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THE PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY.

To all who are connected with the Deseret News in its various departments it is a great pleasure today to join the numerous friends of President Joseph F. Smith in sincere congratulations on the anniversary of the birthday. Many happy returns of the day! And may each anniversary bring peace and joy abundantly, and satisfaction in the contemplation of both the past and the future.

President Smith has many friends who rejoice with him today. That he enjoys health and vigor of body and mind, and that he is as firm as ever in "the faith which was once delivered unto the Saints" are causes of joy and gratitude to all who love, honor, and sustain him as the leader, under the Almighty, of the latter-day Israel. But his friends are by no means confined to Church members. They are found among all classes and in all parts of the country, and beyond the seas.

Among men and women who admire humility, honesty, integrity, and all the sterling qualities that go to make up noble manhood. In behalf of all, but especially in behalf of the Latter-day Saints in all the world, we express the hope and the desire that President Smith be granted many more years of usefulness among the people of God, as a faithful friend and adviser, a defender of the truth, and a herald of a message of salvation to all the world.

President Smith is the son of the martyred Patriarch Hyrum Smith and Mary Fielding. He was born in the city of Far West, Nov. 13, 1838. He was only eight years old when the Saints were driven away from Nauvoo in 1846, and he shared in the trials and hardships of the exodus. In 1848 he arrived in this valley, having driven an ox-team across the plains, doing a man's work, although he was only a boy. This first year in this valley he was occupied in taking care of the stock of the family and so successful was he, that not an animal was lost through neglect on his part.

In 1854 the young man was called to go on a mission to the Sandwich Islands. He arrived there in company with some Elders in September of that year. For two months, after having recovered from a sickness that lasted a couple of weeks, he applied himself so diligently and earnestly to the study of the Hawaiian language that, at the end of the short period mentioned, he was able to converse and speak fluently in that tongue. Elder Joseph F. Smith left the Islands in 1857 and arrived in Salt Lake after a most successful mission. In 1858, immediately on his arrival home he enlisted in the "Legion," and under the command of Col. Thos. Callister and others he prospected and explored the country between Great Salt Lake City and Fort Bridger.

During the winter of 1858-59 Joseph F. Smith served as sergeant-at-arms of the council of the Territorial Legislature. In 1860 he was called to take a mission to Great Britain. He labored first in the Bradford conference and then was appointed president of the Sheffield conference. In 1862 he visited Denmark and in 1863 France. That year he was released to return home, and when he arrived in Salt Lake City, he found his wife in a very delicate state of health. She was restored, however, by faith and prayers, and in 1864 Elder Smith was again called to take a mission to the Sandwich Islands. On his return from this mission he was elected a member of the City Council and served several terms. He also served in the Legislature as a member from Salt Lake County. But his chief activity was of a spiritual nature. In 1866 he was ordained an Apostle and a counsellor to the President of the Church. In 1874 he started on his second journey to Great Britain, having been set apart to preside over the European mission. In that position he was again singularly blessed. He visited the various countries of the vast field and labored faithfully until released in 1875. Once more he was sent to take charge of the European mission. This was in 1877. He was there when the tidings came of the death of President Brigham Young, and he was then requested by the Council of the Twelve to return home, which he did.

In 1880 Elder Joseph F. Smith was chosen second counsellor to President John Taylor. In 1882 he was a member of the Council of the Utah Legislature and presided over that body. Since October 17, 1891, he has presided over the Church, and in that position he has performed a great work, the importance of which will be appreciated by coming generations.

"The history of President Joseph F. Smith is familiar to the Latter-day Saints. We have only briefly touched upon some of the main incidents which show that his entire life has been devoted to the cause of the Lord, and that he has been faithful in whatever position he has been placed, be it that of a humble shepherd, a missionary, the president of a legislative body, the president of a mission, or of the Church. In every station of life he has sacredly fulfilled the duties imposed upon him.

President Smith has been called upon to lead Israel through a critical time in its history. As the President of the Church he has been called upon to give his testimony before the entire world. And he has done so without hesitation, or fear, without equivocation, honestly and sincerely. The Latter-day Saints love him, and the honest in heart of other faiths honor and respect him.

May he be further strengthened and inspired to perform his life's mission as a prophet of God!

THE SCHOOL ELECTION.

We notice that a call has been issued for a non-partisan convention to be held in the annex of the Ninth ward schoolhouse for the purpose of nominating a candidate for school trustees for the First precinct. We hope the voters will turn out and take an interest in this election. All who favor a non-partisan ticket are invited to the convention referred to. The election is not very far off now, and it is time that the matter be taken up by the voters.

If there is any election that should be conducted on non-partisan lines it is an election of school trustees. The schools should not be the arena of political contests. Efficiency and faithfulness are the qualities that should govern in the selection of school boards. At the last election strenuous efforts were made to turn the schools over to the political clique that does not recognize the responsibility of the servants of the people to the people—a clique that preaches the doctrine that public officers are merely the tools of political bosses. The people decided against the prostitution of the schools at that time, and we hope they will do so again, should another effort in that direction be made. It is necessary to put up good, reliable men and then turn out and vote for them. A school election is as important as any other election.

