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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - AUG. 2, 1904

A TIMELY TOPIC

A great many people who have regard for the observance of the Sabbath, and others who do not care much for religious ceremonies but believe in the benefits of a weekly rest-day, object to the introduction of automobile races on Sunday. We share in the very common regret that this innovation has been inaugurated, and that it has received the countenance of so many of our citizens.

This paper aims to give the news from all points and of all kinds, and therefore mentions the occurrences of Sunday as well as other days. But that must not be taken as an endorsement of the things that are thus chronicled. Particulars of a ball game or any sort of amusement on Sunday, do not imply approval, any more than tidings of an accident, a murder or a battle on that day. We publish news because this is a newspaper, but our opinions are another matter and are given editorially.

Many inquiries are made as to the duty of the county officers in relation to this departure from the old way of preserving order and peace on "the first day of the week commonly called Sunday," as provided by law. The statutes now in force concerning Sunday work and amusements were framed long before the automobile was invented. They provide against horse-racing and barbarous and noisy amusements, and also against the sale of intoxicants, and keeping open any place of business "for the purpose of transacting business therein." The spirit and intent of the law is to prohibit amusements and traffic, that in any way disturb the quiet of the day of rest and require unnecessary labor on that day.

Technically, the runners of automobile races may not violate the letter of the law, because they do not engage either in "horse-racing" or a "barbarous and noisy amusement." But the proprietors of the places where they engage in their sports and the hands employed there, are guilty of a misdemeanor as defined in section 4238 of the Compiled Laws of Utah of 1898. If they do not perform unnecessary labor "and do unnecessary business on Sunday," there is no meaning in the language of the law.

This, however is open to the construction that may be given to it by the courts if a test case is had for the purpose. And meanwhile the officers of the law will have to proceed under the general understanding as to its provisions and meaning. We do not desire to establish a Puritan Sabbath, nor to repress the natural desire for freedom from strict restraint on that day. We would not force upon others that respect for the Lord's day that we feel and try to promote. We look upon this as a cosmopolitan city, and would not advocate undue restrictions upon people of various ideas and customs. But we would like to see the law observed and respected according to the spirit and meaning thereof, and we do not think that is done by a noisy, shouting, yelling assemblage of excited people, or by the frantic racers or players who pander to the clamors of the crowd, and make the day of rest and peace a time of toil and tumult and disorder.

After all, this is largely a matter of social education and of home training. "There is a time for all things" that are right. Sunday is not the right time for the riotous conduct and tumultuous amusements complained of, and children should be trained to sense and feel thus for themselves, so that they will not engage in anything that is subversive of sacred or secular regulations.

We will promise the people of this city and state, if they observe the law of the Sabbath as intended by the Creator and indicated by statute and ordinance, that they will enjoy life longer and better, and that society will be improved and be more pleasurable than by the promotion of reckless, lawless and disturbing amusements, on the one day out of seven that should give respite from labor and opportunity for mental and spiritual improvement. Give us a quiet and peaceful Sunday!

SLAYING THE INFANTS.

New York is said to be suffering from an epidemic that carries off the babies by the thousands and that baffles the efforts of the physicians. Even the cause of the disease seems to be a mystery.

In one week there were about 300 deaths from diarrhoeal diseases of children less than five years of age, and in Brooklyn there were 203 deaths in the week. The epidemic is regarded as all the more remarkable because the board of health has taken unusual precautions to reduce the rate of infant mortality. A campaign of education has been carried on, and mothers, especially in the poorer districts, have been told in circulars just how to care for their children. It seems that the inspectors have found the milk supply and the fruit above the average quality,

and the infant mortality can therefore not be traced to impure food.

One of the health commissioners is quoted thus:

"We have one hundred and forty physicians at work among the babies of the tenement districts, and still the deaths increase in number. We have also sixteen nurses going from house to house relieving distress, and I expect to have to increase largely this unusually large staff. The scourge is all the more inexplicable in view of the fact that adult mortality has been no larger than in other years."

A doctor who has studied the situation, thinks that the mortality is due to the weak condition in which many children are on account of attacks of diseases last year. There were weeks last year, he says, when we had in Manhattan and the Bronx alone 3,000 cases of contagious diseases. There were as many as 1,600 cases of measles in a single week. While a large percentage recovered, the diseases left the constitution debilitated and with the return of summer, unsanitary food improperly given has caused widespread intestinal disturbance.

