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SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 17, 1906

WHITEWASHING BROWN.

Great surprise and not a little disgust is felt by hosts of people in this city at the whitewashing of the incumbent of the juvenile court. The very least that was expected was a vigorous censure of his course in the now notorious Knox case, with a probable request for his resignation. The virtual exoneration tendered to him, coupled with marks of admiration, astonishes the public and is the decision of persons acquainted with the actual facts.

The commission, it appears, conducted the investigation, not on account of the general demand vigorously expressed, but simply in response to the request of the individual under censure. The findings of the commission are addressed to him, in tones of mingled approbation and mild rebuke sweetened with adulation. The letter, for that is all the document amounts to, ignores the "legal aspect of the case," but goes into the motives of the "Judge" which it applauds, states the very reverse of facts testified to by eyewitnesses, and shows an evident intent to approve the act which has set the whole city in an uproar of indignation.

The commission's assertion that the Judge who ordered the outrage upon the little girl who was dragged screaming from the court room, was "first suggested" by her, is so grossly inconsistent with the circumstances of the occasion and so contrary to the testimony of reporters who were present at the time, that it would be laughable if it were not so obviously and shamefully unjust to the victim of the court's illegal proceeding. And the idea that in forcing the shocking indignity the "Judge" was "actuated by a sincere desire to help the girl," is so utterly absurd as to place it beyond the ludicrous.

The findings are in direct contradiction of the evidence. Only one of the witnesses who testified as to what they saw and heard in the court room, failed to state that the court asked the girl vile and indecent questions in language unfit to print, and that she fought and resisted the brutal force used to compel her to submit; and he had to admit that she scratched his hand when he, as officer of the court, was lifting her from her feet as she clung to the doors and was yelling and protesting with all her might. The other witnesses united in characterizing the language of "Judge" Brown in questioning the girl as "rough, vulgar, obscene and unprintable," and describing the force used to compel her to go to the physician's office, who, to his credit, refused to perform the examination without the girl's consent and her mother's. This was not obtained until later in the day, and the examination, when finally conducted, was in the girl's favor. Even in his own signed statement of the case to the commission, "Judge" Brown did not intimate that the girl "first suggested" to him her physical examination," as declared by the commission, in their whitewashing and fulsome letter, or decision, or whatever they please to call it.

As to "the legal aspects of the case," which the commission declined to "inquire into," something ought to be said and done if they will not touch it. We dispute the right of the juvenile court to ask such questions of a girl "charged with being a delinquent," thus trying to force her to testify against herself. Also the right of that court to compel her to submit to the outrage referred to, for any purpose. Where is the law under which such enforced examination is justified? But what does Willis Brown know about law or common decency? We protest against such proceedings as those which it is proved beyond question he instituted, and which have aroused such indignation as has not been felt and expressed since a somewhat similar attempt at force, though not attended with such atrocious incidents, was perpetrated under police direction.

It has been intimated that the "News" has taken up this matter because Willis Brown is a stranger and not of a certain class. The Deseret News just as positively, and more severely, exposed and censured the officers who in a manner to a certain extent like the present case, violated law and decency several years ago, and they were well known persons who belonged to that certain class. And they were legal officers too, while we do not recognize the "Judge" who figures in this case to have been legally appointed, because the law forbids anyone to hold office in this city who is not a qualified elector, which Willis Brown was not when appointed.

The apology that has been offered for his unlawful conduct that he was endeavoring to find proof of the guilt of the man accused of leading the girl astray, is worse than foolishness, and is no excuse for the attempted outrage. The examination, however it resulted, would not have proved that the defendant was the cause of her downfall, and it was not authorized by any law or ordinance but was tyranny of the most obnoxious and most offensive character. No language is too strong to denounce it, and we have heard some pretty strong expressions concerning it and the "Judge" that assumed to exercise it, from lawyers as well as persons of most every profession and calling in the community.

We did not expect the commission to

order Brown's dismissal from his office, as some people anticipated, because they do not appear to have authority in law to do so. But the general public did look for his resignation as well as the latest break he has made in conducting his court. We doubted that, but believe that his right to the position for which he has shown his unfitness will be tested by a competent court. Failing that, the Legislature, as suggested by an Ogden Journal, will have to be appealed to for such amendments to the law as will rectify the wrongs that have existed in connection with the juvenile court.

We do not join in the request for its abolition but it should be so changed as to meet necessary requirements, and to establish such provisions as to ensure the appointment or election of a judge having legal and moral qualifications for a judicial office.

