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TAFT AND BRYAN.
Secretary Taft, if elected President, as he in all probability will be, will make an excellent Chief executive. He has traveled a great deal and is familiar with the conditions prevailing in almost every part of the world. He is personally known at some of the courts of Europe. He is in harmony with the policy of his party and he enters upon his duties well equipped with valuable experience obtained during many years of public service.
Mr. Taft was taken from the bench and sent to the Philippines. His task was to reconcile the hostile Filipinos, and he came back from that delicate mission, having achieved all that was hoped for. Then he was called to Washington, and a new vista opened. He was sent to unravel the Cuban snarl, and he did. He had to bring order out of chaos in Panama, and he did. Every step has been marked with success, pronounced, undisputed.
Mr. Taft has been eminently successful in whatever he has undertaken. He has made few mistakes. He has declared his adherence to the program of President Roosevelt, and yet no one who knows him, will call him a placidist. The victory in the convention is his own, and the victory at the polls will be his own. But will he win?
Some close students of the situation feel certain of that. Even with due allowance for the effect of "hard times," they believe Taft will be elected. They say that Wall Street is for Taft; that the labor elements have come to understand him; that the Socialists are not strong enough to oppose him; that the honest man, the Negroes all vote the Republican ticket and may be depended upon; and the great mass of citizens believe in Taft, and they settle the contest. These were, for Roosevelt, and they are for Taft now, we are told, "first, because they believe Taft stands for the same things; and second, because he is in and of himself a big man and, in the expressive vernacular of the street, On the Job. There is a quiet but certain feeling among the masses that Taft is the best man for the coming four years that the nation affords, that it would be better for the country that he be in the presidency for the next four years, rather than any other man, even Roosevelt himself."
The contest this year will be between Taft and Bryan. The latter, according to announcements made, has enough delegates to secure his nomination on the first ballot. It was given out a few days ago that Bryan had 630 delegates instructed for him and 67 more committed by personal pledges, making his total 697. The number necessary to nominate is 672, so that he had, at that date, 27 votes to spare, not taking into account any of the numerous unpledged and uncommitted delegates who are supposed to be prepared to give him their votes.
So it will, in all probability be Taft and Bryan.
THE PLATFORM.
The Republican platform declares for a revision of the tariff by a special session of Congress; it endorses the emergency currency measure adopted by the last session; favors the establishment of postal savings banks; approves the enactment of the railroad rate law, and promises to pursue the policy of protecting American labor; the movement for the conservation of the nation's resources is endorsed, and many other measures are promised for the further material advancement of the country.
There is no doubt that very careful attention has been paid to the formulation of this platform. It was prepared before the convention met and was, therefore, duly considered by those who have a right to speak for the party.
Its every promise should, consequently, be kept faithfully. It should be a platform, not merely to get in on, but one to stand upon. When it declares for tariff revision, for instance, nothing should be allowed to interfere with the keeping of the pledges made to the people. The platform should mean just what it says, and nothing else, and we believe it does. The people have a right to expect that the promises and pledges made before an election are kept sacred by those who are elected to carry out those pledges.
When the platform endorses the policy of protecting American labor, it is in harmony with a doctrine enunciated by no less authority than Abraham Lincoln. He said:
"In the early days of our race the Almighty said to the first of our ancestors: 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.' And since then, with the exception of the light and air of heaven, no good thing has been, or can be, enjoyed by us without having first cost labor. And inasmuch as all good things have been produced by labor, it follows that all such things of right belong to those whose labor has produced them. But it has so happened in all the ages of the world that some have labored, and others, without labor, have enjoyed a large portion of the fruits. This is wrong and should not continue. To secure to each laborer the whole product of his labor, or as nearly as possible, is a worthy object of any government."
The pledges and promises should be kept.
CHURCH AND STAGE.
Rev. Sydney Goodman, of Atlantic City, is credited with a novel invention, for attracting men to church. He has

established, it is said, what he calls the "Men's Church," and besides preaching a sermon, he provides an entertainment consisting of moving pictures, stereopticon views, and singing by professionals. During the entire proceedings—even the sermon—the men present are permitted to smoke, cigars and pipes being furnished by the preacher. The meetings, it is said, are so well attended that a larger hall may soon be necessary. Mr. Goodman is the assistant pastor of a regular church, and he has had to undergo criticism for what savors too much, in the opinion of many of his parishioners, of Salvation Army ways.
This is making a vaudeville show out of Sunday services, and establishing competition with the ten-cent amusement halls. The natural consequence of this will be that the managers of such halls will hire clergymen to deliver a short sermon as part of the program. When preachers resort to vaudeville to draw people to church, it is in order for vaudeville managers to get preachers to do a stunt for them. Thus the competition will be fair. Some preachers are excellent contortionists, anyhow.
THE U. C. T. PARADE.