PRESIDENT ELLIOT.

The retirement of President Elliot from Harvard University next spring will leave a vacancy that it will be difficult to fill.

Since his accession to the presidency of that institution, it has become the foremost in the United States.

The reason was well stated by the graduates of Harvard in addressing Mr. Elliot on his 70th birthday. On that occasion they said: "With prophetic insight you anticipated the movements of thought and life; your face was toward the coming day." And herein consisted, as we believe, his main qualifications as a leader.

"He was among the first to adopt the elective system against the opposition of those who supposed true academic culture to consist in Latin, Greek, and mathematics—the former sacred trinity of Oxford and Cambridge. He foresaw the old hard and fast curriculum was doomed, with the development of science, the quickening interest in historical studies and economics, in the fine arts, and in modern languages. Under the elective system of Harvard the student is allowed unrestricted range in the choice of courses; the professor's academic freedom has likewise been subject to only two limitations, 'those of courtesy and honor.'

Moreover, the high success of Mr. Elliot is due in part to the liberal principle he has followed in the choice of his faculty. 'He has never shown,' says a contemporary reviewer, 'that suspicion or dread of unusual intelligence, that predilection for mediocrity, which marks some of our heads of universities. He has selected the ablest men he could find, whether graduates of Harvard or not, and Harvard has thus escaped the blight of inbreeding which two or three decades ago afflicted Yale so severely. And all these policies have been carried out with wonderful executive skill—with unexampled grasp of detail, with foresight, patience, steadiness, and tolerance.'

Great men prefer to surround themselves with those who are great; while mediocrity or despotism is jealous of real ability. And though Harvard is the oldest, has the longest tradition of culture, and is at the intellectual center of the Union, yet to these advantages must be added a man able to grasp the situation before a success like that which has followed our foremost American university can be attained.

PROGRESS IN RUSSIA.

There are some signs of progress in Russia. The recognition of the Duma by the government is one of them.

A few days ago the prime minister was questioned in London regarding the plans of his government with regard to the Balkan situation, and he replied that no formal announcement could be made until after the reassembling of the Duma. The Russian minister of finance has declared that he can make no detailed estimate of the financial needs of the government until the Duma has been consulted. And the Russian minister of marine has formally stated that the program for rebuilding the Russian navy cannot be determined until the Duma has been consulted. This proves that the representative assembly in Russia is not composed of puppets in the hands of the government. It commands recognition as a power to be reckoned with.

This is still more apparent in the reinstatement of De Witte, in a position of trust. De Witte, after signal service rendered the country at Portsmouth when the peace treaty with Japan was negotiated, became the czar's confidential adviser and persuaded him that the salvation of the country demanded a representative government. Then the Duma was called together. But that body was too radical for the czar, and he dissolved it. Count De Witte lost the confidence of the ruler and had to retire to private life.

Recall to public life at this time indicates that the czar has changed his views and now believes in the success of representative government in Russia. It means that the czar recognizes the necessity of listening to public opinion and that he is learning the lessons of a constitutional form of government.

SOCIALISM.

Socialism is just now attracting some able and aggressive exponents.

The Rev. Charles E. Perkins, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, this City, in the course of a lecture on Thursday evening at the Socialists' hall,

on Postoffice place, held that as one answers truthfully the following questions, he must take one side or the other, according as he thinks his interests are involved. The questions, he says, are these: Who are the trouble breeders? Who bribed the legislature? Who bought his way into office? Who gave illegal rebates? Who fixed the assessor? Who murdered millions of people with adulterated food and drugs? Who bribed aldermen to grant franchises? Who violated the child-labor laws?

Now the conclusion of the Rector is that Socialism not only opposes such abuses, but better still, offers to all the opportunity to remove the abuses, by going to the root of the evil, by removing the cause for the abuse, in abolishing the profit system in a co-operative commonwealth.

In the condemnation of abuses most persons will more or less agree; but to say that Socialism offers the only, or even the best remedy, is to beg the whole question at issue.

Be sure you are right before you kick.

To the pure and Dr. Wiley all things are pure.

A fiery temper is no substitute for cool.

Better to have money in the bank than on the brain.

Taft, Ohio, swept the country and now a fire has swept over Taft, Montana.

Thrift does not follow fawning. If it did almost everybody would be thrifty.

A trip to Africa is being more talked about than "A Trip to Chinatown" ever was.

The "Sunny Jim" of New York has gone to the sunny South to play golf with Judge Taft.

Those interested in schedule A—chemicals—are averse to any re-action in the rates of duty.

Governor-elect Spry has been presented with a gold-headed cane. But bread continues to be the staff of life.

Boulder gets bolder and bolder in its demands. Evidently it thinks it has a rocky road to travel tomorrow.

"Keep money at home" is good enough advice, but keep it in a bank or invested, but never in your stocking.

An astronomer says that a cylinder of ice 200,000 miles long and 45 miles thick would melt in one second on the sun. Did he ever try it?

