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SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 15, 1908.

HIS DEATH A LESSON.

The news of the self-inflicted death of Alexander Robertson, of this city, was a great shock to all who knew him. For years he struggled hard to live down the consequences of a moment's error, but it seems the cold, hard world was determined to make the struggle ineffective, and, finally, he gave up. It is claimed that almost every time he was making a big real estate deal unscrupulous competitors informed his customers that he had a prison record. An instance of this is said to have occurred recently. Just as he was about to close a deal with eastern parties, someone in this city is said to have written to them about Robertson, and the deal was called off. Such is the world. We are shocked when we read the stories of confessions that tell us how the stronger trample upon the weaker, crushing them in the mad rush for escape; we are shocked when we read of the brutal acts that sometimes add to the horrors of a shipwreck; but too often the selfish nature of man manifests itself in a similar manner in the daily competition for business. Many do not scruple to trample down others, or to crush them to death. Man has been compelled to take up the struggle with man, for existence, instead of the more noble struggle with the natural forces that must be overcome and made to serve, and in this unnatural struggle many perish.

The sad ending of the career of Robertson ought to be a lesson to all who persecute their fellow-men in the manner he is said to have been hounded to death. If rumor is true, how can his persecutors, when motives and deeds are sifted before the bar of Eternal Justice, escape the doom of homicide? Did they ever stop to think that unless their own lives have always been without a flaw, and their characters are spotless before the All-searching Eye, they, too, might have been in Robertson's predicament? Have they ever reflected upon the great truth that only he who is without sin can properly throw the first stone? We read of the increase of suicides, and this is charged to the collapse of the nerves caused by modern rush and strain. But no one knows how many suicides are actually due to the cruelty of business, or political competition—how many murders of this class are actually committed every year. It is high time for humanity to accept the principles of the Gospel as the rule of life, both private and public.

CAN AFFORD TO BORROW.

The citizens of San Francisco have just authorized a loan of \$18,000,000, though, as a rule, they have, as the Chronicle expresses it, "a horror of public debt, and under ordinary circumstances no journal published in this city would feel like congratulating its readers on the fact that the people had authorized a loan." But the conditions in San Francisco necessitated the extraordinary measure. The city needs money for an auxiliary water system for fire protection; for a sewer system; for schoolhouses, to take the place of those destroyed by fire; for hospitals; for a hall of justice, and for a garbage disposal plant. It is clear that all these improvements are a pressing necessity for the city, and it is also clear that the money needed immediately cannot all be raised by ordinary taxation. San Francisco is in a position where it must necessarily borrow money in order to do what it is essential that it shall do, and the authorization of the loan has proved the loyalty and the enterprise of the property holders.

But San Francisco can afford to borrow \$18,000,000 for necessary public improvements. The city, at the beginning of this year had an estimated population of 475,000, and a total bonded indebtedness of only \$3,788,724, which is about the bonded debt of Salt Lake, with, let us say, 70,000 inhabitants. When the city by the coast adds eighteen million dollars to its debt, it will foot up \$21,788,724, but even then the per capita indebtedness will be only about \$46. The per capita indebtedness of Salt Lake is now, according to the official census figures for 1902, \$64.07. And very little to show for it!

COST OF PEACE.

The increasing cost of the maintenance of the navy has been widely commented on lately. The cost of the army is also increasing yearly. Peace is becoming expensive, even for a wealthy nation.

The army appropriation bill now carries a total of \$95,000,000, or an increase of \$17,000,000 over the previous appropriation. Of this, \$7,000,000 is for the increase of army pay, approximately \$3,000,000 for enlisted men and \$2,000,000 for officers. It also carries nearly \$1,000,000 for the purchase of heavy furniture for the use of officers. But \$95,000,000 does not comprise the whole of the army expenditure. Ten millions is provided in the fortifications bill, \$4,000,000 more in the sundry civil bill, and the permanent annual appropriation is \$4,000,000, making a total of \$113,000,000 that the army will cost the country during the coming year.

But this is only a beginning. Representative Hay of Virginia tells the country that the bill does not provide money enough to pay the increased salaries that have been authorized. His opinion is that in five years, when the increase-of-pay provision has come into full operation, "the government will have to appropriate every year not less than \$25,000,000 as a result of this increase of pay—as much as the army was costing at the beginning of the Spanish war." Without the addition of a single man to the authorized army establishment, the cost of it is increasing by millions of dollars, though the army is not increased in effectiveness as to numbers or equipment. This is peculiar indeed.

