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SALT LAKE CITY, - JUNE 11, 1909.

SPLENDID WORK, INDEED.

We gather from an editorial in the Tribune of June 10, that Mr. Lippman and the so-called American organ have now agreed that "the campaign should be centered largely around this splendid work of the administration." There is also something about "the great principle upon which the American party was founded" and that this "must be the high key note of the coming campaign, as it has been of the campaigns of the past."

We presume that "this splendid work of the administration" refers to the building activity that has developed lately. It cannot mean its financial ability. For Messrs. Lippman and Christensen about a year ago told the public that the yearly income of the City was \$900,000, while the yearly expenditure was \$1,341,815.38. The City, on that showing, which was made, we understand, after a careful research in the office of the gentleman who draws salary as City Auditor, was running behind at the rate of about \$400,000. There is no excellency in such financial management, so we presume that when Mr. Lippman speaks of "the splendid work of the administration," he refers to work not done by the administration, but in spite of it.

The truth is that the impetus to the recent activity in this City was given by the Morris administration when a million dollars was borrowed for improvements of the water and sewer systems. More water was the one condition without which there could have been no increase in the population. And the bond issue was actually antagonized by "Americans" who tried to defeat the plan, or at least delay it, by court proceedings. They opposed the administration that took the initiative in the development of the water and sewer systems, and now claim all credit for that improvement.

Then there are the street improvements. The Tribune boasts of these, as if a few so-called Americans had contributed of their private fortunes the funds necessary for the paving of streets and sidewalks. "We did it!" The truth is that the taxpayers have more or less willingly paid enormous prices for poor paving. The taxpayers have supplied the money, not because the "Americans" control the City, but because they are public-spirited and want to see their City grow. But they are not particularly proud of the "macadamized" streets that have turned into mud prematurely, or of the sidewalks that are made into channels for raging torrents of water every time there is a rainstorm.

Then there is the building activity. We do not know of one large building that has been raised as a monument to the so-called American rule, which, it is, and has been from the beginning, misrule, un-American and alien at that. It is not generally known. Ex-Senator Kearns could have raised such a monument, had he had any faith in the peculiar brand of "Americanism" of which the Tribune is the hired exponent. But he did not. He waited to announce his building plans until his party had been overwhelmingly defeated first in the county election and then in the school election.

On the other hand, the railroads spent money here on improvements. The street railway system was improved. Construction of the Oregon Short Line depot was begun. The Church of Jesus Christ authorized building and street paving, and enterprising, public-spirited individuals, such as Mr. Newhouse, for instance, planned improvements on a gigantic scale, and now the Utah Hotel company has begun work on its large hotel. Not one of these was inspired by anything the party of Mr. Kearns and the Tribune had perpetrated on this community. To talk about "American" building activity is gibberish. You might as well claim that the floods are rushing down the canyons in obedience to the force of the so-called "American" party. That party could not stem the tide away from the City at the beginning of the late panic when hundreds of laborers left for other parts, daily, for some time.

The so-called American party bosses have had taxpayers' money to spend recklessly. Most of the million dollars borrowed by the Morris administration fell into their hands. They borrowed \$600,000 in addition; and they have spent the revenue and hundreds of thousands of dollars besides. You would naturally expect that an administration with so much money to revel in could do something. And yet, what do the public improvements paid for by the City, and not by the taxpayers in the form of special taxes, amount to? What has the "American" party administrations done, considering the money they have had?

There is a "stockade" on the West side, established in defiance of law and public sentiment. It is a throne of Satan for there ever was one. "American" officials have given public sanction to the establishment of that in-

famy. But that, possibly, comes under "the great principle" of which the organ talks.

COST OF WOOLEN CLOTH.

The Senate proceedings on the tariff continue to interest, if not to instruct, "the average man," who is to be called henceforth "the ultimate consumer." On Monday, Mr. Warren, in order to illustrate the small proportion of the entire cost of a woolen garment which is dutiable, asked Mr. Dolliver to examine the suit which he was wearing.

Mr. Dolliver said it appeared to him to be a good suit, whereupon Mr. Warren explained that the cloth in the suit cost only \$4, while the making and the trimmings cost \$12, showing that the duty on the \$4 of cloth was trifling compared with the entire cost of the suit.

