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SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 21, 1903.

FIGURES THAT DO NOT LIE.

The malicious story circulated by the detractors of Salt Lake City, to the effect that the money voted for improving the water system of the city, has been squandered, and that the city is practically bankrupt and will need further appropriations, if it is to have any water, is, like every other canard that originates from that source concerning Utah, the "Mormons," and local conditions, absolutely false. It does very little harm here, for the reason that the character of the detractors is generally known. But it cannot be pleasant to our conservative citizens and respectable business men to have such ravings about the city, and its administration, circulated abroad, where the moral responsibility of the originators is taken for granted.

The fact, as established by the Auditor's report, is this, that of the \$350,000 appropriated for the water system, over one-half, or \$175,000, is still available to apply on contracts for work, or such other legitimate expenses as provided for in the original plans. The sum of \$377,363.23 had been contracted for, up to the date of Dec. 15, and in this is included one of the main expenses, that for the conduit. But even this sum has not yet been paid out. Only \$173,004.71 has been disbursed, so far. This leaves a total of \$576,695.21 on hand now, of the entire water bond issue of \$550,000. Any citizen interested in the truth of the matter can verify these figures at the Auditor's office.

The funds in question have been handled with the greatest care, and conscientiously. In the letting of contracts, figures below the original estimate have sometimes been obtained, and a saving has thus been made for the city. If the next city administration continues the conservative, business-like policy of the present officials there will be little fault to find.

ZIONISM; ANOTHER VIEW.

We have just had the pleasure of receiving a letter from a friend, who writes from Jerusalem, under date of November 28. He encloses a copy of a publication issued by a gentleman who calls himself Prince Immanuel. The copy sent us is devoted entirely to the "Zionist Mystery," and the editor and publisher seems to be in possession of many facts concerning the present status of that propaganda, not known to the general public. Incidentally he gives valuable information concerning the Holy Land at the present time, and furnishes many reasons why the Zionist movement, in his opinion, is not destined to solve the Jewish problem. It appears that he himself, at one time, was an active Zionist and took part in the congresses at Basle, but that he left the ranks of the Basle Zionists and now hopes to begin a gathering of his own in the interest of Zionism, which, he feels confident, will be successful. The gentleman is a British citizen and served in the late war as an officer in the Imperial Light Horse. He is, first of all, a patriot, and he does not believe it necessary to found a Jewish state, which must sever Judaism from Christianity. On the contrary, he believes that Christianity must co-operate with Judaism in the establishment of the Messianic state. He calls his movement Anglo-Zionism, and he advocates a joint council of protection by Great Britain and the United States of America, of all Anglo-Zionists in the East, as a counterbalance to the protection given by other powers to Catholics and Protestants in that part of the world.

As the subject is of considerable interest, and is likely to become of even more importance as the years roll by, we here give a brief statement of the views published by "Prince Immanuel of Jerusalem." According to him, the leaders of the Zionist movement commenced by the late Dr. Herzl, are at present floundering about, without any definite policy, except that of raising money. They commenced by regarding a legally assured home in Palestine under the protection of the Sultan, as a panacea against anti-Semitism. Their purpose was to found a nation of agriculturists. But, he claims, Palestine is not suited for extensive agricultural operations in the modern sense. It is arid, rocky and mountainous, and almost without water supply. There are some arable parts as beautiful as any in the world, but they are proportional, by more thickly populated and more thoroughly cultivated than most of the British colonies. The country is suitable for more vines and olives, but the process of reclaiming new terraces is necessarily slow and expensive.

Another difficulty, according to the Prince, is this, that Palestine already has a great number of inhabitants. The country about Jerusalem is twice as thickly populated as the United States, and not twenty-five per cent of the population are Jews. Would the Jews be prepared to drive out, by the sword,

the inhabitants already in possession of the country?

A still more grave difficulty is found in the fact that the various powers are establishing themselves, by all means at their command, in the Holy Land. German colonies have been planted all over the country. Schools for Germanizing the Arabs are being established in many places. The French own the Jerusalem railway. Russia fosters the immigration of Russian Jews to Palestine, hoping that this will give her a good reason for interfering in the interior administration of Turkey, at some future time. Germany is following that lead. Catholics have a secret political journal in the country. Their monasteries are said to be well provided with arms, including cannon, and to have sufficient provisions to withstand a lengthy siege.

Russia's great object, "Prince Immanuel" contends, is to lay hands upon the holy places in Jerusalem. The Greek Sepulchre and monasteries have hitherto belonged to the Greek church in Jerusalem, and this body does not acknowledge the authority of the Russian orthodox church. But it seems only a question of time, when Russia will oust the Greek church and put forward her own claims. And it is generally conceded that, if once the holy places fall into Russian hands, the consequences will be grievous for all who are interested in the peace of Jerusalem.

