

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 29, 1904.

## WHY NOT "PULL TOGETHER"?

The contention between the Mayor and the City Council is becoming wearisome to the majority of the people of this city, who desire a business administration of public affairs, and care very little about its effects on mere partisan plans and ambitions. With the citizens it is not so much a matter of Democratic or Republican supremacy as the conducting of municipal business in an able and economical manner. They want city ordinances, resolutions and appointments to be made in accordance with statutory law, so that there may be no conflict between them, and that there may be no legal question as to their validity.

The attitude of the majority in the City Council has been openly and decidedly partisan and dominating. It has been clearly directed by intense party influence and for undoubted party ends. This has been made clear and definite by the statements as well as the acts of members of that faction. They have been advised and encouraged to stand together in avowed opposition to the Mayor, and to assume his lawful prerogatives as to appointments and tell him what offices he may have and what he may not have. All this is in violation of law, ordinance and common courtesy as well as common sense.

These proceedings have urged the Mayor to take a stand for his official rights and to claim that which is vested in him by law. Under the State statute of March 20, 1889, he is authorized "to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the council, all appointive officers and agents that may be provided for by law or ordinance, and in like manner fill all vacancies among the same, except as otherwise provided by law." The practice has been for the Mayor and the Council to appoint the heads of departments and they to appoint the subordinates or employees. The City Attorney, in his opinion on the statute, declares that course to be illegal, and holds that, "regular employees in appointive departments should be authorized in advance and compensation fixed by the Council, by ordinance. When this is done the Mayor should appoint and the Council act on the appointment."

In accordance with that legal opinion, which also shows that the present ordinances are deficient in important respects, and that unless they are amended several departments will be without legally appointed agents or employees, a new ordinance has been formulated which is to be presented to the council for action. Something must be done in that direction and that without delay. It may be that the Hartenstein measure is not altogether that which is desirable. It is probably open to some objections. These can be presented and discussed. We do not publish the proposition now, because we believe it will have to be amended in some important respects or a substitute will be introduced, and the matter is still in abeyance.

Possibly the dispute will hinge on the meaning of the word "agents" in the law of 1889. Judge Day gives it a very broad application. That it signifies persons other than "officers" is clear. Elective officers are given, in the same statute, "the sole right to appoint all their deputies and assistants, who shall be confirmed by the council." This leaves the plain inference that deputies and assistants to appointive officers are designated as "agents" and to be appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The Deseret News does not want to see any measure passed that is in opposition to statutory law. Too much power should not be put into the hands of the Mayor. Nor should he be deprived of any lawful prerogative. Party schemes ought not to figure in this important matter, either on one side or the other. The great thing, in our opinion, is and has been all along, the promotion of harmony for the welfare of the city. To effect this, the vile advice of party schemers of either faction will have to be ignored, and a desire must be promoted to be fair and courteous and mutually amicable, with a sincere determination to bring about the good of the city.

This ought to be accomplished, and can be, if the plots and schemes and ambitions of factions and individuals are made subservient to the needs of the municipality. In this connection we clip the following from the Park City Record:

"Salt Lake would like to be a great city, and ought to be, but it will never be unless it succeeds in getting an administration that will pull together, and harmoniously work for good government and the upbuilding and advancement of the metropolis, casting aside petty politics, petty spites and general demagoguery. The same conditions exist down there now under the new

administration that has existed for years past, viz: The Mayor and council pulling in opposite directions, keeping municipal affairs in constant turmoil and retarding business, to the utter disgust of all fair-minded and progressive citizens. Park City does not pretend to be as great and mighty as the saintly metropolis, but its Solons could learn much by taking a trip to our modest burg and note with what harmony and magnanimity our Republicans and Democratic councilmen work for the general good of their constituents. It might have a tendency to make the Salt Lakeers ashamed of themselves, and result in giving the denizens of Zion what they are entitled to—fair, honest and progressive government. Try it."

## "MORMONS" AT ANN ARBOR.

The Ann Arbor, Michigan, Daily Times of Feb. 29 has an article about the Mormon students at present residing at that seat of learning. Brother E. D. Woolley sends us the item, and states that in addition to the persons mentioned, there are Mrs. Rowena Booth of Provo and a son in the music school, a "Mormon boy" from Montana in the law department, and three of the "Mormon boys" have their wives there. So the meetings spoken of are well attended by Saints studying in the university. The Times article is as follows:

"Although it is not generally known, Michigan has among her students a flourishing Mormon colony which holds the regular services of the Mormon faith and whose members are in a position to exert a wide influence upon the student body. Every Sunday eight young men gather at the home of one of their members, N. H. Tanner, and join heartily in the services which unite them in spirit with far away Utah. Michigan seems to be a favorite institution of learning among the inhabitants of that state, as sixteen Utahans are pursuing courses in the different departments. Utah has nine sons in the law department, two in the literary, three in the engineering, and one in both the medical and dentistry courses.

