

UTAH TO LOSE

BABY STATE TITLE

MAKING OF LATTER'S STAR.

Under Order of the War Department it is Being Placed on the Flag of Our Country.

NEW STATE COMES INTO THE UNION WITH INDIAN TERRITORY AND A POPULATION OF 800,000 PEOPLE.

For the United States flag a new fashion is in vogue. It begins with the coming year, and its meaning is that every official flag will be recalled, while the private property in national emblems will have to be replenished to be up to date. The flag of 48 stars is now almost a relic and the flag of 46 is due to have its day.

Okla. is the cause of the change and it is to take care of the nation's youngest state that the new star is to be sewed on. The war department has selected the spot for it in the lower right hand corner of the blue field, and a large force of people are employed making the stars for the war department for the navy.

Down Guthrie way the greatest guns will no doubt boom over the new star, but out here in Utah the people will be entitled to a long low chuckle on their own account, all in private, and without any direct relationship to the general national celebration. It is something of an embarrassment to have caused to be the baby state of the Union, and to take a place in the family circle outside of the high chair. The advent of Oklahoma gives Utah a chance to experiment with napkins, by placing the supply of governmental bills in demand elsewhere, and therefore the private joy that runs from Colorado, west to Nevada and from Idaho down to Arizona.

CLEVELAND PROCLAMATION.

It is just 11 years lacking one week since President Grover Cleveland signed the proclamation making Utah the baby state of the Union. A double barreled shotgun in the hands of Supt. Brown of the Western Union telegraph office first blazed the news in Salt Lake's streets, and then followed the quick flashing of a flag over C. R. Savage's store, and the breaking loose of a big stream of champagne from the "Elephant corner." In this manner the news spread, and now that Utah is giving over the swaddling clothes of infancy to the sisters, it is well to recall the changes that have come in those 11 brief years, and the big day Utah celebrated when they began.

Read of the people who loosed salvos of joy on Utah's natal day shows how tragically swift is the march of events which compel the generation to do its act and quit the stage for the next. Of those who sat in honored seats to usher in the State of Utah, the roster shows that many of the positions they then held, and most from their labors upon the earth.

JUST ONE DECADE.

And it is only a decade that has passed. The news arrived in Salt Lake in a brief telegram, after the manner of telegrams of the day, which manner has gone the way of its generation. The wire was from Oklahoma, west to Washington to Acting Gov. Richards in Salt Lake. It read, "The president signed proclamation at 3 minutes to 10 o'clock. Three cheers for the new state."

Spencer Clawson was always interested in historical matters, and his telegram from Washington was, "Flow on the summit now looms the promised land." This wire was addressed to Gov.-elect Heber M. Wells, chosen because he was a native son of the state, now getting ready to take his oath of office.

THE NEWS HAPPENINGS.

The news happenings were many of that first wild day of joy. The boys deserted their posts, to borrow tin horns and parade main street, another item that the national guard battery took possession of capitol hill and fired all through the air, another that all the stores rapidly put on holiday dress. The police department received the mention that Officers Shannon, Pratt, Ford, and Young, Mackintosh and Wilson spent the day pinning decorations to the headquarters. The activity of the dominant Church was recorded in that it swung two immense flags from the east and west towers of the temple, and decorated the headquarters. From Logan came this brief message: "Bells are ringing, whistles blowing, public and private buildings gaily decorated. Illumination tonight."

EARLY STATE POLITICS.

Politics got an early start in the new state. Gov.-elect Wells informally stated when the news came that the first official act after his inauguration on Monday, the 6th, two days later, would be to summon a special session of the legislature. Therefore all the members hastened to Salt Lake on Saturday, and the Republicans went into caucus in the afternoon in the city and county building, while the Democrats followed them with an evening caucus at their headquarters in the Hooper block. Also on that first day the three judges elected for the supreme court assembled in the office of the secretary of state, and drew lots for rank. Judge Zane drew the three-year term, Judge Hartsch the five-year, and Judge Miner the seven-year. With the resignation of Judge Hartsch, the latter of those original officers left his post of duty.

INAUGURAL CEREMONIES.

