DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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Telephone 1 of 2.

BUSINESS IMPROVING.

In a late issue of this paper appeared a dispatch from New York, containing an interview with the president of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company and of the Southern Iron company on the business outlook. Speaking particularly for the South, the gentleman positively asserts that the end of the depression has come and that business in its various branches is improving. That is good news and his encouraging words derive importance from the fact that he is recognized as one of the leading business men of that part of the country. The reasons which he gives for his views seem to be solid, and to indicate that they are based on facts and not on theories. With a lively market for the products of iron at advancing prices; with abundant crops and the principal labor troubles settled; with the railroads doing a rushing business and the tariff uncertainty removed, the business of the country will necessarily be stimulated to greater activity and work will be resumed at remunerative wages. This reasoning is logical and will probably be sustained by actual facts before long.

It is true enough that there is a tendency in some quarters, according to the reports received, to reduce the wages of laborers, and this fact seems to contradict the opinion that the depression has run its course. But it must be remembered that, besides the natural desire of many employers to obtain work at a minimum cost, political capital can be made out of the supposed necessity of maintaining low wages, and when these two factors operate together, it is no wonder that the result is discouraging. However, it is not always a safe indicator of the real condition of the business of a country. As farmers, miners and manufacturers find markets for their products and the demand increases, labor will become more valuable notwithstanding any effort to cheapen it, and the wages will be regulated accordingly.

Some seem in regard it as vain to expect better times so long as the money problem remains unsolved. But it is possible that sometimes too much importance is attached to this subject. In the discussion of it, it is often forgotten that money is but a medium of exchange. It facilitates the transfer of the products from one hand to another, but to this its actual value is limited. The wealth of a country consists in its products, and whether the medium of exchange is abundant or not, that is more a matter of convenience than otherwise. There is therefore no known reason why a country like the United States with unbounded resources in every direction should not enjoy prosperity, and we believe it will come, as confidence is restored and the pessimists are made to realize that the evil omens are principally existing in their own imagination.

COMPARATIVE TAXES.

At one time Salt Lake had the reputation of being the most tightly taxed city in the country. That time, however, has passed with the operations of recent municipal administrations. In other cities where the rate of tax is higher than here, the tax is much lower in proportion to the actual value of the property. As an instance of how this is accomplished there may be cited the assessed valuations of the newspaper plants in San Francisco. The assessment of the Chronicle of that city is as follows: Fixtures $800, current assets $1,500, money $200, machinery $12,000, type $1,000, press $600, total $16,300. The Examiner's property has to Bonds of stores $100, fixtures $600, working plant, machinery $3,000, type $1,000, press $1,800, total $15,100. The Call assesses at its Call's $12,000, its fixtures, [illegible] owners as the Call, $1,[illegible]; the Post $2,000, the Report $1,000, general total for these papers $46,[illegible].

The actual value of the plants can be seen the Examiner, for instance, is not for they the aggregate assessment of all the papers named. While that entire property is valued at a little over $46,000, it cost more nearly upon the amount at which it is assessed. There is not a Salt Lake newspaper that is not worth by the amount at a much higher figure than any of the great San Francisco papers.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Among the important economic questions which the present generation will be called upon to solve is one relating to the management of railroads, telegraph and telephone lines, municipal lighting plants, etc. The public nature of such industries is now recognized, and the question what to do with them is a natural consequence of a desire to see them manipulated for the best interest of the general public instead of the enrichment of a few individuals. Two views obtain on this question. According to one, as business of a public character ought to be controlled by the government. Another claims that this is superfluous as long as the ownership is private and that consequently not only the control but the ownership of such undertakings should be public.

Recently Professor T. Ely, of the University of Wisconsin, has been attacked as a heretic on political economy and, although he was promptly acquitted, he tried season a great deal of discussion and gave prominence to the views of which he is an advocate. He believes in state ownership of railroads, telegraphs, etc., and favors all legislation aimed at trusts and monopolies. These circumstances give peculiar interest to a paper recently published by Professor Ely, in which he sets forth some reasons why public control of private property is, in his judgment, inadequate as a remedy of the evil complained of. In substance the author argues:

First of all, under such a system, the special knowledge of the business to be controlled is on the side of those who are subject to control. This knowledge is gained by experience and this belongs to those who conduct the undertaking. Can anything more utopian be imagined than the idea that inexperience shall control experience, ignorance knowledge?

Secondly, social philosophers recognize that there must be a certain correspondence between economic and political relations. Ownership and management of industries which include in the scope of their operations an entire continent cannot fail to give the owners and managers vast social power of every kind, and it is not to be expected that they should neglect to use this power. Precisely they are called "magnates" and "kings," and the presence of so many railway presidents and officers in the United States Senate is not surprising. The policy then to control these vast monopolies resembles the conduct of a man who should put a goat in charge of a boy with the instruction to the latter to make the big fellow behave himself.

