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MODERN PREACHING.

Elder B. H. Roberts is undoubtedly right in maintaining that the Latter-day Saints have reached a stage in their existence where they "must leave the old trails and strike out for progress." He argues that true life is not repetition, and that new conditions and the advanced state of modern knowledge demand new methods.

Perhaps the methods of preaching and the sincerity of living practiced by the Apostles and the early Fathers of the primitive Church, and the zeal, faith, and wisdom manifested by the Twelve in the early history of the Latter-day dispensation, could be somewhat closely followed as models of life and preaching, if we could learn enough about them. But this is a matter of extreme difficulty. It is not easy to put ourselves in the place of others, and thus follow their methods, even if that were the best thing to be done.

We have our own place to fill, our own work to do, our own problems to solve, all of which are necessarily different from those that confronted the former church. And it is the successful living out of our own affairs that is required of us, rather than a mere imitation of the experience of others.

Reflection on contemporary affairs is more likely to be fruitful to the speaker than attempts to dwell upon facts more remote and incidents obscured by the lapse of centuries. From a study of the methods of others, the preacher must construct one for himself; he cannot adopt theirs. Each day brings new duties, and we must adapt ourselves to the circumstances of today. It is the experience of the individual, not his recital of the experiences of the ancient prophets, that constitutes the most successful preaching.

FRUITS OF PROHIBITION.

The claim is made by Prohibitionists that the present anti-saloon campaign throughout the country has resulted in a decrease in the value of the liquor production amounting to many millions of dollars. Official reports show, it is said, that there has been a decrease of \$5,858,487.03 in the internal revenue receipts from taxes on the liquor traffic during July and August of this year, as compared with the corresponding months of last year, and a decrease in the value of liquor production of \$58,198,770.70.

It is further claimed that from July 1, 1908, to Aug. 31, no less than 8,970 retail liquor dealers went out of business, as shown by the fact that the decrease in the retail dealers' special tax of \$25 each aggregated \$224,269.07 during that time.

A special feature of this reported decrease in the production of intoxicants is the fact that the bigger decrease is in the production of beer and revenue receipts from it. Of the \$58,198,770.70 drop in liquor production, \$21,858,862.50 represents the whisky production decrease, while the beer production decrease is much greater, reaching \$36,612,908.20.

In July and August a year ago \$13,558,640.89 in revenue tax at \$1 a barrel, was paid on the beer produced in the United States, while this year in those two months the revenue receipts from the same source only reaches \$11,727,995.48. The total revenue receipts on whisky a year ago equaled \$20,063,616.14, while this year they fell to \$16,221,057.81.

If the figures are correct they furnish a sufficient answer to the pessimistic view that all efforts at restriction are useless. They prove that even so-called "necessary evils" can be restricted, by earnest, intelligent effort. Where evils flourish they do so because somebody fails to do his duty to God and his fellow-men.

MR. KIMBALL'S STORY.

Two morning papers deny, with some emphasis, the story of Mr. S. Kimball, published in the "News" of Saturday. We hope it is not true. It is not, as far as the great majority of "American" party voters are concerned. Many of these are honorable men and women, unprejudiced and imbued with the modern spirit of liberality in all things. They are Americans in the true sense of that term. But, unfortunately, they are not the leaders of the party, though they are in the majority.

Among the leaders are individuals who are so bigoted that they can see nothing to commend in "Mormonism," any more than the blinded Pharisees of old could find virtue in a Nazarene. Some of these bigots believe they are rendering God a service by persecuting His children. Others are rank hypocrites. From the reeking cesspools of Commercial street they have been demanding moral purity, and promising "reforms," for years. They care not what falsehoods they promulgate, as long as they can induce voters to further their plans, and their only object is gain, at the expense of the public. There are others whose ambition for offices blinds them to honor, justice, truth, and everything that is good. What kind of foolish talk such individuals may have indulged in at times, in their private revelries, the majority of the party has no means of knowing,

except as it may be divulged afterwards.

One thing is certain. The chairman of the "American" party state convention, according to the report of the Herald, declared, in behalf of the party, that a WAR OF EXTERMINATION is to be waged against the Church officials.

"To carry the county and judicial district for the 'American' party and thus start the machinery of the courts in motion to accomplish THE IMPRISONMENT or EXILE of the band of twenty-six, this is the program of the 'Americans' as announced at the state convention."—Salt Lake Herald, Sept. 29.

The so-called "band of twenty-six" includes men never accused of any offense. It includes men as honorable, as upright, as patriotic and loyal, as any who breathe the pure air of these valleys. It includes men whose shoe-strings some of their traducers are not worthy of untying. Why should a political campaign be waged for the purpose of driving those men into exile, if not for some ulterior end? When the chairman of a party convention can make such a declaration publicly, it does not tax the credulity very much to believe that all sorts of infernal plots may have been discussed privately. Not long ago—and we have this from a perfectly reliable witness—an individual was heard on a streetcar to say in answer to a question: "I have lived in Utah for seven years, and I am going to remain here until I see every 'Mormon' driven away."