DISTANCES ANNIHILATED

At the second day's conference of Governors at the White House, President James J. Hill, of the Great Northern railroad, pointed out that the world has become, commercially, a small place, and that the consequence is a solidarity of the race to a greater extent than ever. The natural resources of the planet have become almost a common asset.

Few realize to what extent the earth has really shrunk, on account of the greater facilities for communication between nations. Someone says that a little over 100 years ago it took John Adams fifty-four days to get from London to Amsterdam—fifty-four days of travel, day and night! Now he could beat the globe in less time. And he could make the journey to Amsterdam in less than sixteen hours.

A hundred years ago it took six weeks to get a dispatch from Boston to Richmond. Now a ship at sea off Magdalena bay in the Pacific can talk to Pensacola, Fla., merely by sending out words into space. That shows how distances have been annihilated. The steam road has been followed by the electric road, the electric road by the automobile. The telegraph has been followed by the telephone, and both by the wireless. Soon we will have the flying machine.

Our neighbors used to be across the street; now they are across the ocean. No people are now alien. Our eyes rest on every corner of the globe, and our ears hear from every part of it. The abuse of a Russian Jew is known in Salt Lake City the day it happens in Russia.

Who are the enemies? Who are the Barbarians against whom we may properly lay our hands? There are none. Invention has made the world one close family, and the brotherhood of man is becoming a necessity.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

The question of old-age pensions is now to the front in England. The new Premier has boldly proposed that an experiment be made, to commence in 1909. To begin with a pension of five shillings a week (1.25) is to be given to all worthy poor over seventy years of age, whose weekly income is not more than \$2.50. Mr. Asquith reckons that the number of such pensioners will not exceed 500,000, and that the total yearly cost will not be more than \$30,000,000. And this expense can be met, according to Mr. Asquith's budget, without an increase in the taxation. On the contrary, his plan contemplates the abolition of certain taxes on sugar and marine insurance policies—the reduction in the national debt, the creation of a surplus of \$30,000,000 for old-age pensions—all without new imposts.

And yet, there are objections. It seems, to old-age pensions. How are the administrative details to be provided for? What will the effect be upon the workmen? What system of national finance can be devised to meet the enormous cost of a pension system of so universal application? These questions indicate the nature of the opposition.

As for the principle itself, when it is admitted to be right and proper to pension public servants, there can be no serious doubt as to the propriety of extending that form of protection against need in the declining years to others. A laborer who has risked his life in any line of industry and spent years in the production of wealth for the benefit of his country, is entitled to some consideration. And so is the woman who has reared children and worked hard for them, but perhaps finds himself dependent on others in her old age. She ought to be taken care of in some other way than that provided by the poorhouse. There can be no question as to the correctness of the old-age pension system. A laborer deserves as much consideration as an office-holder, or a warrior. But is it practicable?

It has proved so in Germany, France and Belgium, where the men themselves and their employers contribute towards a pension fund, which the government supplements so as to make up the fixed weekly allowance in old age. It has been proved practicable in New Zealand and Denmark, where the government undertakes the entire responsibility. Why should it prove a failure in England?

No excelling without labor.

There are some seats left in all the bandwagons.

The Wright airship flies because it is made right.

Stewart plaids are not in favor at the White House.

Excursion rates more, excursionists less. That's all.

This year the merry month of May isn't so merry as it might be.

A good many days go down in history and never come up again.

Canada has a town called Kipling. This is in return for "Our Lady of Snows."

During the closed season a bird in the hand is twice as expensive as two in the bush.

The reformation of the fleet doesn't mean that there is need of reform in the fleet.

The Laporte murders have been a seven days wonder; now let the country have a rest.

And already the cadets are saying

with Rip Van Winkle, "And are we so soon forgotten?"

If eloquence can preserve the country's natural resources then they are already preserved.

These governors' conference should resolve itself into a committee on the state of the Union.

A strictly temperate man, there is no one in all the country that smiles more than Secretary Taft.

The Brownsville case is to take a much needed rest. It will not come up again until December 14.

The engineer's department is as reckless in cutting streets as a tailor is in cutting the cloth furnished by a customer.

One way, and an excellent one, to preserve the nation's natural resources would be to cut down congressional appropriations.

"Is the Taft crowbar to take the place of the Roosevelt big stick?" asks the Springfield Republican. It might on a "pinch."

The Marchioness of Headfort likes American women better than American men. Therein she is in perfect accord with American men.