The author of the "Zionist Mystery" calls attention to the fact that the Promised Land, according to Genesis 15: 18, extends from the Nile to the river Euphrates. Jewish agriculturists, he says, must extend in the valleys of the Nile and the Euphrates, if Zionism is to be realized. England already sways Egypt. Aden, the mouth of the Euphrates, the south of Arabia from the Red Sea to the Gulf of Oman. The Arabians are anxious to welcome British protection. Yemen has a Jewish population which exceeds that of Palestine. There are a quarter of a million Abyssinian Jews. They are brave warriors, thousands of men having fought in the army of Theodore, the Negus. So, everything considered, the preliminary conditions are favorable to a revival of an autonomous state, bounded by the two rivers mentioned, and placed under the protection of some Christian power, or powers. The only power, the author says in conclusion, that can oppose Russia is Great Britain, who will probably have the assistance of the United States, for the American Jewish colony in Palestine is growing rapidly, and America's interest in the Jewish question and the Millennial state is stronger, even than England's.

In the meantime, "Prince Immanuel" suggests that an experimental state be established on the Island of Cyprus. This faces Palestine, and belongs virtually to Great Britain. Its present population is but a small part of the number that could be comfortably sustained there. It would take only 10,000 Jews with votes as citizens, to govern the whole island. Such are the speculations of the author quoted. They are interesting, because of the thorough thought he has given to the subject. Zionism is one of the issues before the world today. That it will be realized, no student of the sacred scriptures will deny. The time may yet be far distant, or it may be near at hand. It is the work of the Almighty, and He can in a day accomplish that which human wisdom would presume to be, the work of a millennium.

SIGNS OF PROSPERITY.

When employers of laborers voluntarily raise the wages, because they believe that business conditions justify it, even the most pessimistic must admit that the outlook is encouraging. It is stated that the wages of 25,000 hands in the woolen mills of Rhode Island and Connecticut have just been increased 10 per cent, and that this is likely to be followed by a similar increase by all manufacturers in that line. Clearer evidence of the solid prosperity of the country can hardly be produced.

Trade papers say that there are several voluntary announcements of higher wage scales to become effective January 1, and that one concern will thus annually pay out \$1,000,000 more in wages. The railroads, the iron and steel, and textile industries, in fact every branch of trade, is in good condition.

This happy state of affairs is also reflected in the numerous special Christmas editions of the press, that reach our table. They come with a wealth of art features, and an abundance of business announcements, perhaps never before equalled in the history of journalism. Papers that have for years struggled along, now come out in expensive holiday attire, reflecting the business status of the communities which they represent.

These facts are encouraging. The people have confidence in their government, and in the future. And they are justified in this. There may not be a "boom" coming, but the steady, gradual, sound development is worth more than any sudden displacement of normal conditions, and there is no reason why such a development should not be expected for a long time to come. Only foolish strife, in the treacherous whirlpools of which confidence is lost, can injure this country, or any local part thereof.

PROTEST AGAINST RIDICULE.

The protest of Irish-Americans in Butte, Mont., against the appearance there of a burlesque company, because of the so-called Irish characters in it, may seem to be prompted by a superabundance of sensitiveness, but it is, nevertheless, the expression of a correct principle, and we believe the stage would be benefited by a general revolt against the custom of ridiculing nationalities. The public will have fun, and will pay liberally for it, but ridicule is not funny. It may possibly at times, be used judiciously, for corrective purposes by those who have a right to correct. It can be used as a paternal rod. But discipline is never applied for the fun of it. Humorists who feel

called upon to supply the public demand for fun, but who are unable to do so except by the employment of ridicule, should give up that calling, and do something useful. Humor, satire, wit, and ridicule have their uses, and may serve a good purpose, but to substitute ridicule for a humor, is as bad as to sell a stone for bread.

The same observations hold good of many of the cartoons that find their way into the daily prints. They are mere libels in picture, as far from truth as heaven is from earth. It is true enough that, for that very reason, they fail to do all the harm they are intended to do. Their very absurdity prevents them from having the intended effect. They do prove, though, the disregard of those who depend on them, for public decency. We doubt not, that some time the public sentiment will be awakened to the degrading influence of all such publications, and demand a clean press, as well as a purity in all other institutions.

Is the Duma doomed?

In Texas they say, Oil's well that drills well.

No one will miss the investigation more than Hughes.

At the Christmas tide a full heart makes an empty purse.

"Tried up" the hazers at Annapolis would stop hazing in a trice.

There is no cheaper book on the market than the Bible; and no better one.