The splendid street pageant which was cheered by thousands on the principal streets of Salt Lake yesterday afternoon will live in the memory of the many thousands of people who witnessed it, as being the biggest and best turnout to date on the part of the commercial interests of this intermountain metropolis. Four thousand people in line escorted by ten bands of music, and in turn escorting ambitious floats representing commercial enterprise and hundreds of thousands of dollars' capital should have been an object lesson to the strangers within our gates. The United Commercial Travelers are to be congratulated on their enterprise and the thorough and systematic fashion in which the incomparable parade was engineered without a hitch and unpleasant incident to mar the day. Even the weather during the hours allotted to the pageant was on its best behavior.
One thing demonstrated is that Salt Lake is able to compare with the best of cities, when it comes to taking care of visitors and giving them a good time. No other city of its size, and some double the size for that matter, has such attractions in the direction of resorts and amusements generally to offer to the tired man seeking recreation and recuperation from business worries.
Salt Lake has proved itself a good convention city. A few more such gatherings as are the features this week will be money well invested, provided the snarling dogs are silenced. Such conventions advertise the city, and promote the exchange of ideas, and good fellowship generally.
THE PROPER REPLY.
While the Salt Lake Tribune, inspired by malice, is trying to convince our honored visitors that the founders of Utah were traitors, Mr. Kolberg of Butte, Montana, undoubtedly expressed the general opinion of the visitors when he said: "When I look around this beautiful City I can come to only one conclusion and that is that Brigham Young is the greatest citizen America has ever produced. His work in founding Salt Lake is without a rival or a parallel." This is a very proper reply to the scurrilous articles of the Tribune.
It is perfectly clear to those who read that paper that it is studiously trying to deceive the public. It makes special efforts in this direction every time the City is visited by strangers. What encouragement is there to make special efforts to get conventions to come here, as long as we have an anarchist sheet here that does all in its power to induce visitors to shun the place as a pest hole?
We do not know how far the Tribune policy is enforced in the various City departments under so-called American control, but we do know from a reliable report that only a few weeks ago, a policeman who was asked by tourists for the nearest way to the Tabernacle, cautioned them not to go inside that building because they might not come out alive. That policeman was properly rebuked by a passing lady who happened to hear the outrageous falsehoods he told, and he defended himself by saying that he was an "American," and employed by "Americans," and he was only doing his duty. He was merely an exponent of the Tribune policy.
We believe the report is true. The Tribune, when in the full glory of its ill-gotten victory, demanded that every officer on the force, who was not an active party tool, be discharged. All others were "spies," the sheet said, so it is evident it had some instructions to suggest, which it did not want "spies" to hear. And as for itself, it never tires of vilifying the people here, past and present generations alike.
And the reason?
Senator Sutherland stated the facts as generally understood here when, in his address before the United States Senate, Jan. 22, 1907, in answer to a question by Senator Dubois, he said:
"When the ex-Senator, my predecessor and I should not have spoken of this but for the question of the Senator from Idaho—when that ex-Senator desired to come back to the Senate, according to the statements which are made in Utah, and which I have no reason to doubt, he went to the present head of the Church and sought his aid, and that president told him he was not in politics, that the Church was not in politics, and that neither of them would be dragged into politics by him. The head and front of the American party in Utah," ex-Senator Thomas Kearns, and the Salt Lake Tribune and the Salt Lake Telegram are his personal organs."
There is the entire secret of the Tribune fight upon the Church. The sheet says the "Mormon" people is a pretty good lot, but the leaders are bad. But that is rank hypocrisy. That is stating an impossibility. A good people would not follow bad leaders very long. The Tribune hates the Saints for their virtues, their loyalty, their purity of morals. The organ on Commercial street attacks the leaders of the Church, because it hopes to injure the Church itself. It directs its brutality towards the head, hoping

thereby to gain the objects it has in view.
But the Tribune influence is waning. Many strangers who visit the City learn for themselves that the paper is lying about the people here. Influential citizens of all parties here in Utah have about come to the conclusion that the Tribune is the incubus upon the otherwise healthy State, and they are sick and tired of its policy of piracy. Many are afraid of it and despite it. Its policy has brought financial disaster upon the City, to such an extent that the City auditor dared not publish the financial statement for the past year, as the law requires him to do. For these, and other reasons, the influence of the un-American, quarrelsome journal is waning, and the day is again coming when citizens here can live in peace and harmony together. When that day comes, Salt Lake will grow and prosper, but not till then.
THE PRICE OF WOOL.
One of the curious commercial phenomena of today is the low price of wool.
In Clay, Robinson & Co.'s Live Stock report it is said that the sheepmen of the west are passing through "an economic cleansing fire which every industry has to face." It thinks that wool sales will soon begin in earnest, but also that the cash realized from them will be only 70 per cent of the amount received by the sheepmen one year ago.
Most of the wool from Wyoming has been consigned to eastern points, but Utah and Idaho are prepared to sell and take the market value. In Idaho successful wool sales are being held, and last Saturday at Payette in that state clips sold from 11 to 14 cents per pound, or just about 7 cents below last year's prices. For the better class of wools the demand is evidently improving a little. During May of last year Boise banks received over \$500,000 for wool. This year so far scarcely a dollar has come in.
What is the cause of the present low price of wool? Nearly all other articles retain their usual prices. Beef is still at a high level; and the much heralded reduction in iron prices amounts only to something like ten per cent. Considering the average level of price, wool has been perhaps as low this season as it has ever been in history, and though, by concerted action, better prices have recently been obtained, the price is still so low as to be quite phenomenal.