## FOR GOOD ROADS.

The First National Good Roads convention ever held in this country in the interest of continuous lines of improved roads is to be held at Erie, Pa., March 18 and 19, under the auspices of the New York and Chicago Road association and the Erie Chamber of Commerce. The association mentioned is a young organization, but it has already accomplished a great deal by way of creating interest in the object for which it labors. The purpose is the building of a road between New York and Chicago, as an object lesson, in the belief that when the benefits and advantages are discovered, continuous lines will be built all over the country. Of course, tourists on wheels and in automobiles are very much interested in this movement, but it is of still more importance to the agriculturists. Wretched roads cost more, in loss of time and damage to vehicles and horses, than most people are aware. The improvement increases the value of adjacent property, as it makes labor easier and more remunerative. In countries thickly populated the building of good roads is easier, since the expense can be divided between so many who are directly benefited. In this country, however, there are long stretches of territory, but sparsely settled. Unless the national government undertakes the road building through such tracts, it is difficult to see how it can be made possible to get continuous good roads from coast to coast, and to keep them in repair.

## THE CZAR WEPT.

In a St. Petersburg dispatch it is stated that the Czar is disconsolate and frequently weeps because he has followed the advice of his ministers and involved the country in a fearful war. There is nothing improbable in that story. The Czar, undoubtedly has been deceived. It is nothing new for ministers to manipulate autocrats, as Bismarck did the great Kaiser. Very likely the Czar was not clear-sighted enough to realize what the effect would be of the building of railroads, the massing of troops, and the breaking of promises. Now he knows it, and he is shedding tears!

We hope his repentance is sincere. If it is, he may be led to follow wise counsel. It is in his hands to break the fetters of oligarchy and give to Russia constitutional government. It is possible for him to surround the throne with representatives of the people and share the burdens and responsibilities with them. He must know the difference between tyranny and representative government. He should make it impossible for a handful of ambitious aristocrats to plunge 122,000,000 of human beings into the miseries of war. He should read history. Autocrats have, before this, been compelled to break through the narrow circle of oligarchy, and identify themselves with the people. And this has always resulted in peace, progress and happiness. The free countries are the standard-bearers of civilization. Let the Czar weep, and then join the procession!

## WOULD AMEND THE HYMN.

According to the New Bedford Standard, "Rev. Anna Shaw, at the National Woman Suffrage convention, protested against the expression 'Our Fathers' God' in our national hymn. To address the Almighty as 'our Fathers' God," she argued, was a discrimination against the feminine. To remedy this terrible injustice to the women, it was proposed to change the line to, 'Our Father, God, to thee.' It would be interesting to learn by what logic the 'reverend' lady makes out that the latter expression is no discrimination against the feminine. If the line, 'Our Fathers' God to thee,' is such discrimination, the amended line, 'Our Father, God, to thee,' is

still more so, since it recognizes only fatherhood in the deity, and no motherhood. The amendment robs the line of the beautiful thought conveyed, that the God we supplicate is the God upon whom our ancestors relied, and no other, and it does not in the slightest remove the alleged objection to it. We cannot believe that the ladies generally are in sympathy with a silly proposition like that. They know, in the language of the old joke, that it is perfectly well understood that 'our fathers' embraced 'our mothers,' and that the author of our national hymn had no intention of discriminating against the ladies.

When the cat's paw the mice will play.

All the hens that lay eggs these days lay golden eggs.

Tomorrow it will be spring, no matter what kind of weather it is.

The Japs made five times as bad a failure as Lieutenant Hobson did.

Both parties to the war are beginning to wonder how the other half lives.

Who could expect his honor the Mayor to honor the opinion of a Street lawyer?

Some people think they have achieved greatness when they have only achieved notoriety.

The new stake has been named Liberty. Let the other two be Equality and Fraternity.

News of Russia driving the Japs into the sea seems to have been delayed in transmission.

Col. Watterson describes Mr. Hearst as "a figure of speech." Probably because "money talks."

The Cossacks have made a dash into northern Korea. The Cossacks are nothing if not dashing.