There is a mistake somewhere about these figures. Woolen cloth fit for a suit costing \$46 cannot be purchased for \$4 in any tailoring or dry goods shop known to us. Some of the woolen cloth recently inspected by the writer for the purpose of making a suit was \$4 per yard, although there were various cloths, not guaranteed "all wool" that were less than half this price, while cotton and shoddy mixtures come still lower.

There is trouble ahead for either the retailers or the wholesalers of commercial wares if the Senators are in earnest and are correctly informed as to the natural price of articles in common use. When Senator Smoot shows that the first cost of certain imported razors, which sell here at \$2 apiece, is only \$4 per dozen, and when Senator Warren shows that the cloth for a \$46 suit should cost not more than \$4; then there is something wrong in the workings of our wholesale and retail trade.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT.

T. J. McDonald, a wholesale grocer of Wichita, Kansas, is quoted as having said to a newspaper that, "although the commission government has been in operation in Wichita only a month its success is established. Any government," he added, "which eliminates the tariff is bound to be a great thing, and that is just what the commission form does. The recall may always be used to keep a commissioner from misusing his power."

This states the case concisely and with precision. "Red tape" is a great detriment to successful government, and the commission plan eliminates that, for one thing. Each commissioner has his duties specified and does not need to wait for the performance of them until the details have been thrashed out by a number of men not familiar with the business, but can go ahead in a business manner and do what is necessary for the furtherance of the interests of the city. He does not have to look after the interests of any particular section to see that it gets just as much attention, or a little more than any other ward lest jealousy shall arise. Each commissioner is serving the interests of the whole city all the time. And if he attempts to abuse his power he can be recalled from office quite as easily as he was elected.

That, in brief, is what a commission plan of government means. Every city cannot have a commission. But every city can put national policies and petty local ambitions and jealousies aside and elect a body of men who are willing and capable of serving the public honestly and in a business-like manner, spending public means economically and to the best advantage, and not as rewards for political services.

HERE ARE THE FACTS.

One of the most absurd contentions of the Tribune is that which appeared in an editorial a few days ago, to the effect that it was the Morris administration, and not its so-called American successor, that broke the pledges with regard to the expenditure of the bond issue of 1905. The record on that point is plain. But the paper must take it for granted that its old readers have forgotten the facts, and that the newcomers have never known them, and that a bluff is all that is needed now.

In December, 1904, the City council appealed to the citizens for authority to issue bonds to the amount of a million dollars, to be spent on water and sewers. It was absolutely necessary to increase the water supply, at that time. We had had a number of dry years and lack of water threatened to stop the growth of the City. This was admitted by all, and the bond issue was authorized, and the money was borrowed in 1905. This was during the Morris administration.

The City council specified what the money was wanted for. A conduit was to be constructed from Cottonwood to Parley's canyon, at the cost of \$350,000. The sum of \$200,000 was to be spent on certain work at Utah Lake. The sum of \$100,000 was to be spent on the distribution system. For repairs on the City canal \$20,000 was needed, and so on. And on this showing, which was deemed conservative, the bond issue was authorized.

The conduit which was estimated to cost \$350,000 was contracted for, during the Morris administration, for something like \$322,000. If the plans had been carried out as laid by that administration, there would have been an ample supply of money for the purposes specified.

But in 1905 the so-called American party bosses succeeded, by means known best to themselves, to carry the City election, and in 1906 they controlled the council. What happened? The conduit that was estimated to cost \$350,000 and which the contractor was willing to build for \$222,000, was made to cost, according to "American" reports, \$443,835.32, and to this day there are tax-payers who are firmly convinced that this increase in cost was made as a reward for political services rendered during the campaign. It was alleged that the plans were wrong. But this has never been proved.

As already stated, \$200,000 was asked for the development at Utah Lake, by the Morris administration. The "American" successor reported that \$5,913.25 was spent for this purpose. So it is

evident that the \$200,000 was not spent according to the pledges made. The sum of \$100,000 was asked for improvement of the distribution system. But the "American" report was that \$221,204.70 had been spent on this item. Instead of the \$20,000 asked for for repairs on the City canal, the "American" administration reported that it had spent \$31,763.19.

