

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.

(Sundays excepted.)  
Corner of South Temple and East Temple  
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose, Editor  
Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION PRICES**  
(In Advance)

One Year	\$3.00
Six Months	1.50
Three Months	.75
One Month	.25
Saturday Edition, Per Year	2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year	2.00

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In charge of F. J. Cooper, 30 Geary St.

Correspondence and other reading matter  
for publication should be addressed to the  
EDITOR.  
Address all business communications  
and all remittances to:  
**THE DESERET NEWS,**  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake City  
as second class matter according to the  
Act of Congress March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - NOV. 25, 1903

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## A WORD IN SEASON.

As the end of the year nineteen hundred and three approaches, it is deemed advisable to stir up the minds of the Latter-day Saints "by way of remembrance," as to the settlement of their tithing for the year so that they may obtain credit for it in due season. Tithes not paid in before the year closes will not be included in this year's accounts. As the Bishops are required to close their books by the end of the year, it is important that settlement be made with each tithing-payer as soon as possible. If it can be done each individual contributor should settle up at once, and obtain a receipt from his Bishop. Don't leave it till the last day of the year!

The Bishops should pay strict attention to the instructions they have received concerning the keeping of tithing accounts. When anything is donated as tithing the amount and kind should be receipted for, and the stub should correspond, as that is to be compared with the ledger accounts by the Stake Presidency, and it will be impossible to make the correct report required to the Presiding Bishopric unless these particulars are observed. If each Bishop follows his own method instead of the uniform plan provided, confusion will ensue and the records will be out of order, if not incomplete. Attention should be given to these matters at once.

Questions on the principle of tithing occasionally come to us, such as can be answered by the respective Bishops or Stake Presidents. Some of them are without the signature of the writer. They go into the waste basket. Everybody can find out for himself, if he really wants to know and does not desire to evade the direct point, what his tithing is for the day, week, month or year. It is one-tenth of that which he receives for his labor or investment. That is a simple matter and leaves no room for shifting or chicanery.

Tithing should be paid in the season thereof and in the kind received. Weekly wages are most easily tithed weekly. So with other periodical receipts. When crops are reaped or gathered they should be tithed at once. So with increase of stock or other property. Any honest query that may arise concerning it can be answered by the duly appointed receiver, and he will have access to proper authority if unable to solve a complicated problem. "Pay your tithes and be blest."

## THE "SUN" IN A FOG.

The New York Evening Sun has been showing some interest in the Utah senatorial question lately, and in a recent editorial touches on the perennial subject of the "Mormon" Church and politics. In response to the denial which the Sun says the Church makes to the charge that it is "in politics," this question is put:

"We, the Mormon Church in or out of politics when it sent Roberts to Washington?"

That puts one in mind of the kind of queries sometimes asked by pettifogging and bullying attorneys, for the purpose, not of eliciting the truth, but of embarrassing and confusing a witness. It is like the query of a browbeater who wanted "yes" or "no" to this question:

"Do you beat your wife now as much as you used to do?"

Of course the badgered witness could not reply in a monosyllable, because he never did beat his wife. The Sun's question can only be met by the statement that the "Mormon" Church did not "send Roberts to Washington," as the Sun can find out for certain if it wants the truth. The election returns will demonstrate the facts in the case. The Democratic party in convention nominated him fairly and enthusiastically, and conducted the canvass and the election. The Republicans nominated Alma Eldredge and made a gallant fight for him. He was supported on the platform and at the polls by prominent "Mormons," and thousands of "Mormons" voted for him.

The "Mormon" people were divided in

the contest, which was a most spirited and vigorous one and was entirely political. The story about "the Church" sending Roberts to Washington had no foundation in fact, but it was quite natural that people imbued with the common idea about the "Mormon" Church should jump at the conclusion reached. Mr. Roberts was the choice of his party, composed of citizens of various religious views, but received some support from non-"Mormons" who were not Democrats, because of his eminent qualifications for the place, and of the vicious attacks of his opponents. He fought his own fight in Washington without Church aid or influence, and was prevented from taking his seat by unusual and, as many of his adversaries now admit, by improper and unprecedented proceedings.