The investigation looked for by the public has turned out to be a farce. But the denunciation from all classes of citizens of the outrage upon the Knox girl will, we believe, have the effect of deterring any repetition of such a lawless and brutal occurrence, even though the commission, from whom better things were expected, do not seem to regard such exhibitions of vile language and illegal force as incompatible with judicial dignity and authority. Such lawlessness as that attempted in the Knox case had better not be tried again either publicly or privately. Notwithstanding the attempt at whitewashing, the entire matter has left a sickening Brown taste in the public mouth.

THE DOUMA AT WORK.

Considerable interest attaches to the debates in the Russian assembly on the reply to the opening address of the czar. The Constitutional Democrats are anxious not to precipitate a violent conflict, and therefore urge moderation. The Polish patriots clamor for an expression of their desire as to the restoration of the autonomy of Poland. The Agrarians innocently believe that the parliament can help "the Little Father" to put them in possession of the lands they are hungry for, and that all that is needed for the accomplishment of this, is a word from the assembly. And then, there are the radical revolutionists who don't want to see the country sink contentedly into the condition of a limited monarchy, and therefore are bent on keeping up their agitation indefinitely.

Pathetic is the plea of one of the delegates for the abolishment of the death penalty. Perhaps no other country with claim to civilization has seen so much blood flow in the service of autocracy and bigotry, as Russia. In no other country have homicides and massacres occurred with such frequency as in Russia. The common people have simply become sick of horrors, and they ask for more humane government. The debate on the reply to the speech of the czar indicates the lines along which the Douma will, in all probability, attempt to legislate. Their bills must, however, pass the Council of the Empire before they reach the czar for approval, and the Douma will have but little chance of realizing its ideals. But the discussions will not be in vain. They will show to the ruling classes what the people really need, and what they hope for, and the czar will not be in the dark as to that, as he has been hitherto.

A MODERN HERETIC.

Dr. Algernon S. Crapsey has become famous because of the trial for heresy in which he has figured as defendant. By the verdict the jury in his case has laid down the rule that the belief and teaching of a clergyman in the Protestant Episcopal church must conform to the so-called Apostles' Creed, and the Nicene Creed. Dr. Crapsey does not stand on any of those platforms, but is further from them than was Dr. Briggs who, some years ago, withdrew from the Presbyterians as a heretic and was welcomed to the ranks of the Episcopalians.

Dr. Crapsey may have heretical views on some dogmas, but according to all accounts, he is a man of exemplary character and one who follows the Master more closely than some others do, who boast of their orthodoxy. The following anecdotes that are told of him, give an idea of the man:

"When Dr. Crapsey first came to St. Andrews some of his friends gave him a new overcoat. One cold winter's day an acquaintance saw him standing on a street corner talking to a thin, shivering beggar who had approached him and asked for alms. He was shivering with the cold, and Dr. Crapsey, without a moment's hesitation took the new coat, and helped the beggar into it."

"Not long ago Dr. Crapsey heard of a family in the community which had the diphtheria. Every member of the family was sick with the dread disease, and no one would go near them for fear of contracting it. They were poor and destitute. Although they were not connected with his church, Dr. Crapsey went to them as soon as he heard of their sore straits. At the risk of his own health he entered the house, and proceeded to set things straight. Finding an apron of the housewife's behind a door, he put it on, took off his coat, rolled up his sleeves and washed all of the dirty dishes which had accumulated. He then provided for the needs of the family, and did all that he could to help them through their trouble."

Dr. Crapsey, it is said, draws a salary of \$3,000, and never saves any of it. He never has money ahead for any length of time, as he exercises his charity from his own pocket instead of from the church funds. On the day before Christmas two years ago one of the members of his church entered a grocery store in the neighborhood. The grocer pointed to two long rows of half-bushel market baskets on the floor filled with fowls, vegetables and all sorts of delicacies of the season for a Christmas dinner, and said:

"Do you see those baskets? Well, your rector has been here and has picked out and ordered everything delivered today to different poor families in this part of the city. Other philanthropists come here sometimes to get things for the poor, but they look around and ask 'Haven't you got something cheaper?' I want for some poor people." But Dr. Crapsey comes in and insists on my giving him the best of everything."

The gentleman may not be orthodox as to certain important dogmas, but he seems to believe in, and what is more, to practise the golden rule, and that is of infinite more importance than abstract belief. On the day of final account, questions of belief are not to

decide the eternal fate of the children of men. They are to be judged in accordance with what they have done, or neglected to do, in the flesh.

