

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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## AGRICULTURE FOR SCHOOLS.

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Interested activity of mind and body is a necessity for the life and growth of the young child physically, mentally, and morally. These three lines of growth are tied up together and in the normal child, go hand in hand, acting upon each other. The young child is continually reaching out through his special senses to lay hold upon everything about him, to test it, to know about it, to see what its relation to himself may be, to see if he can use it and make something for himself with it. He is an imitative being, delighting to say the sounds he hears, to represent the action which he sees and hears described, and, in fact, to live over and so make his own the different experiences of the people whom he sees and of whom he reads.

Many thoughtful people are coming to see that our schools have not sufficiently recognized the real condition of child development; that the best part of the education of our best people has been in the old New England home, and not in the regulation school. They see that the conditions of present social life demand that the school shall do much of the work which was formerly done in the home; that the school can do much better work, even along traditional school lines, if it will consider the child as he is, society as it is, and the ways in which the children of the past have been most helped to develop into good, helpful citizenship. And by introducing into the school some of these ways, they would base the other work of the school upon this.

The fact is being recognized that the child must be prepared for life by learning to live. Life in school must be natural, many-sided and harmonious. Life at school must be related to life at home, on the street, in the field, and in the various human activities of the village. Typical occupations are being gradually introduced into the school so that through these the children may come into live personal contact with the kinds of things while they need to know and to be able to do.

Prof. Stewart informs us that this is, in general, the aim of the State Normal school. To illustrate that aim in several great departments of life, it is only necessary to look at the work which the children of the State Normal do in the school garden, in the hand crafts, in art, and in domestic work. The school garden consists of about six acres of fertile soil under close cultivation, operated as a nature laboratory for student practice and class illustration by a practical gardener who devotes his entire time to this work.

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In our case we feel to congratulate the two chief educational institutions of the State upon their wise and patriotic course in making possible for teachers in the near future a better understanding of how to put this work into the public schools.

We also congratulate the schools upon what appears to be the advent of a new and important factor of their education towards the truly practical, which is, after all, none the less truly an intellectual part of education.

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## THE PRINCIPLE OF TITHING.

Will some good friend sit down and figure out how much the principle of tithing, applied to works of charity, disassociated from all religious creeds, could do in New York City this winter to relieve the certain distress?

The principle has been on test in the Church for nearly a century. The givers have received blessings untold, and the receivers have been whoever have been in need for an hour, or a day, or a month, or through the years of a declining old age. The Church schools answer, in part, to the value of having a fund for the general welfare given by those who believe in maintaining it, and so far the administration of the fund has been such that social economists call "improving ch'ryt's" has been avoided, while careful discrimination has been made to see that the worthy did not suffer because of fear that the unworthy would be encouraged in lines of theftlessness.

Evangelism teaches, according to the declarations of some of its greater authorities, that if the great stream of charity flowing through the main channels of America were cut off for a month, the world would be rid of 80 per cent of its "socially unfit," thus leaving the world equipped only with its strongest types. But there is great waste in the battle resulting from leaving 50,000 people to fight it out for existence on food enough for 30,000 and counting as strongest and best the emaciated crew that has finally fought down neighbor and associate for the privilege of fattening on what both ate in their days of poverty. Enabling is the work that seeks to find deep in the philosophy of life, the proper rules for the conduct of life so that strife may be minimized in the determining one's right to be alive.

As time passes, the Church grows.

Time was when "Mormonism" was compared to a thousand other "isms," founded on one idea, and born to remain for a day. A conception of it as inclusive of many great principles of right living, will come with the study of its success of the past century in refusing temptations to leave Utah sagebrush for California gold on one side, or Cripple Creek wealth on the other, and of its signal success in colonies in every place where an attempt has been made to subdue hostile desert or arid plains.

The Church is no longer styled an "ism" of one idea. People are now speaking of its "wonderful organization, more perfect than any except the German army." They still like to derive themselves that the leadership is that of the crafty schemer over the blind and fanatic follower, but some day they will know the power of love on which leadership is maintained, and the great amount of self-abnegation this leadership entails on whomsoever is called to general Church duties. It is my impression that the world is without similar calls for service so unselfish on such a large scale, and that the mystery of this will be understood when people appreciate the spirit which causes young "Mormon" boys to undertake three years of missionary work on their own resources while still in their teens or just leaving them.

One of the guarantees of permanent usefulness for the church, independent of all its belief in affairs celestial, is the depth at which its principles are grounded in the philosophy of right living. Church principles and practices will stand the test of application to all great problems of human society, and its history will furnish nearly a hundred years of exhibits in how these principles have succeeded among those embracing them.

A test we would now suggest would be that of applying the Tithing system on a large scale. Who will suggest how potent for good this principle, thus applied, would be?

AOKU'S SUCCESSOR.

If there were any serious misgivings as to the intentions of Japan, owing to the recall of the Japanese minister in Washington, the appointment of Baron Takahira as his successor should dispel them.