Whatever the cause is, it may be well to accept the lesson that science does not know all there is to know about life and death; and that it does not control those issues entirely. Many have fondly turned to science, as a substitute for God. It is well that they should, at times, be reminded of the impotency of their idol. Our age, besides, is noted for prenatal slaying of infants. It would be a particularly just retribution, if mysterious epidemics should, therefore, appear, rendering one of the crimes of the age still more terrible by attacking the infants, as was the case in Egypt, where the destroyer slew the children, after the Egyptians had been guilty of child-murder, in order to keep Israel in bondage.

"LIBERAL" THEOLOGY.

The "News" has received a prospectus of a new school of "liberal theology," with a courteous request for notice. The school will be opened at Oakland, where it has had placed at its disposal commodious quarters in the parish house of the First Unitarian church, at the corner of Fourteenth and Castro streets, one of the most convenient locations in the city, adjoining the public library, and easily accessible from all transportation lines. The aim of the school, we are informed, will be to prepare its students for "practical and efficient work in the ministry," and "while the necessity for a thorough-going intellectual preparation and for careful scholarship will be constantly kept in view, it will also be remembered that studies are but means to an end, and especial emphasis will be laid upon such phases of his work as will tend to make the minister, under modern conditions, an effective influence in the religious and moral life of the community."

What will strike the readers of the "News" as strangely peculiar is the claim that "liberal theology" will be taught. What is "liberal" theology? Theology, as we understand it, is the science that treats of the existence, character, and laws of God, the truths we are to believe, and the duties devolving upon us. There is only one true theology; all others are false. How can there be a "conservative" truth and a "liberal" one? According to the science of mathematics, two and two are four, and the square on the hypotenuse, in a right triangle, is equivalent to the sum of the squares on the other two sides. That is conservative. Is there now a "liberal" science of mathematics, according to which two and two are less than four, or more; or according to which the square on the hypotenuse is smaller, or larger, than the sum of the squares on the other two sides? Absurd! The mathematicians exclaim in chorus. Certainly, but a "liberal" theology that teaches anything but the eternal truth, which is unchangeable and admits of no modifications, is equally absurd. Its true name is falsehood, not liberal theology.

TEMPERED COPPER.

An item is going the rounds of the press, to the effect that campers on the shores of Lake Gogebie recently found a copper implement, about nine inches in length and two inches broad. Its use is not clear, it is said, but special interest attaches to it, because the copper was tempered. There is, as far as known, no artisan of the present age who knows how to temper copper, and if it is true that the implement has been found, and it is as described, it must belong to an age long past. It would then furnish proof of the existence on this continent, in the past, of a very high civilization. That the art of tempering copper once was known, is said to be proved by discoveries of a few tempered copper tools in Michigan and Egypt. But it has been lost. How many more arts, equally important, have been known and then again forgotten? The few tempered copper implements found in this country and Egypt, suggest a most wonderful chapter of human history.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

The conflict between the Russians and Japanese is, by press censors, rendered so obscure that it deserves to go down into history as the war fought in the dark. News is extremely rare, and abbreviated, and to render confusion still more confused, war correspondents, whenever they succeed in eluding the censor, send out rumors and stories that can be denied the day after.

The New York Evening Post, however, tries to give an idea of the movements of the Japanese army for the last three months, in the following review:

"The baffling movements of the three Japanese armies for the past three months will best be understood by regarding Ta-Ché-Kiao as the Japanese objective, and their plan as a converging advance upon that important function, the terminus of the Peking-Niu-Chwang railway. Its possession means the control of the Gulf of Liaotung and of an important source of Russian supplies. To the control of the head of this Gulf the siege of Port Arthur has been subordinated, and all the obscure operations in the mountains may be interpreted as attempts to deceive the Russians as to the real objective. Thus the persistent small demonstrations on the northern roads to Mukden have been calculated to draw off the Russians from the real line of attack near Niu-Chwang. Similarly, Oku's swift acceptance of Stakeberg's challenge and subsequent not pursuit was to draw Kuroki's attention down towards Kaiping, until the eastern passes should be taken, while Kuroki's recent concentration near Liaoyang has prevented the assembling of a sufficient force on the Russian right at Ta-Ché-Kiao. Accordingly, the capture of that town and the occupation of Niu-Chwang mark the successful termination of the first campaign. A great victory by Kuroki might yet undo the patient work of three months; his defeat would, barring some unexpected change in the naval situation, secure to the Japanese the fruits of victory."