If Dr. Crapsey decides that he cannot comply with the requirements of his judges and accept the creeds, he can leave the church to which he belongs, and yet continue his work along independent lines. We understand most of his parishioners would go with him, and that a wealthy friend has offered half of what a church edifice would cost, and place that sum at his disposal. That is an evidence of the fact that heresy trials in our age are not what they were when "orthodoxy" had implements of torture, prisons, and fire at their service. Times have changed, thanks to the valiant men and women who, from time to time, have dared to be "heretics," for the love of truth.

IDLE PREDICTIONS.

Ever since the earthquake that proved so fatal to San Francisco, different opinions have been expressed as to the connection between the seismic disturbances in the opposite hemispheres. Predictions were made at the time of the San Francisco disaster to the effect that Edinburgh would in due time have a shake-up, too. This, it is said, has now come true. And thus another proof is found of the theory that seismic disturbances in one part of the globe are followed by similar disturbances in other parts.

The Edinburgh quake was, however, very gentle. Beyond a slight rattle of crockery and glassware, and as it is reported, displacing of some balls on the putting green of a golf course, the earthquake passed off, leaving everything undisturbed.

This fact has not deterred certain forecasters of future events from predicting terrible disasters the next 25 years. At a recent conference of so-called Second Adventists held at Exeter Hall, London, the "end of the world" was predicted as an event near at hand. According to the reports published the speakers at that meeting confidently declared the world has about outlived its usefulness. The wars and earthquakes which have afflicted it recently are proof of this, they said, and all that is required to fulfill the prophecies is the coming of the anti-Christ. "He will make his first political appearance as the King of Syria, but in 1922 he will attack and conquer France. Then he will extend his rule over the other kingdoms."

At the time mentioned there will be 10,000,000 Christians in the world, it was stated, and in 1924 or 1925, 14,000,000 of these will be translated to heaven, while the other 9,856,000 will be transported to the desert near Mount Sinai, where they will have to wait three and a half years. The end will then come, either on May 2, 1929, or on April 9, 1931. The speakers were not agreed on the exact date.

It is passing strange that people will not learn from the miserable failures of others, not to determine times and seasons for the fulfillment of prophecy, notwithstanding the warnings of the Scriptures against that practice. Wm. Miller in 1843 made a terrible fiasco of his efforts at setting a day for the Second Advent, and others have also failed in similar attempts.

Senator Chandler has made his statement. Next.

The weather bureau has had a stormy time of it.

The question of veracity appears to be the leading one before the senate.

A Russian scientist says hair is a disease. It is epidemic instead of epidemic.

Those Liberty Park improvements will not be built on the bids that were rejected.

Dowle denies that he is insolvent. He cannot deny that as a leader he is bankrupt.

Senator La Follette may not be exercising much influence, but he is getting lots of good practice.

"Give me amnesty or give me death," says, in substance, the reply to the speech from the Russian throne.

There are more blind people in Russia than in any other European country. Yet the czar is not one-eyed.

The czar already is getting a good big taste of parliamentary government. And it is highly seasoned.

It would greatly improve the city's moral tone if people would air their troubles on the mountain tops instead of in the newspapers.

For the biggest battleship on earth, or rather sea, there could be no better name than "Skewed or Nothing." John Sharp Williams, I think.

A professional dog catcher in New York says that he has had 265 dog bites cauterized and has been bitten more than 6,000 times in all. What a dog's life he leads.

The juvenile court commission has given the juvenile court judge a clean bill of health in the noxious Knox case. It is only less outrageous than the proceedings in that case.

Father Gapon is dead and buried. It would have been much better for his fame had he died a year and a half ago. Then it was at its zenith. He died when it was at its nadir.

Professor Chamberlin of the University of Chicago says the end of the world will not come for at least 100,000,000 years. This is reassuring as it will give people time to arrange their affairs.

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The house committee on insular affairs has authorized a favorable report on a bill extending United States citizenship to the inhabitants of Porto Rico. The bill should pass the house and senate and receive the President's

signature. The Porto Ricans welcomed the American army with open arms and when their island was ceded to the United States, they were keenly disappointed that they were not given American citizenship. Instead they were placed on probation. Their novitiates have proven them worthy, and now they should go higher up. They will make good and loyal citizens.

LIFE INSURANCE "DIVIDENDS."