Whatever else Judge Taft may be doing at Hot Springs he is not saving wood. His wood is all sawed and stacked up in beautiful order.

Many a man who claims to have climbed to fame by his own efforts has had a rope thrown to him to help him over the rough and steep places.

John W. Byrd of Cado Mills, Texas, has written Postmaster Thomas enquiring after Bill Byrd. Evidently there are no Byrds in last year's nest.

How little tentative cabinet making there has been since the election. One it was one of Americans' pleasantest occupations. Has it, like whittling, become a lost art?

A radical anti-saloon league superintendent has called Speaker Cannon "that old brass cannon." The only justification for such a spiteful remark is the Speaker's bronzed countenance.

Medical experts declare that Luciana Piette's long sleep was not the result of cataplexy, but that her own obstinacy keeps her asleep. This being so, should not obstinacy be a cure for insomnia?

It is hardly probable that the grave of Andre, the intrepid explorer who sought the north pole in a balloon, has been found in Labrador, for it is many years since he was lost, unknelt, but not unknown.

If Boswell could bring Dr. Johnson and John Wilkes together at dinner and make each delighted with the other, Secretary Loeb should be able to bring President Roosevelt and Mr. Gompers together at dinner.

PRONUNCIATION OF NEW YORK

Chicago Record-Herald.

To the untrained ear of an Englishman "New York" as it is pronounced by New Yorkers sounds "No-Yuk." The New York Times admits the "No-Yuk" but demurs to "Yuk." It denounces this misrepresentation of the pure accent of the city as a slur. True, it says, "vast numbers of us reduce the 'r' in 'York' and in many another word to small and mean eases, but we do not entirely dispense with it. There is always something to mark its absence, though it be only a prolongation of the 'o.' What those of us who are careless or not careful say is much more like 'Yo-yuk' than like 'Yuk,' and perhaps the other extreme of a trilled and emphasized 'r' is not much to be preferred to our slurring treatment of the letter." A Chicagoan would choke in an attempt to pronounce "New" like "faw." He would heartily endorse the New York custom with regard to the first part of the city's name. But he does not experience the same difficulty with the "York" as the critics do the dwellers in Manhattan. Without going to the extent of a trill, he does sound the letter. No one could possibly mistake his pronunciation for "Yuk" or "Yo-yuk."

THE SUFFRAGIST LADIES.

Max Beerbohm in the Saturday Review

For fifty years or so many quiet, thoughtful, unobtrusive, elderly ladies wrote and published in the monthlies regarded as an outgrowth of the social expiation of the industrial revolution in depriving women of the right to vote. As the sole result of all the trouble taken by these quiet, thoughtful, unobtrusive, elderly ladies was the shrieking slaterhood. Two or three years ago, other ladies, anxious to vote, came forward and have gone around literally shrieking; and the result is that already their desire is treated as a matter of practical politics, and a quite urgent one at that. What a pretty light all this throws—does it not?—on a world governed by the animals by taking "reasonable animals" as their label! And yet the light does not seem to have enlightened the "brilliantly reasonable" animals which write for the press. Invariably,

solemnly, at every fresh "raid" or other escapade of the suffragist ladies to the cause itself, announce that "this has put back the clock of female suffrage by at least twenty years." Bless their hearts! The clock must, by their computation, have been put back "at least" twelve centuries. And when a bill giving the vote to women is passed through parliament, as will happen in the very near future, it will be hailed as yet another triumph for Reason, mistress of us all.

JUST FOR FUN.

Mrs. Gramercy—"So you find it hard to make both ends meet?" Mrs. Parks—"Yes. The money I won at bridge while away in the country scarcely makes up what my husband lost in town at poker."—Puck.

"No, sir," said the first business man, "I never work too hard. I believe that I work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

"That's all right," replied the other, "but I don't believe in playing the fool as long as there is a chance to work one."—Catholic Standard and Times.

Mrs. Goodsole—I told the editors of the paper I didn't want my picture put in there, but they went right ahead and did it.

Mrs. Chillon-Kearney—Yes; it was a mean trick. The picture looked just like you, too, didn't it?—Chicago Tribune.

"The insurance man with literary ambitions you took on the staff of the magazine is very much dissatisfied at being one of the subordinate authors."

"I don't see why he should be. Wasn't he always an underwriter?"—Baltimore American.

"Now, don't tell me any story about misfortune an' wantin' to be a hard worker, an' all that. I can see right through you."

"Gracious! I know I ain't had nothin' to eat for three days, but I didn't know it had thinned me down like that."—St. Louis Times.

"I can't get a pair of shoes to fit me."

"That is strange, considering they are made in such variety."

"I know they are, but what good does that do a fellow when he hasn't got the price?"—Nashville American.

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Tonight, Family Matinee Saturday.

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Matinee every day, 2 to 5, 10c. Evening, 7 to 11, 15c and 20c. Children half price.

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OTHER TRIMMED HATS, Saturday Only at ONE-THIRD OFF.

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SILK RAY COLORED EMBROIDERED WAISTINGS, regular price 60 cts 85c for 60 cts

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