The Japanese, we are further told, have defeated Kuroki's four generals: Zassallitch, of the Second Army Corps, at Kiu-lien-cheng; Stoessel, of the Third, at Nanshan; Stakeberg, of the First, at Wafanku, and, finally, Zarubaief, of the Fourth, with his newly arrived Siberian regiments, only the other day at Ta-Ché-Kiao. They are justified in looking forward to the coming decisive engagements with confidence.

Butte put our golfers in a hole. Swallowing platforms is an acquired taste. Campaign hand-books are handy but not so handy as campaign check books. The Japanese are said to have won another victory over the Russians. Tell us something new.

Tolstoi's son has gone to the war. That is the answer to his father's London Times article. Germany has sent no ultimatum to Venezuela. She will probably send a warship if she sends anything. If all who are eccentric were sent to the insane asylum there would scarcely be enough left for attendants.

Kuroki seems to have surrounded Kuropatkin and the flower of the Russian army. "Ring around a posy," as it were.

Not having been notified, Senator Fairbanks may still be wondering who is to be President Roosevelt's running mate.

Boston doesn't know just where to house the Archbishop of Canterbury. Why not put him in the house of bishops?

Panama is "kicking" against the construction put on the canal treaty and not against the construction of the canal.

Another letter from Andre has been received. So many have been received that it might be well to publish a collection of them.

Intending visitors will please note that the latch string will not hang out at Rosemont until after the notification ceremonies at Centennial.

If the President's sons can see the government exhibit on a Sunday, why shouldn't the sons of toil be allowed to see it on that day?

John D. Rockefeller has discovered after much experiment that a private electric lighting plant is too expensive for him. If too costly for him what will the wage earner do?

"Why is it," asked a lady the other day, "that so many of those who are prominent in politics are eminent in nothing?" Such questions if persisted in will upset any theory of representative government.

M. Menshikoff, a distinguished Russian writer, says that the "gigantic American trusts, anxious to find new fields for exploitation in Asia," are mainly responsible for the present war.

Here is the editor of the Novoye Vremya advocating responsible government for Russia; and he is not being prosecuted for his advocacy of it. It is a sign that modern ideas have permeated Russia, and have taken root and are spreading. After responsible cabinet government comes constitutional government.

VON PLEHVE'S FATE. Chicago Record-Herald.

The blow at Von Plehve was a blow at the Russian government—a blow at the czar himself. His death has much more of significance than had the death of his predecessor in the ministry of the interior, Sipiagin, who fell a little over a year ago, and more of the significance than the deaths of the half-dozen governors of provinces who have been assassinated since. The people of Russia have no means of asserting themselves in their government. They have no ballot. They have no free press. They have only the bullet and the bomb. It is little surprise that they misuse these. What will be the result? If there is any man stronger than Von Plehve he will now find room at the front. If there is any measure of repression yet untried it will be discovered and used. Russia will go from bad to worse.

Kansas City Star.

In a way M. de Plehve was simply the incarnation of the Russian bureaucracy. His hostility to liberalism was due to a long schooling in the narrowest department of official life. Undoubtedly the great majority of Russian officials sympathized with his views. So his death will not necessarily lead to an overturning of the czar's settled policies. But the murdered minister was an exceptionally resolute man, and his strength of will without doubt helped the conservative bureaucrats to beat back all manifestations of liberalism and even to publish the czar's own reform edicts. In default of another leader as powerful, officialdom may be forced to yield more rapidly to the pressure of the element that opposes the present withering autocracy.

"A SURPRISING SHIPWRECK."

Washington Star.