The Sun says further:  
"The presence of Mr. Reed Smoot in the Senate is conclusive evidence of Mormon activity in politics."

But the Sun gives no reason for this conclusion. It is not "evidence" at all. It is only assumption. Senator Smoot was elected honorably and legally and there is not a shadow of taint on the proceedings. Whatever his enemies and traducers may allege against him on religious grounds, they cannot produce proof to justify the Sun's rash conclusion. It is not true except to the extent that among his active supporters there were "Mormons" as well as "Gentiles." But so there were among his opponents and therefore the Sun's assertion does not hold good.

The trouble is, the press of this country follow the trend of popular belief on this as well as many other topics and do not take sufficient trouble to arrive at the real truth. The Sun needs some clear light as to the subject on which it treats, before casting further reflections on the "Mormon" Church or shining through a fog on its readers.

## THE PANAMA QUESTION.

The critics of our government now charge the country with dishonesty and hypocrisy, in its policy. This is the latest comment on the Panama situation. "Our action," we are told, "has been that of a sixteenth-century Italian Prince; but we unfortunately feel ourselves under the necessity of seeking to square it with the Christian morality of the nineteenth. Hence our awkwardness. Hence the cynical remarks of foreign observers. They can understand a frankly selfish and brutal policy. A Russian swoop upon Manchuria, a German descent upon the Chinese littoral, punitive expeditions to Tibet or Central Africa—all that they are familiar with. What staggers them is the spectacle of the United States doing the same thing on the isthmus, but saying to Colombia, with disgusting hypocrisy, that we were moved to break up her territory by 'the ties of ancient friendship.'"

In contrast to this arraignment, it is observed that the American policy, as shown in the Panama incident, is lauded by many foreign critics. One London journal remarks: "It is with this definiteness of object that political triumphs are secured. America knows exactly what she wants and, having set about the right way to get it, she has succeeded." There is every reason to believe that Great Britain, Germany, and France will, in the near future, give the new republic full recognition, so if the Colombians are determined to quarrel with us for having recognized Panama, they will have cause for a dispute with other powers, too.

There is much foolishness in the home criticisms of our government. The fact may be very much regretted, but it is, nevertheless, a fact, that in the dealings of nations with one another, selfishness has no place. Very seldom that godly quality appears in the transactions between man and man, and often that which looks like selfishness is found to be the opposite; but between nations, it is, unfortunately, unknown. Mankind has not advanced many inches away from the old robber maxim that "might makes right." Some time this will be reversed; some time "right will make might," but the time has not yet come, how much the fact may be regretted. And we must take things as they are, not as they ought to be. Otherwise there is no stopping place, short of complete disarmament and the adoption of the policy of non-resistance advocated by Tolstoi, and others. But for this no nation is as yet prepared. Nor can it be, until the government of the entire world is centered in one divine hand. Then, but not till then, can every international question be answered in accordance with the principles of perfect justice and right.

## TESTIMONY OF FANATICISM.

A contributor to the December Century writes interestingly on American fanaticism, which he designates as "an American peril." He mentions a number of religious phenomena which have appeared in this country, and especially those known as Doveism and Christian Science. Naturally, he also includes "Mormonism" in his list, but his most serious charge against this religion seems to be that it, "after the lapse of sixty years, in spite of the opposition it has encountered, shows elements of permanence." To such a charge, no reply is needed. It is strange, however, that so many really queer religious ideas should gain adherents in this enlightened country. In this age, we read history and marvel at the crude notions that gained currency in former ages, but we account for it on the ground that people then were in darkness. We hear about Russian fanaticism, and dismiss the subject by a thought of pity for the "be-nighted" people of that land. But, as a matter of fact, the queerest things religiously may be found in our country, in our own age and generation. We should not throw rocks at other ages and other peoples.