Burton J. Hendrick, in McClure's, These repayments of "surplus" are what are popularly called "dividends." They are the "profits" of life insurance. They are the "investment return" quoted on your premium. Actually they are none of these things. They are simply the repayment of the excess cost of your insurance. Let us seek a homely comparison. You send a messenger boy to buy you a quantity of cigars. Not being sure what the exact cost will be you give him a two dollar bill. He pays \$1.50, and returns with your cigars and fifty cents change. You would hardly regard that fifty cents as a "dividend." Many of our large insurance companies differ from this messenger-boy in one important respect. He usually comes back with your fifty cents. Most insurance companies, however, in the case of a majority of their policy-holders, do not come promptly back with the annual overpayments. They hold the change.

THE LONE STAR STATE.

Gilson Willett, in Four-Track News. Tourists in Texas are made to feel that they are the personal guests of each man, woman and child. It is on the great cattle ranges of west Texas that one finds the typical cowpuncher. Often I joined a cowboy "outfit" at their "grub" wagon at the round-up. The "men with the bark on" would fasten a bit of meat on a sharpened stick and hold it over the camp-fire to broil—and invite me to do the same. Meantime there was hot coffee and the best hot biscuit, seemingly, in the world. That was real living. Then the boys would tell me stories of Texas. One at a cowboy's camp my wife was with me. "Thank you for being here," said one of the boys, addressing my hearthstone partner. "You see," he added, "you save me a lot of cussin' by being here, for I never cuss before my father or women-folk."

A BOYCOTTED AMBASSADOR.

New York Mail. If Pope Pius X's edict against dignitaries of the church maintaining any kind of social intercourse with persons admitted to the Italian court applies to cardinals only, seems to set up a bar against the creation of a second American cardinal. It is hardly conceivable that an American Catholic dignitary, whose personal happiness depended to be an American ambassador at Rome, would be able to boycott the ambassador socially during his term of office. The consequences in the United States of such an affront might be grave. They would not concern any one outside the church, but they might seriously affect the position of American Catholics toward the Vatican itself.

JUST FOR FUN.

In Boston. "Come in, Waldonia," said her mother. "You have been in that swing long enough."

"Presently, mamma," answered the little Boston girl. "I am permitting the curious quadruped of the genus Felis to slacken its physical activities and pass by imperceptible gradations into a condition of total extinct vitality."

Merely Preliminary.

Jack the Giant Killer, having been cornered by the reporters, was giving the particulars of his exploits. "Still, it's nothing to boast of, boys," he said, modestly, as he finished the story. "I'm only practicing on these chaps. Some day I hope to tackle a much more ambitious job, in the guise of a pitcher that shall be able to humble the pride of McGraw's New York Giants."

Thus far, however, he hasn't turned up.

Don't Apply.

Landlady (knocking at his door)—Mr. Jobless, it's time to get up. "He that would thrive must rise at 12." Sleepy Bachelor—"That's all right, Mrs. Irons. He that hath thriven may lie till 7. I've thriven. I proposed to Miss Bullion last night and was accepted. (Snores softly.)

Won the Game.

Silently and in the dead of night the moving van backed up to the sidewalk in front of the house occupied by the tenant whose landlord was trying to hold him another year on a cut-throat lease, and noiselessly the goods were carried out and deposited therein.

"This," he said, as he climbed in after them and told the driver to get a hustle on him, "is where I checkmate the grasping old scoundrel with one move."

Way of the World.

Deacon Hardesty—I'm sorry to hear that you are dissatisfied with your preacher. He is a most excellent man.

Brother McGinnis (of another congregation)—Oh, yes, and he's a good preacher; but he doesn't draw well. We have a chance now to get a man who has just been tried for heresy.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

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Out West for May has a number of good, short stories and some fine illustrations. The following is the list of contents: "The Sierra Club in the Northwest," by Willoughby Rodman; "The Making of a Sierra Club," by Marlon Randall; "The Writer Lady and the Mormons," serial, by Theresa Russell; "The Call of the Trail," poem, by Agnes C. King; "On the Lagoon," by Virginia Garland; "The Pearl," story, by Donald Kennicott; "The Sequoyia League," "To Make Better Indians," in the Lion's Den," editorial, by Chas. F. Lamm; "That Which is Written" (reviews by C. A. Moody); "Sunny Stanislaus," by T. C. Hoeking; "San Luis Obispo," by W. N. Ent; "Chas. Madrid," and "Monrovia," by Charlotte Bell—217 New High St., Los Angeles, Cal.

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Z. C. M. I.

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