Furthermore, it is clear that those to be controlled will seek to escape from control, if possible. And this means an interference in politics of the worst kind on the part of those who are most powerful. The result is corruption which takes so many forms. The distribution of railway passes, telegraph franks, etc., is familiar to all, but the solicitude with which the appointment of judges is watched by those whom it is proposed to control is less familiar. "The court is the critical institution with us, and those who hold the right theories of private property are naturally inclined to decide any really effective control of private property unconstitutional in some essential respect. Should, however, a judge be appointed who can reconcile the necessary control with the institution of private property, it is simply possible to the private corporation affected to attempt to buy him from the bench by a position at a salary with a [illegible]."

After a review of instances in the [illegible] the author concludes that no less a preparation for social changes is better training in every branch of economic and political science. There must be introduction in these branches of the methods of higher grade and the development of an [illegible] public opinion. Where there is no [illegible] there can be no [illegible] in these subjects to act wisely, for upon the intelligent and wholesome [illegible] of public opinion.

Enough is said to show the importance [illegible]

[illegible] and with some it is considerably more than the combined amount given.

It might be that the papers named have "a pull" with the assessor to get their property valued at what most seems to people here ridiculously low figures; but that does not appear likely. It is more probable that the custom of assessment is to put property values at a very small figure, and then, through the rate of taxation may be high, the actual tax part is not. In the face of the figures given in this assessment, the complaint of the tax rate in this city and in San Francisco is absolutely worthless for purposes of comparing real taxation, for, after the manner of of assessments here, the tax rate in San Francisco would need to be at least twenty times as high as in this city to make the same actual tax in proportion to real values of property. Taking these newspaper assessments as a basis for property all around, when the levy in San Francisco is shown by the figures of a comparative rate to be five times as great as here, the actual tax would be only one-fourth as heavy. Thus a high assessment and low rate make a showing that is not borne out by facts in comparison with a low assessment and a high rate.

SHOWS HIS PREFERENCE.

We have had long accounts from Japanese sources of the strong favorable views of the Corean king for the subjects in the war against the Chinese. If the Corean minister to the United States were in harmony with his own government, his course would be an effective denial of these Japanese accounts, for under an consideration will be assigned with a subject or representative of the mikado, but in on the best of terms with the natives of the flowery kingdom.

The minister was recalled on the opening of the war, and immediately left Washington, sailing passage on the steamship China. While en route across the continent he took ill, and his voyage was postponed till the departure of the Belgic this week. The manager of the hotel where he engaged rooms called in an American physician, but the minister would not have his services. Then a Japanese doctor was called, but the Corean would not permit him to enter his room. The sick man's secretary was dispatched to Chinatown, and brought from that quarter a municipality of medicine men who was accepted, and the minister is ground toward recovery until he could speak exhibit his vanity in publicly driving through the park in an open carriage with liveried servants, and evidently enjoy the admiring glances which his style and grandeur drew from the crowd.

When the Belgic passenger list was being made up the official representative of the hermit kingdom discovered that Prince Komatsu, cousin of the emperor of Japan, who came through Salt Lake a few days ago and was known as Count Mikohsa, was bounding to go by that vessel. The prospect of thirty days at sea in a steamship with the mikado's cousin was not palatable to the minister, so he settled down his departure another week, that is, if a Japanese cook does not have an engagement with the Peru, the vessel now selected, in which event the whimsical and unsophisticated minister may stay a week longer in this country. It may be just as well for him, though, since the Ming dynasty, which heretofore has controlled the Corean king and has afflicted this country with its corrupt and vicious rule, has been driven from power. Taking this fact into consideration, the attitude of the Corean minister toward the Japanese is complimentary of either than antagonistic to the reports from Japan, and when the minister does go he is much more likely to remain in China than proceed to Peru, where it might not be so easy for him to pick his company as it is here.

HE THAT NODS LISTS.

The following item may not be of special interest to readers, but we venture to think it will not be passed over carelessly by their families or friends. It is a true story of how turned to business, woodbed for by no less a personage than Major Moses P. Handy, who typically has a great deal to say, in the first person singular, in the good and truly press *Sun and Express* of New York. He takes for his text the announcement to all sources who love their fellowman that a cure for snoring has been found and says that a Philadelphia woman, having suffered much in mind and body by her husband's snoring, finally applied for a divorce from him on the ground of cruelty. Her attorney filed the bill of divorce, but, failing to go in an extreme, went to work to find a cure for snoring, and did it. The remedy consists of olive oil and mustard, six drops of the former to a pinch of the latter, taken just before going to bed. The mention of the oil is that of a lubricant to the larynx, while the mustard is a counter irritant. The defendant tried the remedy and found that it worked like a charm, and now the family are much more happy in their home, the application for a separation having been withdrawn.