A Hoboken man paid \$2,500 for an egg. The yolk must have been a gold brick.

The sailors and marines at Shanghai seem to have no fear of being "Shanghai'd."

Congressman Longworth should be immensely popular, for all the world loves a lover.

The result of the Fitzsimmons-O'Brien bout shows that there's no life in the old dog now.

Around Riga the peasants are laying the land waste. It would be much better to let it lie fallow.

Some people think they are doing a thriving business when in fact they are only doing a thieving business.

The Russian revolutionaries expect to break the government's back. Their expectation may be broken to the hope.

The parallel collision on the New York Central & Hudson River railway is without parallel in railroad annals.

The police have arrested a man suspected of being a highwayman, and he is not a life insurance president, either.

Yale is going to have a commercial museum. That's right. Commercialism has been quite triumphant at Yale of late.

Ninety thousand dollars have been paid for a New York stock exchange seat. It is hard to say that in this case exchange is no robbery.

Father Gapon says he left Russia not because his mission was ended, but because he feared arrest. That's an explanation that explains, a thing that most explanations do not do.

It is objected to the MacMonnies statue of General George W. McClellan that the sculptor has put a slouch hat on him. The objection should be sustained, for "Little Mac" was no slouch.

Miss Amber Lawford, an actress, is quoted in an interview in the New York Telegraph as announcing that her engagement to Joseph Leiter of Chicago has been broken. This is the second time that Joseph has been broke, the first time being on the Chicago board of trade.

USE FOR OLD SWORDS.

London Globe.

A curious fact has just been brought to light as to the disposal of the cast-off sabres of the French army, and, for matter of that, of almost every army in Europe. They all go to Germany.

It is in due time revended among the subject native races of every power in the world, including those of Germany herself, to be used in their periodical outbreaks against the domination of the white race which have come to be so rampant in the dependencies of Europe.

Twenty thousand of these sabres were, not many months ago, bought in France on German account. Scores of thousands of these disused military sabres are now in the hands of Russian revolutionaries; scores of thousands have been used in the Arab rising in the Yemen; they are known by every tribe of Asia and Africa, and the Herreros have shown good sport with them against the Germans themselves.

A BOSSLESS AGE.

Washington Star.

Are we in this country entering upon what the political historian will describe as the bossless age? Are we going to hold fast to what fortune has recently given us—the spirit to conduct our public affairs without the agencies of corrupt men at the top, whose sole aim is to line their own pockets with money, filched from the people? Or are we simply having a spasm of indignation and virtue, to be followed by a relapse into the old conditions of indifference and sloth, when the bosses, who never sleep and are not easily discouraged, will shoulder forward again and resume charge in the old way and for the old purposes? However this may be, there is no doubt of the spirit now abroad. It is a rebuff on every hand, and with an emphasis that leaves nothing to be desired. No man in office, or seeking office, fails to deliver himself on the subject in good, round terms. Every fellow considers that he advances himself in the public estimation by announcing that he wears no man's collar, and could not be induced to put one on. It is the day of independence and self-respect, and there is wide approval of the manifestation of those qualities.

FIRST IN CHARITY.

Atlanta Constitution.

The figures show that the United States has contributed more to the relief of the suffering Jews of Russia than has been subscribed by the rest of the world combined. The United States is first in peace and first in charity.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The December issue of Outdoors deals with a variety of topics consistent with the season. The pleasure of a mid-winter visit to Florida and the Bahamas are dwelt upon by one writer who put the trip to practical test; another tells of ocean cruises to different parts of the world, giving in outline the cost and what may be seen and done. An Italian (Raffaele Simboli) describes fox hunting on the Roman campaign, and Dr. Edward Huntington Williams explains for the benefit of the uninitiated the methods of procedure at western "Turkey shoots."—150, Fifth Ave., New York.

In the current number of Leslie's Weekly John P. Fritts writes entertainingly of the street fakirs of the metropolis, explaining their business, describing their wares, and showing how they make it possible for even the poorest to buy Christmas and New Year's gifts. A page of good photographs accompanies the article. The illustrations include a strong front drawing, by Gerrit A. Henker, representing an iron-worker's dizzy ride on a girder; striking pictures relating to the grave troubles in Russia; views of the world's biggest floating dry-dock; the news price photographic content, and snap-shots of statesmen seen at the opening of the Fifty-ninth Congress. In connection with the last-named, Arthur W. Dunn contributes a readable account of the first day's proceedings of the national legislature. Good reading is also furnished in the new department, "What People Are Talking About," on the Household and "Autographs," and in Henry Sheild Beardsley's fourth paper on the new wonders of old Mexico.—New York.

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