We hope Mr. Kimball's story is not true. Nothing could be more deplorable to all parties than another religious war, but we firmly believe that, unless the respectable "American" citizens take the party management in their own hands and eliminate the sentiment of anti-Mormonism of which the leaders are inspired, from local politics, there will be no peace. When that is done, when anti-Churchism is no more, there will be no conflict between "Mormons" and "Americans." All we ask for is the establishment of truly American conditions with equal rights and opportunities for all.

SQUIRRELS AND THE PLAGUE.

According to the Sacramento Bee, the ground squirrels of several counties in California are infected with the plague, and have thus become a menace to the state. It seems that the infection among the rats is less feared than that among the squirrels, for the reason that the rat does not spread, it is believed, into the country but lives in towns and cities, while the ground squirrel is numerous in all agricultural districts. "Rat infection," the Bee says, "may be circumscribed and fought, but there are practically no bounds to the possibilities of squirrel infection. And if ground squirrels may be infected, which is known, there is scarcely room for doubt that likewise tree squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, and, in fact, every sort of rodent or gnawing animal, are also susceptible to plague infection. Even cats are susceptible."

The note of danger sounded on account of the spread of the plague by means of rodents is of importance. Quarantine regulations can be of no avail against the advance of the destroyer by such means. The importance of living temperate, moral lives, in cleanly surroundings, so as to make the body immune against the infection, as far as possible, is the strongest safeguard.

TUSEGEE.

The annual report of Booker T. Washington, of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, shows an average attendance for the year of about 1,400 students, with an enrollment of 1,621—1,085 young men and 536 young women, besides a number of children in the training school. The students come from 25 states and 21 foreign countries.

Besides the regular work of the institution, what is called "extension work" is also reported. This includes an annual Negro conference together with its numerous branches known as local conferences. It also includes the publication of a weekly farm paper: Farmers' Monthly Institute; the Short Course in Agriculture; the Farm Demonstration work, now extended into Mississippi and Texas, supported largely by the United States government and the General Education Board; a town night school; a town afternoon cooking class; the County Institute; Ministers' Night school; a weekly mothers' meeting; county ministers' meeting; supervision of a county and state fair; the National Negro Business League, and a general effort to co-operate with the county officials to improve the country schools. One result of this latter work is seen in the fact that in one year the colored people in Macon County, Alabama, contributed in cash toward the building of new schoolhouses and the extension of the school term more than \$3,000.

Booker T. Washington, by giving the negroes the advantage of education is doing important service to the country. If the so-called race problem is ever to be solved, it will be by means of education.

THE "LIPS OF THE PREACHER."

We think that the Rev. Mr. Thornton may have put the case too strongly for some people yesterday when he asked from the Unitarian pulpit whether his hearers did not think there is something wrong in a social system under which it is practically impossible for a preacher to say all the truth which urges him to utterance or to discuss every moral question without losing his job. He asked whether or not they approved of excluding from the pulpit all discussion of the living issues of today. "Are you in favor," he continued, of putting the whole burden of giving voice to the insistent social demands of this age of vast impending change upon the shoulders of street agitators, padlocking the lips of the preacher in the pulpit by the menace of losing his livelihood?"

We judge from what some men say that this is precisely what they are in favor of, and that nothing short of "padlocking the lips of the preacher" will satisfy them.

We have in mind, in this instance,

the questions of temperance, of moral decency, of public sanitation, and of civic righteousness in public office. Surely these are problems in the solution of which all honest party men and all progressive political leaders will welcome the aid of the preacher. Whether reformers be preachers or whatever vocations they represent, the only question is, are they in earnest for the right? If so let them, in the proper time and in an appropriate manner, both speak out and act out their convictions.

Even a rich girl may make a poor wife.

A family skeleton is always a living horror.

How the Big Cats did purr over yesterday's game.

And now the college students are feeling all footballled up.

When he entered Butler's store Wolf was a wolf in sheep's clothing.

A great many of today's foes of corporations are but friends in disguise.

Though not so classified by Crabbe, still chat and scandal are synonymous.

Some people never extend a courtesy but that they expect a favor in return.

Servia probably will be satisfied with a war of words at the proposed conference.

An alligator has been captured in East river. And Wall street is just full of sharks.

A candidate can climb a mountain much easier than he can climb into the presidential chair.

How is it that in the final series of championship games Casey has not been at the bat once?

It is reported that turkeys will be scarce this fall. They will if they know what's good for them.

The Daughters of the Revolution might be expected to adopt the director gown but they don't.

The north pole rather than Paris would seem to be the proper place to hold a refrigeration congress.

A California woman fell into a wine vat and was drowned. She shouldn't have looked upon the vine when it was red.

A cement house has been built in twelve hours. A castle in Spain can be built in a minute and it will last a man a lifetime.

And now the quakers have taken up the fight against Speaker Cannon. Naturally he exclaims, "Heaven save me from my Friends."

Mr. Taft has climbed Mount Auburn, the highest of Cincinnati's seven hills. And when he arrived at the top did he find the Deserted Village?

Speaking of the rumors about his daughter and the Duke of the Abruzzi, Senator Elkins says there is no engagement. Still there is a great deal of skinrishing.