The writer in the Century endeavors to account for the presence in this country of so many strange forms of fanaticism. He says, the American people is the most conglomerate large nation on the globe. "The freedom allowed and exercised, the incessant experimenting, the extraordinary genius of the people for free and full speech, the immense proportion of half-educated persons, the publication of all sorts

of truths, half-truths, errors, and chimeras, the importation of all sects in religion by immigrants from all lands, the method of carrying on political campaigns—municipal, state, and federal—by the press and the mails, by a house-to-house canvass, and by countless speeches under exciting circumstances, by alarming prophecies, attacks on personal and political character, and the scattering of distorted statements far and wide, might naturally be expected to generate fanaticism."

There is much truth in this. Especially it is a fact, that the constant publication of falsehoods is perverting the minds of people who cannot think clearly for themselves. This is injurious in two ways. It disseminates errors, like the wind that scatters the seeds of weeds; and those errors will find soil somewhere, to grow in. It also causes many to neglect to give heed to the truths that may find space in current publications. For where much error is known to be, few care to look for truth. Pearls certainly may have found their way to the refuse pile, but there is not the place to look for them, and in such surroundings they are at all times apt to be overlooked.

But the writer does not touch on the great reason why, in this age and in this nation, so many false pretenses are given a hearing and obtaining a following. The reason is this, that the Almighty has established a permanent work upon the earth for the redemption of the human family, both morally, socially, and otherwise, and the policy of the adversary has always been to establish imitations, in order to confuse the human mind, and direct the attention away from the truth. When Moses and Aaron appear, Egyptian sorcerers appear, too. In the days of Elijah, the prophets of Baal were numerous. False Christs claimed followers at the time of our Savior, and false apostles were numerous in the first ages. So true is this principle that our Lord gave it as one of the "signs" of His second advent, that many false pretenses, were to arise and deceive many. The very fact, then, that our age and our nation are so fruitful of pretenses is proof that the Almighty has established His work here at this time. It is a proof which cannot fail to strike the logical mind very forcibly, in favor of the Church, of which the writer in the Success says that it, "after the lapse of sixty years, in spite of the opposition it has encountered, shows elements of permanence, and sends out missionaries to all parts of the world."

It fares the land to hasty strikes a prey.

Morgan hath said that Roosevelt is ambitious.

At Sunnyside the paths of glory will be the cinder paths.

The militia will see the Sunnyside of the coal mines' days.

Quite a number of senators seem to be suffering from annexophobia.

All will be thankful Friday that Thanksgiving with its gorge is past.

If the Commercial club can secure cheaper coal for the people they will rise up and call the club blessed.

The coal barons are thankful that they can raise the price of coal and call on the State for protection at the same time.

A committee of forty has been organized at Cripple Creek to "regulate" violators of law. Evil-doers had better be careful of the roaring forties.

The outlook for an early settlement of the differences between Russia and Japan is said to be very good. Now look out for a rupture soon.

If all the charges made against General Wood are confirmed he will not be confirmed. On the other hand, if the charges are not confirmed he will be confirmed.

Mr. Cleveland is said to have broken Maryland's game law. It is about the only way in which his silence is broken these days, and the people like to hear of or from him occasionally.

New York's fifteen hundred professional cooks have been holding a convention. They accomplished little or nothing, for the reason no doubt that too many cooks spoil the broth.

Within a year the price of diamonds has been put up twenty-five per cent. And the price of coal, the black diamond, is being put up in like manner. And thus it is that birds of a feather flock together.

The claim is made for the new metal, radium, that it has been used with success as a remedy against cancer. It is pity that it should be so expensive that none but millionaires can afford to experiment with it.

Asked his opinion of the boycott John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, replied that "a man has a right to work for whom he pleases, but not a right to work under whatever condition he pleases." Experience has shown that "whatever condition" simply means being a non-union man; in other words he has a right to work where he pleases providing he pleases to work where the union labor leaders say he may.

A Presbyterian in this city writes us a letter, strongly denouncing the course of certain "Christian" ministers in the present onslaught upon the "Mormons," says it has "finished his Presbyterianism for all time," and announces himself "a real not a pretended American." Although we must admit his facts, and do not dispute his conclusions, we neither publish his letter, which is very pointed, nor disclose his name as that might possibly do him injury while it would not aid our cause. We are happy in the assurance that "there are others" who are of his mind.