"Large bodies move slowly," explains why Russia has not achieved successes so rapidly as Japan has.

It is not soothing to one's nerves to know that soothing syrup is dangerous because of the opium in it.

All that the farmer will ever get out of the gambling in wheat in Chicago, no matter what price may be quoted, will be a sad experience.

To judge by the way in which the St. Petersburg press assails the United States, Russia must be cultivating the gentle art of making enemies.

"A nation's disgrace sealed," says the St. Paul Globe, speaking of the ratification of the Panama canal treaty. It also has the seal of popular approval.

Senator Tilden says that a farmer works with his hands while an agriculturist works with his mouth. To which class does the man with the pitchfork belong?

The Wisconsin state capitol has been burned. Now if Milwaukee succeeds in getting it, she will look upon the fire as a capital thing while Madison would regard it as a capitol offense.

General Pflug announces that the Russian cavalry has crossed the Yalu. It is expected that this announcement will shortly be followed by news of severe fighting. In that event the pacifists will doubtless be very heavy.

The navy department has at last decided to furnish the libraries of naval ships and stations with copies of John D. Long's work entitled "The New American Navy." That is proper. It was Admiral Converse who prohibited the work in the navy, the prohibition no doubt being intended as a bit of toadyism to the President, to whom it must have been very nauseating when he found it out.

The story of a conspiracy to get the Mayor out of the city seems a little "fishy." It smacks of pinhead plottings and purplish politics. If such a scheme should be worked, it would do more damage to the party or faction that invented and employed it, than anything that could be desired by their political opponents. Remember, there is a future as well as a present and futurity is a good deal surer than "shoot-ing!"

"Aunt Em's" birthday! By this familiar name Sister Emmeline B. Wells is known among her most intimate friends and loving relatives. This remarkable woman is seventy-six years old today, and a reception is being held in her honor at the Beehive house as we go to press. Among the many congratulations she is receiving from a host of admirers none is more heartfelt than that which we tender on behalf of the Deseret News. May her years on earth be always pleasant and her days crowned with joy. She has had trials enough for her proving and henceforth may her path be strewn with fragrant flowers and her life be filled up with peace!

## CANAL TREATY RATIFIED.

Pueblo Chieftain.  
As an immediate consequence of the ratification of the treaty it is already announced that a regiment of United States regulars has been ordered to Panama to take the place of an equal number of marines stationed there. This transfer marks the change from temporary occupation to permanent guardianship. The construction of the canal is now assured and the United States government and the engineers in its employ will devote themselves promptly to the task of making a new display of American energy and successful accomplishment in the face of great natural obstacles.

New York World.  
With the decision of the senate to vote on the Panama treaty on Tuesday the canal to unite the Atlantic and Pacific oceans seems, after half a century of agitation and many "false starts," to be at last assured. There is still, however, some necessary legislation to be considered. To avoid possible question of the legality of the payment of \$10,000,000 to Panama instead of to Colombia, a new enabling act must

be passed. This is a simple matter; more difficult is the framing of a plan of government for the ten-mile strip along the canal which will soon be practically United States territory.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
Another bill will also be introduced at once, creating a commission to exercise governmental authority over the ten-mile canal strip across the isthmus. Precisely what powers are to be granted this commission is a difficult question to solve. The rights of the United States in the strip are not those of a sovereign power, but of a lessee with complete authority so long as the terms of the lease are complied with. The point is a fine one, and those who have the matter under consideration are hesitating between a commission charged with carrying into effect special laws of congress, and a commission given power to frame its own regulations. Subject, perhaps, to the ratification of either Congress or the executive at Washington.

Kansas City Times.  
The efforts of several Democratic leaders to defeat the ratification of the canal treaty was purely political, but ill-advised, as they soon discovered to their discomfort. There never has been the possibility of a vital issue in the Panama affair. The opposition made by several southern senators for supporting the treaty will avail nothing in the future. The treaty has been approved by a vote of 66 to 14, and it is not a party measure. It will be as futile to attempt to make political game out of the proceedings leading up to the treaty as it was to try to discover party issues in the Cuban question after both parties have sustained the President in his general course.

New York Mail and Express.  
The Colombians have quieted down. Their leading men have hopes of an adjustment with the United States which shall fully recognize whatever equity they possess. The ratification of the canal will be followed promptly by the dispatch of troops of the United States army to the isthmus and the withdrawal of the marines. Acts will promptly be passed by Congress providing for carrying the terms of the treaty into effect—for paying Panama its \$10,000,000 and for the government of the canal strip.

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