"D-o-l-l-a-r-t-o-d-i-e!"
The allies have met their Austerlitz.
O-h-i-o! sigh all the other candidates.
"Yale to the chief!" cry the sons of Eli.
A grass widow is never so green as she looks.
Big words are not essential to a weighty argument.
It is more blessed to receive a nomination than to give one.
During the open season the anglers are bidden to fish or cut bait.
At summer resorts more "suckers" are caught than anything else.
The Young Ladies' band was composed of sixteen of sweet sixteen.
"Actions speak louder than words," especially in a moving picture show.
The rollcall of a national convention is not unlike the drumbeat of the nation.
Steel bars are not so strong as they were but their tensile strength is just as great.
What shall it profit Hearst if he gains all the doubtful ballots and loses the mayoralty?
It is certain now that President Roosevelt will go to Africa next April on a hunting expedition.
"Till the close of the campaign," the price of the "Commoner" has been reduced to thirty-five cents.
"They're after me, they're after me," sang Big Bill Taft when the result of the first ballot was announced.
The President says that he likes that new horse. It must be for the dangers he (the President not the horse) has passed.
That Italian in New Orleans who "cleared out" for good and all the four Black Hand ruffians who demanded his money and jewels, deserves a Carnegie hero medal of the first class.
The Paris Figaro says that an Italian zoologist has been able, with a special microphone of his invention, to convince himself that the aquatic tribe emits a certain buzzing sound, very varied in tone, which is its language; and that he has, moreover, discovered that the red gurnet is of all fishes the most loquacious. All of which sounds exceedingly fishy.
Prof. G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, explains to a wondering world that woman has two souls, perhaps more. By means of her superior psychic endowment she may love and hate, feel joy and sorrow, at the same time, while man is restricted to the indulgence of one emotion. He may be a Jekyll or Hyde in turn; woman both at once. These two souls in women, Dr. Hall says, may be strangers to each other. Some of the ancient cranks declared that women have no souls. All of which proves the truth of the proverb: "A fool layeth open his folly."
YOUNG CHINA ON PARADE.
The Field Afar.
The students of Bishop Merrell's diocese are most anxious to get abreast of the times. Nearly all of them wear European uniforms. On the slightest pretext the schools file out into the narrow streets of Canton under an escort of drummers and bugle corps. The professors on these occasions march alongside of their pupils and those in command step with considerable spirit, sabres in hand. The amazed people leave their shops to go out and see

young China on parade. Old white-haired women cry out, "It is the spirit of the foreign devils that has bewitched the kingdom!" Even the girls march in the street two by two, hand in hand, dressed in uniforms of bright colors, as Yale blue, Alice blue, violet and the like. Across the breast they wear a badge on which is engraved some letter or character indicating the school to which these "modern damsels" belong. The girls envy considerably the equipment of their brothers and would like also to have drums and bugles, but their modernism has not yet reached this point. The school children of Canton see only the external side of this movement which is leading them towards a more complete curriculum of modern education. The serious side will come later.
A DEBASING "AMUSEMENT."
Chicago Post.
Were a country fair of urban amusement park to announce a bullfight as a feature of its entertainment an indignant protest would go up from the public and the law very properly would put a stop to the brutal exhibition. If our Olympian games were to be replaced with gladiatorial contests in which a man in full armor battled with another man whose weapons were a net and trident the savagery of such an exhibition would be denounced the world over. And yet the coming of each summer brings a form of "amusement" which, though it owes its interest solely to the imminent possibility that the performer will be killed before the eyes of the thousands of spectators, arouses no general protest. The fact of a man who risks half a mile into the air, dangling from a balloon, and then plunges earthward clinging to a parachute requires a certain sort of courage, but little of the skill which is the redeeming feature of all dangerous sports. In fact, it is probable that were it not for the fact that the performer might be killed—as too often he is—the ordinary balloon ascension, which is the feature of so many amusement resorts, especially in the small towns, would be of little or no interest to the general public. It is the sight of a man or woman in imminent danger of a horrible death that draws the crowd and makes the spectacle "pay."
JUST FOR FUN.
Knew His Business.
Charley Loveday—Um-ah-er! He! He! Jeweler (to his assistant)—Bring that tray of engagement rings here, Henry.—Spare Moments.
Talltale.
Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Show when boys go swimming,
Headless of command.
—New York Sun.
End of the Season.
Guest (in restaurant)—I say, waiter, have you any oysters?
Waiter—No, sir. We all ain't got no shell fish 'ceptin' eggs, sah.—Chicago News.
A Culinary Operation.
Mistress—Have you boiled the clothes, Lucile?
New Girl—Yes'm. How do you want 'em seasoned?—Louisville Herald.
Oh, Sugar.
The National Grocers' association will no doubt derive a lot of inspiration from the sand at Atlantic City.—Baltimore Sun.
Pride.
"Did your son get near the top of his class?"
"No," answered Farmer Cornstossel, cheerily. "But you ought to love the way he could get to second base."—Philadelphia Inquirer.
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