These are some of the facts on record. They show with the force of a mathematical demonstration that the so-called "American" administration did not consider itself in honor bound to fulfill the conditions on which the taxpayers had authorized the bond issue of 1905, but that that money was spent in such a manner that at the end of a couple of years another debt, to the amount of \$600,000, had to be contracted, part of which was needed to cover up a deficit in the City treasury, of \$101,041.35. And yet the Tribune now insists that the Morris administration and not its "American" successor, broke the pledges.

Some writer on that paper must be non compos mentis. Or, perhaps, he only assumes that the readers are.

THE RESPONSIBILITY.

Reverting again to the question of responsibility for the "stockade," the Tribune repeats its silly assertion that that institution is a State incorporation, although it is not shown to be incorporated in all. "The Citizens' Investment Company" is a corporation, but it has no State charter that authorizes it to run a "stockade." We have expressed the belief that that company did not undertake its infamous enterprise until it had assurances from so-called American party leaders that it would be all right. We repeat this now. And there is every reason for that opinion in the fact that a "stockade" scheme was publicly recommended and endorsed by "American" City officials.

It is all very well for the Tribune to dismiss this charge by talking about "sneaking" and "the expiring wiggles of the reptile's tail," and other things that it, in its condition, evidently sees rather frequently, but that does not change the facts, in the least. Years ago our contemporary had an editorial on "What Utah Wants." In that article it referred to the efforts of the people to get rid of saloons, gambling dens, and bad women as "the new and petty war recently started by the municipal government." It was not going to aid the men in any such war. On the contrary! It solemnly declared in the same article that "freedom is the first requisite of manhood," and that it was better to "win freedom" than to fight excesses. We have no reason to believe that the paper has experienced a change of heart since then.

The thing that appeals to most people is a beggar.

When it comes to tariff revision Senator Aldrich is it.

In patching up a quarrel soft solder makes a good plaster.

A fresh egg is to be preferred to a fresh chick of a child.

The members of the Society of the Banana are a slippery lot.

Patience is a virtue but people sometimes mistake laziness for it.

Top wastes and corn belts are not worn by farmers' daughters.

Consider the members of the Senate, how they talk on the tariff.

Above all others, chauffeurs are inclined to the pace that kills.

Two wrongs do not make a right, but two Wrights make an aeroplane.

No need to keep your weather eye on the weather man this kind of weather.

June is the month of marriages. All the rest are more or less months of divorce.

It is not a very far cry from the hope of youth to the disappointment of old age.

During the recent strike in Philadelphia it is said that the people walked in their sleep.

The federal authorities propose to meet out even-handed justice to the Black Hand.

People do not object to a man blowing his own horn provided he blows it like an artist.

To hesitate is surely to be lost if you hesitate in front of an automobile with a joy party aboard.

Senators cross party lines, vote with their political enemies and still claim to be loyal party men. And they think they are, but are they?

And as he presented the gold medals to the great aeronauts, did the thought pass through Mr. Taft's mind that he would rather be Wright than President?

Edward Everett Hale was one of the lesser lights of American literature. His fame will rest upon his "The Man Without a Country." He had a keen sense of humor as was shown by the story he used to tell of a man who wrote to him that he personally knew Philip Nolan. The man was a good liar.

The presence in the reviewing stand of General Fred Grant, son of the hero

of Appomattox, at the parade of the United Confederate Veterans was the strongest kind of evidence that the country is again one and united. And those old Southern soldiers have the respect of the nation for their bravery and devotion to what they believed to be right.

BUILDING OF CITIES.

Buffalo Express.

The conference of national interests on the subject of the building of cities, at Washington, has taken up a big subject. Just what progress it can make with an important problem remains to be seen. We all realize that almost no cities are built as they should be. Almost no cities are built in circumstances that will permit them to be built as they should be. The few exceptions are cities like Gary, Ind., which the Steel trust is said to be making a model city, and which is built from nothing to a full grown community at once. Most cities are merely a matter of growth. They have small beginnings, and as the community grows it provides for its immediate needs, as they arise. The small community cannot afford to look very far ahead. A comparatively few years at the most is all that can be considered. So when the community outgrows the needs for which it provided a few years before, it has simply to do the work over again on a little larger scale. If the modern

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