Having been a cowboy and bronchobuster, Mr. Roosevelt will be able to control any stampede that may be started towards him at the Chicago convention.

"It is absurd to say you cannot legislate people into morality," says the Rev. William Austin Smith, according to the Milwaukee Sentinel. It is still more absurd to say that you can.

NOT WITHOUT A STRUGGLE.

Pueblo Chieftain.

It must not be supposed that the policy of conservation of national resources is going to be adopted without a struggle. On the contrary, there are a large number of most influential persons that have grown rich and are still profiting by the waste that is now being recognized as dangerous in the highest degree to the national interest. The monopolists, the grafters, and the hosts of selfish interests are not going to see their "inches" loosened without a struggle. In the light that is being waged by newspapers, congressmen, corporations and individuals against the forestry system we may see the beginning of the much harder fight that will come against the general policy of the conservation of natural resources, as soon as it becomes evident how the carrying out of that policy will interfere with selfish interests and will check the attainment of "soft snaps" and "good things" at the public expense.

THE OFFICERS' DILEMMA.

Washington Herald.

It appears that others besides our sailors have their troubles these days out in the golden, glorious, generous West. The Jack tars have been "held up" for pies, and beer, and kindred things of supposed plebeian persuasion, and are not altogether happy or disposed to sing one unending and harmonious song of praise. That story has been told, however; if it is true, it isn't pretty—but let it pass. Now that the officers seem to be in waiting of a stew—admirals, captains, lieutenants, and so on. Because of late doings in California, Rutesque and Schmitzlike, "high society" out there is divided into two parts—the tainted and the untainted. Each is vying with the other to do the honors for the more favored few of the fleet labeled "Made in Annapolis." Banquets and receptions grow nowadays in San Francisco in clusters where but recently they grew sparsely, if at all. In a precipitate though somewhat superior way, the rich ones of that fair climate are literally "tumbling over themselves" in their efforts to please and entertain. It would all be lovely—but! Curses be upon the head of Cadmus, the Phoenician, or whoever it was that invented "but." The officers cannot run with the hare and hold with the hounds; neither can they make one sauce for the goose and another for the gander, if you prefer that way of expressing it. "The tainted millionaires object to the visitors' association with the untainted; social lines are sharply drawn. And, to make the matter more embarrassing, there is more segregation with, by many millions, among the tainted than the untainted. The result is all too obvious. Tainted dinners run up into the twenty-dollar-per-plate class, whereas the untainted have to make do with like trailers in the from-five-to-ten-dollar-a-plate catalogue! It is very trying. Something of a tragedy of conscience vs. appetite!

BURNING MONEY.

Metropolitan Magazine.

In the future we shall slay one another at incredible distances. An enormous cannon has just been placed on the coast of Havre, which, with one well directed shell, can strike at a distance of twenty kilometers, the most formidable armored cruiser. The Germans, on their part, have installed in the port of Wilhelmshafen a Krupp cannon which cost the trifling sum of \$79,000, every shot of which costs \$1,650; \$267 for the projectile, \$185 for the charge which expels the shell, and \$358 for the checking apparatus. This gun cannot fire more than 35 shots before it is completely useless. Because of the repeated action of the explosives, eruptions are made in the bore, which destroy the quality of the steel, and the piece can no longer be used without danger of bursting. If we consider that after the deflagration of the charge the projectile remains in the gun only about the fifth part of a second, we can see that a cannon rendered useless after ninety-five shots has not yielded more than two seconds of active service!—\$79,000 for two seconds! That looks like a bad bargain. The gun a wage of \$2,370,000 a minute; \$82,200,000 an hour. Here lies the wealth of the steel and powder merchants.

JUST FOR FUN.

There Is a Garden on Her Hat.

Paris modistes, having exhausted the possibilities of decoration of hats with flowers, fruits and feathers, have, according to the Gil Blas, been compelled to look for novelties elsewhere, and have decided to see what they can make at the produce of the kitchen garden. First experiments are to be made with tomatoes, which will shortly be seen on the trimmings of hats, while the cucumber and the parsley loom threateningly on the horizon.—London Daily Mail.

After Business.

Teacher (after reading the "Charge of the Light Brigade"): "Who were the six hundred referred to in the verse, 'Into the jaws of death rode the six hundred?'"

Pupil—I expect they were dentists, ma'am.—Illustrated Bits.

Agin the Suffragette.

That masculine anti-suffragist of Massachusetts who grumbled, "When a man comes home tired at night he

does not want to kiss an overseer of the poor or a member of the school board," will soon have to move to another planet. That is, if he aspires to be really happy.—Harper's Weekly.