Takahira is not a stranger in this country. He served as minister here during the war, and he was one of the Japanese representatives at the Portsmouth peace conference. It is generally understood that he exercised great influence at that congress. His selection as ambassador at this time means that Japan is anxious to preserve friendly relations with this country. He knows the United States, and the sentiment here. Possibly, the Japanese government hopes that the friendly sentiment that existed in this country during the war with Russia, will be restored through his agency.

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as water is treated in such cases—bottled.

Connecticut's blue laws were long since dead and buried, but New York's are still alive and active.

And now it is said the danger is that there will be too much money. Money is a good thing. You can't have too much of a good thing.

A Scotchman who was surrounded by Indians in Canada says he succeeded in scaring them away by playing the bagpipes. Bagged the whole lot, so to say.

Joaquin Miller says that Portland, Or., girls are the prettiest in the world. Could he see the Salt Lake girls, he would be compelled to change his opinion.

Emperor William has finished his "rest cure" at High Cliffe castle, and has gone to London to see the sights. Will not that necessitate another "rest cure?"

Bishop Potter is not one of those who condemn Vice President Fairbanks because of that cocktail story, for he himself tells how sustaining he found a Manhattan cocktail in Japan.

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## A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

(For the "News" by H. J. Happgood)

Stenographers seem to make more mistakes per capita than any other class of employees. Of course, there are exceptions to the general rule. Court stenographers, private secretaries, and other shorthand experts are probably beyond criticism; but the average ten- and fifteen dollar a week girl often hands back a letter that would be a fit contribution to a first class joke book.

A day or so ago in writing to an advertiser, I dictated, "double your space." Evidently I didn't speak distinctly enough, for the letter was written, "double jaw space." Stenographers are seldom influenced by the context. They write whatever sounds right, regardless of the sense it makes. I once used the expression "they were fighting tooth and nail," but the girl gave her brains a rest and let her ear do all the work and wrote, "they were fighting two thin rats."

Sometimes it seems as though the fate conspire against you and make it almost impossible for you to get your thought down on paper accurately. In preparing a manuscript for the papers once, I dictated, "smoke a pipe of peace." I made the correction but the printer's eyes were evidently worse than the stenographer's ears; for when he showed proof, it read "smoke a pipe apiece."

Probably the worst stenographic mistake on record, however, is one which a friend told me about the other day. He dictated "sent by mail or express." He almost discharged the girl when she handed him the letter, reading "Send by snail in time."

"Everyone has had such experiences, and at times it seems the only way to get a correct letter is to write it yourself."

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"Money-Hoarding in 1847" is the title of an article in the December number of the Silver Standard. The periodical between the financial crash of 1847 and the situation today is quite noteworthy. For a publication devoted to the news of sixty years ago the December number of the Standard is singularly up-to-date.—Box 619, Meriden, Conn.

The annual appearance of the Christmaus number of the American Horse Breeder is announced. This publication has gained a reputation for its artistic and interesting character of its holiday issues. The number will, as usual, contain special articles of interest to lovers of the light-harness horse; stories and poems of the turf; statistical matter in abundance; and it will be embellished with half-tone engravings, many of them full-page size.—High St., Boston, Mass.

## FOREIGN TO TRADITIONS.

Rochester Democrat.

Conscription, or a draft, in a time of peace with no war in prospect would be so foreign to American traditions and so offensive to our people that it could be enforced only against great opposition. It is not at all probable that such a drastic remedy for the non-enlistment of men for the army will become necessary.

## ADVISING A WEAPON.

Philadelphia Record.

The development of the science of advertising is at present high degree of refinement and placed in the hands of the business man a mighty weapon wherewith to combat adversity and a powerful antidote to overcome the deadly effects of commercial depression. It is worth remembering on a Thanksgiving day that comes in the midst of a period of industrial unrest an uncertainty that every man who has the means of publicity within his reach can help himself. Prosperity abides longest with the good advertiser.

## A CASE OF HARD TIMES.

Topeka (Kan.) Journal.

Gov. P. P. Elder of Ottawa thinks currency is plentiful enough compared with ancient days. He tells it was impossible to buy a barrel of flour when it cost \$12 to \$20 a month, if you could get a job. Flour was from \$3 to \$11 a barrel; corn, \$2.30 a bag; pork, 18 to 28 cents a pound; beans, \$3 a bushel.

## WAGES AND PRICES IN 1875.

Kennebunk Journal.

A West Franklin correspondent writes: "Some people are trying to breed discontent among the high prices, etc. An extract from a diary under date of Dec. 13, 1875, might be of interest to them. Wages then were from \$12 to \$20 a month, if you could get a job. Flour was from \$3 to \$11 a barrel; corn, \$2.30 a bag; pork, 18 to 28 cents a pound; beans, \$3 a bushel."

## 10th CONCERT.&lt;/