Those of our readers who have suffered much from snores are advised to send a marked copy of this paragraph to their offending friends.

ROYAL CHARLES.

The young son of royalty in the British throne—the future king of the Duke and Duchess of York—is ranking to a notable uncle, the gift of his grandmother, Queen Victoria. The crude leaden inscription to the effect that it was made in 1840 for the prince royal, was used for all her majesty's children, and was given by the queen to the Duchess of York in 1891. The queen now wishes to the King of Edwards & Co. Wrapped in [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] in white wool, there is no [illegible] to the child. The queen has also [illegible] a [illegible] in the dresses, made of [illegible] gray, lined with the [illegible]. This is finished with brocade [illegible] and [illegible] satin. The [illegible] is of [illegible] lace, bordered with Valenciennes lace, and the [illegible] are of Princess wool, very [illegible], and weighing very little, the [illegible] nearly resembling [illegible] lace. Two small [illegible] have been provided for the baby's use, one white and one pale [illegible].

THE BUTTER QUESTION.

However important some may feel in regard to the product which is or should be made in Utah, it is easy for the old residents to see that there is a quiet advance which is really not indicative of splitter and latter than of caution and ultimate success. In no small thing (?) is this more noticeable than in the article of butter. The experience and memories of the old timer provoke many a smile when something wakes up from memory things in which we have taken personal part. The storekeeper and the butter-vendor were friends even from the beginning, and one of such circumstances dates back to the winter of 1854, when a customer presented a pound of butter of some twelve or fifteen pounds in weight. It had been packed in a large homemade milk pan (wooden ware everthing) most likely it was attractive in color and the flavor was more than fair. It was consequently put aside for the special use of the family, who within a few hours made their call. The pious being rather large it was cut in two, when the coming of the butter was exhibited, for the small original lump was all healthy and nondescript, while the outer "crust" was fresh and fair and showed enterprise worthy of a better cause.

It need not be mentioned at, however, that butter varies very much in time and later days, for appliances were poor and meager, while the majority of butter workers were as unfamiliar as the cow, who on the plains, temporarily added, as being pressed with a sense as to "which row gave the butter milk?" Long years though after that, the housewife counted on getting her tea, jam, spool cotton and smaller things for her little "dab" of butter, and the ever present store tea was the most acceptable for the butter-general purchaser of this article in almost every store. Every variety in texture, flavor, age, was as a rule, bought and consumed, for how man had the courage to tell any woman that her butter was not good. Few cared to decline it for fear of being a customer or alienating an friend. Every maker would have sworn, if need be, that hers was good, though the milk had stood in the kitchen until its odors and dust built it partook of such. And many a time in those days of scarcity the rag shaved still had on a tackle by way of illustrating Shakespeare's saying "To what base uses may we come at last."

Who of that time does not remember when impetious President Grant, speaking on the public stand in regard to his butter supply, asked as a favor, that the maker would in the future bring the butter on one plate and the butter on another, so that he could mix them to suit his taste! And yet it would be illegal as to even intimate that there was neither good butter nor good butter-makers in the Territory or within reach of this city. The dance of money could be easily recalled and they and their descendants make and sell a really choice and tempting article to this day.

Toward the states this butter supply of Utah was less of a problem. Trade outside began to increase, and from the principal centers—after much manipulation—lots went out to Nevada, Montana and Colorado, to ranches, stations and other places where it was a luxury, shell, strong, streaked, salty and greasy almost to perfection. Amalgamation, however good it might be in some directions, does not seem to apply to butter, and the butter might and help it, for from the time it left the maker's hands—yes indeed, it was undergoing decided deterioration. If we were learners and wanted "to point a moral or adorn a tale," it is to be lost in this welcome butter, for a good piece of shouting back on the contagion of its neighbor on the dish or table in the close, just as readily as "evil communications corrupt good manners," or as "one stinky sheep infects the whole and poisons all the rest."

The writer hereof was among the earliest advocates of a change, if only for the money expert. The necessity for cleanliness, for system, for milk-house outside the dwelling or kitchen, and finally the advantages of consumer dairies, was suggested and urged in connection with an always unlimited market in all the surrounding mining camps. But the idea fell on unsympathetic soil and dubious soil, and some time after the inauguration of Z. C. M. I. their wholesale business had in part to resolve produce—including butter—to keep the wheels of trade a-moving! Our spiritual-minded and talented Apostle had charge of the produce department then, and the accumulations of "stuff" were interestingly great; exportation was the only outlet, and after a serious time in handling, trending, washing, with nearly millions of sugar, salicylic and tartar salt, the company was packed and a cutlad shipped to California. It was another illustration of "Peter's latter end," for when the consignment reached the Coast, dispute was the as to whether this was "the product of milk at all." Had the days of demonstration then dawned, the transaction might have been a profitable one, whereas this (neither product nor milk) which had cost at home twenty-five cents, lacking out the freighting, netted ten cents in some money for the greater that there was in it.