The Advent of Civilization.

The first divorce between natives—on the ground of disappearance of a husband—has just been pronounced in the Congo Free State.—London Daily Mail.

A Safeguard.

A farmer who took much pride in the looks of his fattening pigs once purchased a pair from a neighbor. Upon delivery at the usual age of eight weeks they seemed to him rather small.

Eyeing them dubiously, he remarked, dryly, "Guess I had better keep the cat shut up for a few days."—Youth's Companion.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Atlantic Monthly is always interesting. The May issue has a striking article by Thomas Mott Osborne, formerly mayor of Auburn, New York, now a member of the public service commission, and is entitled "Has the Democratic Party a Future?" Andrew D. White contributes an excellent article entitled "The Statesmanship of Stein," the first of a series of two papers dealing with the famous German minister. "Prohibition in the South" in its most recent phases is discussed by Frank Foxcroft; Max Eastman of Columbia university writes a brilliant essay on "The New Art of Healing," and John L. Mathews contributes an important paper on "The Conservation of our National Resources." William Mackintire Salter writes on "Pragmatism: A New Philosophy," discussing Prof. James' much-talked-of book on that subject. Two unusually interesting papers appear side by side under the general title, "Shall we Hunt and Fish?" J. O. Fagan contributes the fourth of his striking series, "Confessions of a Railroad Signalman." A very charming essay, entitled "Poh! A Motor-Boat!" appears in the May Atlantic from the pen of W. D. Hulbert. Lucy M. Donnelly, a teacher at Bryn Mawr, writes on the "Decay of Finery," in which she laments the brilliant fashions of bygone days, and Florence Converse reviews some recent essays under the title, "Among Literary Shallows." The May Atlantic is one of the best of the first quality. There is an unusual poetry.—4 Park St., Boston.

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Saturday Night—"King Richard III"

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Nights, 25, 35, 50, 75 cents. Matinees, 15 and 25 cents.

Next week: "CONFESSIONS OF A WIFE."

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Z. C. M. I.

Wind-Up Sale

SATURDAY

In the Dry Goods Dept.

SATURDAY, MAY 16—the last day of our Great May Sale—will witness extraordinary special reductions. In addition to the innumerable price reductions prevailing throughout the store, we will sell Staple Goods at prices greatly below wholesale cost. EACH ITEM A SPECIAL BARGAIN.

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IN CLOAK DEPARTMENT SATURDAY.

Entire line of fleeced House Wrappers, including some Percales, up to \$2.75 values, Saturday only, your choice..... 65c

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FOR SATURDAY ONLY.

A line of Pongee Silk, 27 inches wide, regular price 85c a yard, extraordinary Saturday special, a yard..... 50c
ONLY 14 YARDS TO A CUSTOMER.



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ALL TRIMMED HATS, including Pattern Hats and the newest creations of our own millinery experts, at... Half Price

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NOTION DEPT. SPECIALS.

FOR SATURDAY ONLY

Women's 16 BUTTON LENGTH SILK GLOVES, double finger tips, in black and white. All sizes. Regular price \$1.25. Saturday special..... \$1.25

LACES Venice and Baby Irish ALL-OVER LACES in cream, ecru and white. Regular prices range from \$1.00 to \$11.00 a yard. Saturday special..... Half Price

Muslin Underskirts Half Price

SATURDAY ONLY

Ladies' Long Muslin Skirts, with deep double ruffle, neatly trimmed with tucks and wide embroidery. Regular price \$1.25, Saturday Special..... 65c

Ladies' Long Muslin Skirts, with 12 inch double ruffle, trimmed in tucks and wide embroidery. A bargain at \$1.50, Saturday..... 75c

Ladies' Long Muslin Skirts, with 16 inch double ruffle and two rows of lace insertion and tucks, with deep lace edge. A \$1.50 value. Saturday Special..... 75c

Ladies' Long Muslin Skirts, with 16 inch double ruffle and three rows of wide lace, insertion tucks and wide lace edge. A \$2.00 value. Saturday Special..... \$1.00

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Sale Price \$1.75, extra special.... \$1.00
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Extra Specials in Men's and Boys' Hats

Men's Felt Hats, soft and stiff, while they last, your choice..... 50c

Boys' Soft Felt Hats, mostly telescopes, blacks and browns, your choice..... 50c

The Greatest Wind-Up Celebration Sale in the history

Z. C. M. I. Remember the date—

Saturday, May 16