In an article in Success on how to

"Grow Young as You Grow Old," the greatest importance is attached to exercise in the open air. We may have, it is said, plenty of fresh air and sufficient food, and yet, without proper exercise, the body will not be kept in a good condition. The writer in the Success says: "There is nothing else which can take the place of physical activity as a preserver of youth and energy. Grow younger as you grow older by cultivating a moderate love of good, healthful, honest sport, is sound advice. Walking, running, jumping, rowing, playing golf, tennis, or croquet, or any other mild form of exercise in the open air, keeps the muscles supple and prevents the joints from stiffening, fills the lungs with life-giving oxygen, and keeps the blood from becoming sluggish or the liver torpid." How would it be to add to the forms of exercise mentioned, cutting kindling-wood, raking up rubbish, digging in the garden, scrubbing floors, etc?

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The December number of Harper's Magazine is replete with good things. We notice: "A Dog's Tale," Mary Twain; "The Revolt of Sophia Lane," a story, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman; "The Playground of Paris," Gay Weymore Carryl; "Sir Mortimer," a novel, (continued), Mary Johnston; "The Immediate Jewel," a story, Margaret Deland; "Tennyson's Suppressed Poems," J. C. Thomson; "The Miracle," a story, Alice Brown; "Renewal," a poem, Florence Earle Coates; "The Wood-Gatherers," by George Inness, W. Stanton Howard; "Beginnings of the American Navy," John R. Sparrow; "The Sign of Venus," a story, Robert W. Chambers; "Is English Becoming Corrupt?" Thomas R. Lounsbury; "The Ordeal of Maudie Joyce," a story, Elizabeth G. Jordan; "The Birth of a Satellite," George Howard Darwin, F.R.S., LL.D., D.Sc.; "The Lords of the Sahara," W. J. Harding King; "The Dilettante," a story, Edith Wharton; "The University of St. Petersburg," Charles F. Thwing, LL.D.—Harper & Bros., New York.

The December Success contains, among other good things, the latest poem by James Whitcomb Riley, "It's Got to Be." Mr. Riley also contributes an interview on children, evolving the idea of a bachelor who has a large family of children and is overfond of them—Mr. Riley being the bachelor and the children of his poems his family. Vance Thompson contributes a startling article entitled, "Notable People I Have Interviewed." "The Peasant Days of Pope Pius X," by Salvatore Cortesi contains some remarkable stories of the pontiff's boyhood days. In "How to Decorate Your Own Home," Josephine Wright Chapman gives hints to those who cannot afford costly adornments. "Does the Higher Education of a Bachelor Tend to Happiness in Marriage," by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, explains itself. "The Freedom of the Black-Faced Ram," by Charles G. D. Roberts, is one of the most human of his nature studies. Every lawyer in America will read with interest the witty sayings of Judge Logan E. Bleckley of Georgia, who forms the subject of a character sketch by H. Caryl Chapin. Fiction is supplied by Henry Kitchell Webster, Samuel Merwin, John Oxenham, and Miss Zona Gale.—University Building, New York.

Leslie's Weekly for Nov. 25 is beautified by a cover in many colors, and contains among its illustrated attractions a full-page view of the opening of Congress and the swearing in of Speaker Cannon; a double-page of charming Thanksgiving day photographs; a page on the progress of the world's fair; a football page, devoted to the Chicago University players; illustrations of the cyclone near Winona, Minn., and numerous pictures especially appropriate for Thanksgiving day. The letterpress includes an article by Eleanor Franklin on "The Stagestruck and the Stage," the sporting page of H. P. Burchell, and Jasper's famous "Hints to Money-makers," that are made up of many readers of Leslie's Weekly successful in stock-market operations.—New York.

Wayside Tales for December contains stories by Robert Barr, George Ebers, Frank R. Spearman, George Horton and other writers. U. S. Senator Hoar of Massachusetts has also contributed a chapter from his "Autobiography of Seventy Years." "How to Talk" is a striking department by Mary Richards Gray. The Christmas story is "The Houshtone" by George Ebers, the German author of "The Egyptian Princess," "Uarda," etc.—The Sampson-Hodges Co., Chicago.

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