The inaugural ceremonies following on Monday, Jan. 6, marshalled a strength of citizenship that is now far scattered. The grand marshal of the parade was the veteran Robert F. Burton who is still hale and hearty despite the added 11 years. The regular troops that participated were the Sixteenth infantry, which two years later were to march away to Cuban battlefields. The militia commands were under Col. Henry Page, now stationed at Miles City in the government land office. Capt. Ray Naylor, now the rating adjutant general, rode beside the carriages of dignitaries, as a special escort.

The parade stopped before the tabernacle, where the largest United States flag ever made, stretched across the immense dome. On the stands for the speakers stood the young governor



PLACING THE NEW STAR, OKLAHOMA'S, ON OUR COUNTRY'S FLAG.

Surgical Operation on Senator Smoot Not Serious

He is Back at His Office Work and No Apprehension Need Be Feared as to His Condition

—Not Certain What Date His Case Will Be Called Up Again—Majority of Senate Undoubtedly Favor the Utah Man.

(Special to the "News.")

Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.—Senator Smoot is in his office again in Annex building, and the slight surgical operation which he underwent a few days ago is causing him no inconvenience whatever, and there is no apparent reason for telegraphing the incident to Salt Lake, but some of the senator's relatives seem to be anxious over reports, which are absolutely groundless so far as they may show anything serious concerning his condition.

Just what day the Smoot case will be taken up in the senate is not definitely determined, but the feeling is growing that a majority of his colleagues will vote to continue him in his seat. There will be at least four speeches made in his behalf. Messrs. Foraker, Sutherland and Hopkins, as well as the senator himself are booked to address the senate.

While no official canvass has been made, it is generally understood that between fifty and fifty-five senators are virtually committed to oppose Burrows' report, the present rumors that the whole case may be abandoned lacks authenticity. Certainly, the supporters of Smoot will take no steps towards postponing the vote beyond the 4th of March, and neither they nor Senator Burrows is willing to stand sponsor for the declaration that a postponement is contemplated.

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NELSON BLAMES MOTHER-IN-LAW

Says She Officially, Offensively And Unwisely Intermeddled In Case.

SAYS SHE WAS A "BUTTER IN."

Plain Insinuation That All Would Have Been Well in Home But For Mrs. McCready.

Principal David A. Nelson, whose wife, Stella McCready Nelson, made sensational charges of cruelty against him in her divorce action, filed in the district court last Monday, today filed his answer to the complaint, in which he denies specifically every allegation made against him by his wife.

After taking each allegation in the complaint and denying it in toto, the answer of defendant makes the following allegation as to the cause of the complaint being filed against him: "Defendant further says that he has always treated plaintiff in a proper manner and as an affectionate husband, and he alleges upon information and belief that this suit was inspired by the mother of plaintiff and is the result of her malicious intermeddling, and that this suit was commenced for the sole purpose of vexing and harassing defendant and injuring his good name in his position as a teacher in the public schools of Salt Lake City."

HUSBAND'S DENIALS.

Mr. Nelson denies that he spoke harshly to his wife or told her to shut her mouth while they were on their wedding tour in Portland, he denies that after their return he commenced a system of abuse towards plaintiff or that he ever called her a liar, or a sneak, or accused her of being deceitful or ever told her that he was sorry that he had married her. He denies most emphatically that he ever used profane or abusive language towards her or that he acted in any other manner than that of a gentleman in every respect.

SAYS HE WAS NOT ANGRY.

He denies that he became violently angry while they were out buggy riding and came very near tipping his wife out of the buggy. He also denies that he ever called plaintiff's mother "an old hag" or told her that she overtook him to try and catch on to a traveling man. He denies that he ever threatened to leave plaintiff but admits going to the Wilson and engaging a coach. He declares that he was angry because Mrs. Nelson's mother had been very disagreeable to him and he preferred not to live with her. Plaintiff promised to go to the hotel to do so. The next day she decided to go with him. They afterwards looked for more suitable rooms, but he refused to find them. Defendant returned with his wife to her mother's home.

WENT BACK TO MOTHER.

They afterwards secured a house where they lived until Oct. 22, 1906. When it is alleged plaintiff left and went back to her mother. Defendant claims that she had no cause whatever for leaving him, but that she lived with him but at first she refused to do so. The next day she decided to go with him. They afterwards looked for more suitable rooms, but he refused to find them. Defendant returned with his wife to her mother's home.