It is likely that another Irish land bill will be introduced in parliament. Is it possible to bring forward anything new on that subject? The statesman who shall do it will be a genius.

The little trusts or combinations that put the price of green groceries and of the necessities of life as high as possible do the people as much injury and injustice as do the great big trusts that one reads so much about.

A Chicago Episcopal clergyman is going to write a series of plays dealing with the cardinal virtues. To a layman it looks as though plays dealing with the cardinal virtues should be written by a Roman Catholic priest.

THE HANDY POCKET GUN.

Toronto State Journal.

The use of firearms, in the enforcement of ordinances which are only quasi-penal in their nature, is becoming increasingly common in many parts of the country. In Connecticut it is claimed, country constables enforce the automobile speed laws by the use of pocket artillery, and it is now recorded that the mayor of Chicago, Illinois, brought his revolver into action in suppressing trouble growing out of a hazing incident at the University of Illinois. It is said in behalf of the strenuous official that he claims to have fired over the heads of the riotous lads, but he is also quoted as declaring that on another like occasion he will "shoot to kill." This Illinois country mayor has a perverted notion of his duties and privileges, and will not only exceed his rights, but subject himself to a charge of manslaughter, if, in pursuance of what was probably an ill-considered threat, he should "shoot to kill" in the endeavor to suppress disorderly conduct which does not involve felony.

A PICTURE OF DISTRESS.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The problem of childhood is always acute in a great city. A son or daughter of the poor who would grow up into creditable manhood or womanhood has so many difficulties thrown into his way and so many temptations that he is almost sure to fail. Born into a life which has no chance of choosing or improving, they must accept conditions as they find them and struggle against the odds until victory or defeat crown their endeavors. In normal times the lot of the lower world child becomes doubly hard and pitiable when industrial depression adds to the burdens placed upon his shoulders.

BALKAN "SELF-GOVERNMENT."

Constitutions are the fashion. Persia and Turkey have fitted themselves with new ones. Austria feels obliged, in annexing Bosnia and Herzegovina, to promise "constitutional institutions" and "a voice when decisions are taken concerning affairs of your home." This is a confession that for thirty years the people have not had a voice in their affairs. Indeed, it is less than two years since Emperor Francis Joseph, the disgust of his political opponents of the moment, forced universal suffrage in the dual monarchy itself. Austrian promises may be weighed in the balance of performance. Rumanians in Transylvania have been kept from the polls by Ku-Klux methods. The Croats, who nominally have home rule, last year withdrew their deputies from Budapest, alleging discrimination

against their language. Last autumn 100,000 men paraded in Vienna in protest against election laws unfair to poor men. Slovaks complain that in one county, Saros, they have 88 per cent of the people and 3 per cent of the schools.

JUST FOR FUN.

Devold of Sentiment.

"I love you, dear, and only you! I'm weeping my heart away! Yes, my darling, speak to me once more! I love you, dear—I love you so!"

The young woman rang off and stepped out of the cabinet to confront the angry manager.

"Miss Jones," he said, "that telephone has been fixed where it is for the purpose of convenience in contracting business, and not for love making in office hours. I am surprised at you. Don't let it occur again!"

The young woman froze him with a glance.

"I was ordering some new music from the publishers for No. 3 department," she exclaimed, icily.—Philadelphia Record.

A Slight Difference.

A physician in a small town in Northern Michigan got himself into a serious predicament by his inability to remember names and people. One day while making out a patient's receipt, his visitor's name escaped him. Not wishing to appear so forgetful, and thinking to get a clue, he asked her whether she spelled her name with an "e" or "i." The lady smilingly replied, "Why, doctor, my name is Hill."—Exchange.

Cashing Up.

"Have you ever played poker with your son-in-law?"

"Only once," answered Mr. Cumrox. "It wasn't very satisfactory."

"Did he win?"

"No, he lost. But it merely resulted in my having to write him a check so that he could endorse it over to me."—Washington Star.

Great Thought.

The Bridegroom—Hello, what's this? All the bills for your trousseau! Why, I thought your father paid these.

Bride—My father is a customer. But he thought you would rather pay them and not give him the humiliation of borrowing the money from you.—Exchange.

A Straight Tip.

Customer—Quick shave, please.

Barber—Close.

Customer—See here; what business is it of yours whether I'm close or not? I'll tell you one thing, young man—I don't tip, if that's what you want to know.—Puck.

Had One.

"I am introducing my patent ever-ready trouser-holder and—"

"Better move on, young man," interrupted Farmer Jenkins. "I've got one here that's putty good and I don't object to showin' it, either. Here, Tiger!"—Puck.

The Difference.

"The giraffe has a tongue eighteen inches long," said Mrs. Talkmore.

"And knows how to hold it, too," growled Mr. T., who had had a long curtain lecture the night before.—Answers.

That Religion Didn't Go.

A man addicted to walking in his sleep went to bed all right one night, but when he awoke he found himself on the street in the grasp of a policeman. "Hold on," he cried, "you mustn't arrest me. I'm a somnambulist." To which the policeman replied, "I don't care what your religion is; you can't walk the streets in yer night-shirt."—Des Moines Register and leader.

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