It was said ages ago that "the Lord teaches" at the days of ignorance, but also varieties, "He commandeth men everywhere to repent." So we may smile at the sorrowings of the past, but [illegible] is another today with drill to waste systematic and profitable dairying now established, and growing fast as experience and circumstance will allow. We noted but the other day, however, that in the long-time prosperous city of Toronto, butter was nearly unreasonable. There was none in the market for the non-preferred, and a suggestion was made that the creation of a dairy would be a profitable investment. We do not doubt it, nor if even the home markets were fully supplied, there are other markets within our reach. It was said but a little while ago that the state of Colorado sent out annually over a million dollars for butter, some of which Utah could easily reach.

If we were writing a dissertation on butter, it might be pointed out that from time immemorial some compound has had that present and suggestive name. Good old said to had "washed his slaps in butter," and another phophesied of one to come, "butter and honey shall he eat that he may know how to refuse the good and refuse the evil" and the modern one, the modern fable, has learned fully how to choose the good in regard to butter. It is said that there are families in New York who year in and out pay one dollar a pound for their table butter—but then that is butter—bright, clear, waxy and with an aroma fitted for the gods. For the production of an article as exquisite there is selected butter cows, every part of the process is marked by science and experience; the original and most scrupulous attention is obligatory; and the best flies which the rich and fragrant perfume source is the best of clover and a feed of grass. It is doubtful whether such butter ever comes from Iowa at all, or from the average butter maker, who gives but little thought to the sensitive character of milk, cream or butter after it is made. Many estimable persons invariably make good butter. Experience does for them what the certainty of rule and science does for the dairy. But the average housewife never uses a thermometer, knows nothing of temperature, is mystified when after hours of churning "the butter does not come," and when it comes, it is more of accident than of understanding.

It will be a good day probably when the owner of one or a few cows carries their milk into a dairy, where their so-called butter making will be "lost sight of," giving way to that certainty of manipulation, that uniformity of texture, color and flavor, that unity of appearance which omits local demand and suggests importation. And then there will come system on to every farm; better stock will be in demand; better cows will mean and a great deal when milk is fetched the seller will want to feed different—to new pasture, to give grain, cracked or shorts, to give better shelter, cleaner yards and sweeter, closer milking that the best and richest may not remain in the udder, general cleanliness all around and in connection with stock. Then importation of butter or also—which after all today is yet heavy—will give way as cheese has done, to the home produced article, although there is still much room for improvement in that.

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The Union Pacific will make rate of $1.50 for the round trip.

Tickets will be sold September 10th and 11th, good returning September 12 inc.

Trains leave at 7:45 a. m., 5:00 p. m. Special train September 11th, will leave at 8:30 a. m.

Only $1.50 to Provo and Return, via Union Pacific, Sept. 10th, 11 & 12.

On above dates Union Pacific will sell round trip tickets to Provo at $1.50, good returning until September 13th.

Trains leave Salt Lake 7:45 a. m., 5:00 p. m.

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College Chums.

As to Retrenchment.

SOME ECONOMIC SUGGESTIONS TO THE "CITY DADS."

We notice that the City Council is endeavoring to fulfil their "office obligation" promises of rigid economy in the running of the municipal affairs of the city, which is certainly appreciated by all good citizens, and all hope they may succeed in saving many dollars to the ever-burdened taxpayers. We would suggest, however, that they should avoid demoralizing the men in the police force and in the fire department. This might result in the reverse of economy.

It might please the taxpayers just as well to dispense of extra sessions of the council and devote less time to discussing personal character and more time in genuine public benefits. In their "efforts to stop the leakage at the spigot, we recommend that they see that the bung is securely plugged before they roll the barrel over."

Towns are times when all should use their combined efforts in the practice of true retrenchment, both in public and in private affairs, and assuming in this very land also purposes each individual may serve as a community, and each community the commonwealth. So to each individual be earnest to make every dollar expended be for some necessity and see that it is used when in purchasing power will be greatest, and we should try to prepare for the coming winter by providing themselves with necessary fuel, food and clothing while the opportunity exists, and before the increased demand increases price. This is especially true in regard to clothing. During this race season we are offering some great bargains, and those who are fortunate enough to be able to anticipate their wants winter's necessities by ordering a suit out now, can save enough to go a long way towards a ton of coal or other needed necessaries.

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We count on a Good Trade after a Season of Enforced Economy, and would say that we will in every Department meet the necessities of today, both in Quantity, Quality and Price.

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