

HANDLING THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

The voters will have plenty of opportunity to examine and learn how to handle the Australian ballot during the week preceding election day—if the county officials do their duty. During that week the publication of a sample ballot is to be made wherever a paper is published in a county; and publication is not confined to the place of printing, but extends wherever the paper is circulated. Hence nearly every county should have its ticket distributed to readers of papers during the week preceding the election. The county clerks also are required to have sample ballots on file in their offices, where the voters can obtain copies to study and compare; and political parties will distribute some in their canvases for voters. With all this, there should be no voter in the State who is not fairly well provided with a knowledge of how to prepare a ballot, and do so easily on election day.

As the NEWS has stated on several occasions, there is no difficulty in the way of a voter who exercises ordinary care preparing his ballot just as he wants it, and in a way to be counted for the candidate of his choice. Some people have sought to scare voters by attempting to make believe that there is much of a complicated character connected with the Australian ballot, so far as the voter's part is concerned. The object for this undue exaggeration of the task is quite clear as a political dodge in one or another party. If a voter can be scared into thinking the ballot extremely intricate, then the chances are ten to one that that elector will vote a straight party ticket as the easiest way to get out of the supposed dilemma; or doubtful and independent voters will stay at home rather than be put to any trouble. What some party politicians want is the straight ticket, and no selection of a better candidate from another ticket. That would narrow the selection of the voter to the single party ticket he will support in the main, and is the chief purpose of any "coining" effort. Another effect of exaggerating the difficulties of the ballot system for the voters is to cause doubtful ones among the latter to stay home rather than take the worry and trouble of preparing and casting a ballot and risking its being in improper shape.

As a matter of fact, there need not be the slightest difficulty for any male or female elector of ordinary intelligence in making up a ballot to suit himself or herself, either by selecting a party ticket entire or by choosing from all parties, provided that voter gives a few minutes' consideration to the published sample ballot. And such consideration is essential to intelligent action on the part of any elector. If the voters of other states where the ballots sometimes are a hundredfold more complicated than there is a possibility of their being made at this election in this State, can do the work with few blunders—and they do—the intelligence of the people here ought to get them through with very few errors indeed, so far as the voting is concerned.

The NEWS will publish a sample ballot for the information of its readers; some of the party papers also will

have this ballot in as an advertisement from the county clerk; so everybody ought to be acquainted with it. Our column will contain the Salt Lake county ballot—the most intricate of any county in the State, since there are many more names on it than on any other county ballot. By applying to this ballot the simple "Rules for Voters," given in these columns, the voter can learn in one lesson how to attend to the ballot-preparation business with ease and accuracy.

As to a comparison with the ballots in some of the other states, our readers may contrast this one with that of California for instance—and that is less extensive than in some other states. This year there will be fully five hundred names on the California ballot, and then two tickets have been rejected for irregularities—the Taxpayers' Water party and the Free Silver and Protection party. The nominations filed thus far in California, and accepted, embrace those of the Citizens' Republican, Democratic, Anti-Charter Democrat, Republican, Citizens' Non-Partisan, Citizens' Independent, People's, Socialist Labor and United Labor parties. Allowing for the requisite space between each name, the official headings and spaces for stamping, the ballot promises to be about four feet long by two and one-half feet wide—a "blanket sheet" indeed. But in Utah the ballot is a comparatively small sheet, in most of the counties very small, easily read, understood and prepared, and certainly one on which the voter should have no trouble in indicating just what he wants in a way that the judges of election shall count the ballot as intended by the elector.

FOUNDER'S DAY.

The following is a synopsis of the exercises in the Tabernacle yesterday, Oct. 18, in celebration of Founder's Day:

Singing by vocal class, Zion Prospectors all is Well.

Prayer by Elder Charles W. Peterson.

Singing by vocal class.

Professor N. L. Nelson read the Founder's Day ode.

President George Q. Cannon delivered the oration. He expressed pleasure to being present and congratulated the board of trustees, the teachers, and all connected with the Brigham Young academy upon the successful termination of the twenty-first year of the institution. The speaker remembered well the time when the inception of the institution was formed in the mind of President Brigham Young. Many intentions of President Young connected with the work of the academy had not yet been carried out; he had thought very seriously of adding manual training to the system of education, for none more greatly appreciated the value of technical education to the community, but he did not live long enough to see these ideas carried into effect. That which had been accomplished had, however, proven of great benefit to the community, and especially to the Latter-day Saints. Few men understood the benefits of education better than did Brigham Young; he was reared under conditions which

made educational advantages difficult to obtain, but became a great advocate of learning. This led him to establish the Brigham Young academy, the Brigham Young college in Logan; before his death he had in contemplation the commencement of an educational institution in Salt Lake City. The speaker traced the educational growth of the Territory and State of Utah from the first winter the Saints located here, when such means as were available were eagerly utilized for the education of the young. This zeal, and universal desire among the people to give their children all possible opportunities was further exemplified by the commencement of the Deseret University under the discouraging and adverse conditions existing in pioneer days. The wonderful progress made by the Brigham Young Academy, since its commencement with one teacher and nineteen pupils until today, with a faculty of about thirty, and about 900 pupils were portrayed. In doing this President Cannon mentioned the name of Dr. Karl G. Maeser, (a burst of applause greeted the name of the venerable teacher) in teaching love and respect for God and religion, which system had been continued by his successors and had produced well balanced men and women.

In the leading educational institutions in the East it had been found that there was danger of young men and women, children of the Saints, neglecting the spiritual and moral education, and in order to contract this it had been considered necessary to establish branches of the church among the young people who attend those places. The great advantages of the Brigham Young academy in imparting such training that the so called scientific theories will not shake or destroy faith in God and His work were pointed out. The students were taught to know God and to know that they were His children, and when the theory that man had evolved from a lower order of being was presented they knew it was untrue and would not accept the erroneous doctrine.

These blessings should cause the students of the academy to praise their Heavenly Father and under Him the foresight and generosity of President Young in establishing this place of learning should be remembered with gratitude. He closed by earnestly expressing the hope that the Church institutions of learning might multiply until all parents would have an opportunity to send their children to a place where there was no danger of erroneous ideas being taught them or their faith shaken; and that the students would carry the good instructions received into their various places of abode and be exemplars of purity and virtue to the people among whom they dwell and not cultivate a spirit of arrogance because of the educational advantages they have received.

Miss Ida Peterson, accompanied by Prof. Lund, rendered a solo with beautiful effect.

Dr. Karl G. Maeser was the next speaker and was heartily applauded as he arose to address the audience. He said: "My dear brethren and sisters, fellow teachers and fellow students: When I look upon this assembly and remember the occasion of this