NEW COAL MINE FOR SALT LAKE

Within a Year it Will Give an Extra Daily Output of Fully 1,000 Tons.

MEANS MUCH TO THIS CITY.

Work Has Already Begun on a Large Scale and Facts Are Obtainable for First Time.

Personnel of the Men Who Comprise The Company and the Stock They Subscribed For.

Quietly and unostentatiously work is now being pushed by the Independent Coal & Coke company in Carbon county with every indication that by next fall a daily output of 1,000 tons of coal will be shipped. This coal, say experts, is second to none in the State of Utah. Government experts further have gone on record as estimating the amount of this coal as running 65,000 tons to the acre, or for the 880 acres acquired by the company a grand total of 57,280,000 tons!

This reads like an excerpt from a prospectus of a wild-cat company. However, when it is stated on the authority of C. N. Strevell and James H. Patterson of this city, who are heavily interested in the proposition, that there is no stock in the company for sale and that they have been approached by half-smiling concerns to sell out their interests and have refused to consider any proposition of this character, it is not for nothing that the coal situation to take notice.

GRADING WORK COMMENCED.

That the new company which quietly filed its articles with the secretary of state a week ago tonight means business is instanced by reports that come from Helper that already work has commenced on grading from Bull Hollow, a point about four miles distant from Helper to connect with the Rio Grande main line. At the junction of the proposed line and the Rio Grande tracks, about one mile east of Helper, the new coal mine has secured 160 acres of land where are to be located tipplers, coke ovens and a townsite.

In addition to the land which has been acquired quickly during the past three months, mostly from the old Utah Coal & Coke company, which was organized three years ago with a capital of \$100,000 divided into 200 shares of the par value of \$1 each and which came near dying a natural death, owing to the car situation, the new company has secured the old Aberdeen property.

Just to cite what the new company has it is only necessary to state that the Aberdeen property consists of a unique and valuable tract of valuable coal mine located near Price, from which this city has secured its coal for 15 years.

SOLID COAL WALLS.

The property is entirely undeveloped, but there is enough to show a wonderful wealth of coal. The Aberdeen property consisted of a tract of 200 acres, through which wagons are driven and loaded in a big chamber that has been dug out during the past 15 years whenever the citizens of Price needed a load of coal. To the "News" this morning Mr. Strevell stated that this tunnel is part of the way made up of solid coal walls, ceiling and floor and that underneath the tunnel, only 30 feet of slack that have been ground out by the wheels of wagons. Inside of the chamber proper is space for possibly 30 wagons that have dug out. To the "News" this morning Mr. Strevell stated that this man can stand on the spring seat of a wagon and yet not be able to touch the coal overhead with his hand.

Such was the story told by Mr. Strevell to the "News" this morning and it sounded in these piping days of coal famine like the offer of a glass of ice water to a perishing prospector in Death valley.

Nor was this all, for, according to the story told, the Aberdeen acquisition is but a detail, for the real work of development is now going on at Bull Hollow, over a mile distant, where a tunnel is being bored into the mountain which will tap three veins of coal, respectively 22 feet, 10 feet and 18 feet in thickness. This tunnel is now in 285 feet and is being dug 10 feet in width to permit a double track with a capacity for an output of 1,600 tons a day.

The Chinese cook who has been employed at the camp arrived in Salt Lake this morning. In answer to questions all he could exclaim was "heap coal, heap coal."

A SINGLE TUNNEL.

To those familiar with the coal mining the fact that the veins are to be tapped with a single tunnel, each vein lying on solid sandstone, is an important item. This means that there will be no timbering necessary in the development. The fact is that the plan to maintain a shaft is no water. Furthermore owing to the lay of the country and coal there will be no hoisting machinery necessary. The importance of all a gravity system is possible from the mine clear down to the tipple on the Rio Grande tracks.

HOW UTAH FUEL MISSED IT.

In the face of all this the question naturally arises, how was it that the Utah Fuel company did not secure this valuable property? The facts in the case are that the lands now owned and being developed by the Independent Coal & Coke company were originally filed on the maps of the company in 1890 after due consultation with his partner, James H. Patterson, stated that now the story of the big deal was out, the "News" ought to print it correctly, if at all, as coming from those on the inside.

"We have kept this thing quiet for