Stake of Zion some time ago, designed specially for the benefit of non-"Mormons," but which were attended by a great many Latter-day Saints and were productive of much good. Arrangements have been made for another series of lectures at the same place but on other Gospel topics. The announcement of the times and persons and subjects will be found in another part of this issue of the *Desert News*. We believe they will attract very general attention.

A Conference of Elders belonging to the respective quorums in this Stake of Zion has been called, for Monday evening at half-past seven o'clock in the Assembly Hall in this city. All the Elders residing in this Stake, whether they are identified with quorums or not, should attend this conference. Subjects of importance will be presented, and it is desirable that the gathering shall be large as well as profitable. If the authorities in the respective wards will aid the presidents of Elders' quorums by making known the time, place and purpose of the conference, it will be gratifying to the Presidency of the Stake, who will be in attendance at the meeting.

Washington society ladies are very much wrought up over the customs regulations at New York. In a petition to the President, they say, among other things:

"The law which allows only \$100 worth of new personal effects to enter free of duty is unique of its kind in the world, and its enforcement creates great embarrassment and unnecessary inconvenience; for few persons who go to Europe for a few months can return without having expended more than that sum in absolute necessities of which they can hardly keep an account, and the searching questions of the officials seem to the traveler an unwarrantable interference in her private and personal affairs. It is a temptation to offer a bribe to escape what a few can help regarding as persecution and insult."

They do not seem to realize that the President cannot issue a ukase abolishing tariff dues. But why should travelers to Europe be exempted from customs dues any more than people who stay at home?

## WHEN THE PRINCE COMES.

Baltimore Sun.

Although Prince Henry of Prussia will come to the United States bearing gifts for our great men from his brother, the Kaiser, it is for Congress to say whether the emperor's offerings can be accepted by those to whom they are tendered. The Constitution of the United States is explicit upon this point. Article I, section 9, provides that "No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States; and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office or title of any kind whatever from any king, prince or foreign state."

## St. Paul Globe.

Of course the acceptance by President Roosevelt of a sword from Prince Henry would not have any effect on our international policy, but it would be a precedent to the giving and receiving of presents from foreign countries which might lead to embarrassments in the future. There would be very decided popular objection to the President receiving a present of any kind from a foreign country's representative under conditions which might easily arise; and if one were offered and rejected there would probably be a necessity for explanations which would be embarrassing.

## New York Evening Post.

Let us by all means avoid snobishness over this snip of royalty. When he lands at the foot of Liberty street, he can, if he has the least gumption, get on a street car by himself and find his way to a Bowery lodginghouse. If he wants to see the city, no one will prevent him. He certainly does not need Mayor Low to show him round and invite him to dinner. He might possibly, be agreeably diverted if Martin Engel would call from the sidewalk to his royal highness' window. "Hi there, Hank! Don't yer want to take a little stroll?" And the pair could and their walk with a dish of beef stew at a quicklunch counter. This we take it, is the picture of simple and wholesome American life that the sturdy champion of our rights would have us present to the outer world, especially to the brothers of the effete monarchs of Europe.

## Springfield Republican.

Thus far only one churlish note of discourtesy has been heard. A wealthy New Yorker named Thomas Hitchcock has refused to surrender his private box in the Metropolitan opera house to accommodate for one night the reception committee, which wishes to arrange an open party for the entertainment of the prince. The Hitchcock box is so located that its surrender that night to the committee would be a most gracious and hospitable act. But the Hitchcock idea of courtesy and hospitality is unique.

## Chicago Record-Herald.

It will take more than the salvos of welcome to Prince Henry to drown the reports of hostile German legislation against American products. Ministers and diplomats may palaver and royalty may hobnob with royalty—visitors may come and go—but in these days business is business, and it is the popular sentiment that counts. At least we know it is so in the United States.

## THE CHINESE EMPRESS.

## Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Dowager Empress of China no longer uses a screen when the foreign diplomat comes into her presence. That sort of thing appears to have been rudely pushed aside forever. The lady's beauty, however, is not of a character to make the screenless interview an especially attractive affair for the men from over the water.

## San Francisco Chronicle.

The Dowager Empress, in tears, apologizing to an American woman for the attack made by the Boxers and imperial troops on the foreign legation at Pekin, was something new in oriental

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politics and imperial customs. The report of the incident made interesting reading for the American people, but it is safe to say that all knowledge of the extraordinary scene was carefully excluded from the Chinese people, lest it might impair the popular belief in the sacredness of the imperial family.

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