The "Bostonians" stranded! Was ever a bit of news about a theatrical organization more surprising? Of all the opera companies, this would probably be regarded by theater-goers as the last to fall upon the troubled waters of bad business and unpaid salaries and a vacant treasurer's box. But there it is, at a seashore resort, and the mind rolls back to its wonderful past and reviews its successes and the great pleasure it has

given to thousands upon thousands of music lovers. The "Bostonians" for years represented a high standard of comic opera talent. It was a leader among scores of such companies. Its principals were national characters. Henry Clay Harnabee, easily entitled to the rank of the grand old man of light opera, is probably as well known by features and name throughout the United States as any public man. Singers came and went in the Bostonians. The personnel changed from year to year, but Harnabee has remained at the head and has continued to please his countless admirers with his quiet comedy and his genial presence. And now his company is stranded at Atlantic City. This has been a disastrous theatrical season, for many causes, chief of which, perhaps, was the frequent theater horror.

Springfield Republican.

The news of the failure and breaking up of the Bostonians at Atlantic City will be received with very genuine sympathy and regret by the public. No other light opera company has had so long and brilliant a career as this and its predecessor, the Boston Ideal, or contributed so much to the entertainment of the people. Though the ending was sudden, it was not entirely unexpected to those acquainted with the affairs of the company, and indeed for several years past there has been a perceptible decline, due in part to the failure to find adequate talent, and in part to the lack of a substitute for "Robin Hood." Mr. De Koven's charming operetta was the making of the Bostonians; it was also in a way their undoing. Nothing else was accepted by the public in its place, and experiment with new pieces almost uniformly met with disaster. Also the company has at times been weakened by internal jealousies, which resulted in the weakening of important roles. But it has always kept a warm place in the affection of the public, and it has stood for a higher class of opera than has been the fashion during the last few years.

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EXCURSIONS FOR THIS WEEK.

Aug. 3—East and West Jordan Sunday school.

Aug. 4—Utah Federation of Labor, special outing. Large program of amusements and sports, baseball game, tug-of-war, boat racing, prize dancing, foot racing, etc.

Admission to Park - - 10c
Good in Trade.

SALT LAKE TIME TABLE
Salt Lake & Los Angeles Railway

Times table in effect May 31st, 1904.

GOING-LEAVE SALT LAKE	RETURNING-ARRIVE SALT LAKE
No. 2, 10:00 a. m.	No. 1, 12:30 p. m.
No. 4, 2:00 p. m.	No. 3, 3:30 p. m.
No. 6, 4:00 p. m.	No. 5, 5:30 p. m.
No. 8, 5:00 p. m.	No. 7, 6:30 p. m.
No. 10, 6:00 p. m.	No. 9, 7:30 p. m.
No. 12, 7:00 p. m.	No. 11, 8:30 p. m.
No. 14, 8:00 p. m.	No. 13, 10:00 p. m.
No. 16, 9:00 p. m.	No. 15, 11:45 p. m.

FARE FOR THE ROUND TRIP 25 CENTS.
*Sunday, last train leaves Salt Lake at 9:30. J. E. LANGFORD, Lessee.

Lagoon

TIME TABLE.

In effect May 30, 1904.

Leave Salt Lake	Leave Lagoon
8:20 a. m.	7:30 a. m.
9:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m.
11:00 a. m.	12:30 Noon
1:30 p. m.	2:30 p. m.
3:30 p. m.	4:30 p. m.
5:30 p. m.	6:30 p. m.
6:30 p. m.	8:30 p. m.
7:30 p. m.	10:30 p. m.

Extra trains on Sundays and holidays at 2:30 and 4:30 p. m.
Last train leaves Lagoon Sundays, 9:30 p. m.
Fare for round trip 25 cents.
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J. B. BEAN, Excursion Agt.
Office, 161 Main St.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDERS

excursion on Wednesday, Aug. 3, will be a big day at Lagoon. The customs of these people and their method of life will be illustrated by both natives and missionaries.

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Of Linens and Domestic, White Wool Goods, Fancy Parasols, Ladies' and Misses' Suits, Traveling Coats, Wrappers, Petticoats, Dress Skirts, Purses and Bags, Ladies' Gloves, Men's Outing Suits, Straw Hats, Children's Wash Suits, Navajo Blankets.

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TAKING ON A PILOT!

to guide you through the shoals of possible trouble is what you should do before you split upon the rocks. Don't wait until your home is in ruins and your hopes of getting another one is completely shattered. Prepare in time for the fire fiend and you can laugh at him as he applies his torch, for you have positive assurance of another home rising out of the ashes in a policy in the HOME FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Home Fire Insurance Co. of Utah.

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