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THE SHORT LINE'S EARNINGS.

Now that the general policy of receivership for the Union Pacific, the Oregon Short Line, and other portions of the great railway system seems to be definitely settled, it may be interesting to consider the comparative losses and gains in operating the divisions which lie in the mountain region. The Utah Southern division, for which from Salt Lake south to Juntura the Utah Southern Extension takes in the section from Juab to Frisco, and the Utah & Northern consolidated with the Oregon Short Line has cut from this city north. The estimated losses and profits for the year ending June 1, 1895, are figured up as follows by the press of management:

Estimated surplus, Oregon Short Line division	$[illegible]
Estimated surplus, Utah & Northern division	[illegible]
Estimated deficit, Idaho Central division	[illegible]
Estimated deficit, Utah Southern and general mortgage division	[illegible]
Estimated deficit, Utah Southern Extension mortgage division	[illegible]
Estimated surplus, Oregon Short Line & Utah Northern consolidated mortgage division	[illegible]

With this showing, which the lines included in the division from this city northward are profitable, that from Salt Lake to Frisco has been operated at a loss of more than $[illegible], nearly three-tenths of which was on the division from Juab southward. The line from this city south, as a whole, never has paid expenses, that condition being one of the factors by which the proprietorship of the line from Ogden south was made to change from the original to its present situation. The only way by which the southern section could be made profitable would be as part of a main line through to a large mart such as southern California—that being the strong reason urged for its extension to Los Angeles, and which almost accomplished the taking up of the enterprise when grading was begun from Milford west. If by any combination of circumstances the Utah Southern extension should now become part of a trunk line to the coast, it is not probable that the coal and iron deposits of Iron county, which have come to prominent attention recently, would be left out; therefore the route would be diverted to incline to them in its direct territory. As matters now stand with the Union Pacific, however, it is not likely that any building westward will be done under the management of that system.

AFTER THE CITY COUNCIL.

No doubt the Sunday evening mass meeting in Oakland, Cal., was an interesting affair to the city councilors of that municipality, since its purpose was to tell the public how the members of the council, elected on a nonpartisan ticket, had gone back on their anti-election pledges. In this as in too many other instances it is evident that the successful candidates regarded the platform as being made to get in on, and once in office, was not a thing to stand on. The non-partisan movement has not shown itself to be any better than partisan politics in this respect. Last February, prior to the municipal election, the Oakland non-partisan convention had as a chief plank in its platform the following:

> We declare the saloon to be an intolerable evil without one redeeming feature. Far beyond all other causes combined it corrupts our politics, brings discord into families, destroys our young men, fills our prisons and robs our workingmen of their hard-earned wages. We pledge our nominees for mayor and council, formally and earnestly to do all that public opinion will sustain them in doing to restrict or abolish it. We demand that saloons shall not be either maintained or established in districts against the protest of the inhabitants thereof.

The majority of the Oakland council was elected on this pledge to "restrict or abolish" the saloon, and that was generally signed upon in the campaign being that the council would require saloons to be closed on Sunday. But no sooner do the new officials get security installed than the Sunday closing proposition is pigeon-holed, and the plan of curtailment received shelving. Hence the pledge was in a utterly disregarded.

The reality going over of anti-saloon candidates to the saloon interest as soon as the office was secured is what has called the respectable elements of the non-partisan movement, and associated with some very strong expressions of disapproval. From the result of the vote on election day, there is no question that the city of the dead in Oakland favored a continuance of the saloons regime to a great extent of seven days. But she will now mortgaged to set at naught the votes with whom lists have been let have certainly powerful, at least until another election, when it is not improbable that the same kind of game will be played by politicians who want office. If the Oakland people who are discussing the matter in mass meetings, and in other public and private gatherings, are successful in establishing a morality which will be felt by politicians to carry out the wishes of the people, a demonstration of knowledge regarding its workings will be rightly appreciated in many other cities all over the country, but because all city societies are dissatisfied of the morality will, but because some of them are so wrapt in special interests that they do not give due consideration to the general public.

ARMOR PLATE AND SHELL.

In the struggle between artillery and ship-building, cannon have been for years made larger and larger and armor plates thicker and thicker in order to determine the question whether the thickest practicable plate will be able to resist the heaviest practicable shot. One of the most interesting experiments was made recently by our government, and judging by the results obtained, the problem would appear practically settled in favor of the armor plate. A plate nineteen inches long and eighteen inches thick and weighing [illegible] was exposed to the fire of the heavy guns at Indian Head. It was secured on a backing of iron six feet thick, there being twenty-six inches of iron behind it. The guns were only 30 and 40 caliber. The first shot fired against this target was a 346-pound projectile driven by [illegible] pounds of powder, with a velocity of 1,403 feet a second. The enormous momentum of projectile penetrated the plate only six inches, causing the surface surrounding the point of contact to bulge outward, but leaving the armor practically without further damage. Another shot was fired against the plate with a striking energy of 12,565 tons. This penetrated nine inches, but was completely deformed and melted and welded together with the resisting metal through the best developed by sudden collision. Next, the target was attacked by the greatest of naval guns, hurling a shell weighing 1,100 pounds. This projectile struck it with a power of 23,000 tons and was completely pulverized—the plate itself remaining practically uninjured although the wooden backing was reduced to splinters.

The belief is universal by government officials that a ship protected by such armor would be practically invulnerable to any gun now made, and if this view is correct, manufacturers of naval ordnance would have to construct still more gigantic engines of destruction or consider themselves outdone by the engineers whose energy and skill are devoted to the defense.

ENGRAVING DIAMONDS.

It is noted as one of the latest and most marvelous triumphs of modern science in its applied form that a process has been found by which diamonds can be engraved. The discovery is attributed to a French mechanic named Berdouck. The method employed is as yet well preserved secret, except that the results are obtained by means of hardening and tempering in a peculiar way the tools employed. It is given out that the inventor by his new method can not only produce engravings on the surface of the polished stones, but perforate them and form them into elaborate designs and give to each curve the highest degree of polish. Jewelers are said to be much excited over these new and valuable ornaments that are already in urgent demand.

The discovery will be of some interest to theologians, too, inasmuch as it may reopen a question that has been discussed somewhat. It will be remembered that in the official ephod of Aaron and his successors belonged an ornamental breastplate of twelve precious stones, on each of which was engraved the name of one of the twelve tribes. The third stone in the second row was a diamond. Objections have been made to the truthfulness of the Mosaic description on the ground of the impossibility of engraving anything on the hard surface of the diamond, and the only reply to this objection so far has been that probably the translation is in error, some other precious stone being referred to in the original. Should it prove correct, however, that M. Berdouck has made the discovery as claimed, it is conceivable that he may simply re-discover a lost art with which the ancients were familiar. It would be another illustration of the little saying about there being nothing new under the sun.

HAD A LIVELY SENSE.

The treasurer of the Jersey City sailors' home has lost some supplies from the consideration for doing about the most sensible act of his life. Would the lot fell on him, under the sailor's rules, to kill himself, he displayed evidence of mental sanity by refusing to commit the murder which his companions expected of him. His action in this respect may be accepted as a partial atonement for ever having joined a lodge organization. The rules of suicide is among the strongest evidences of moral debasement and physical cowardice, even when committed under the mental depression which follows serious misfortune. Then the victim usually is alone in the legal jurisdiction, therefore cannot be punished by law. In the case of a riot such as the one referred to it is different, and should be taken legal cognizance of. Every member of an organization who assisted in the rules by which the act of suicide is begun and so far thus carried, is as certainly before the law in the crime of murder, but a morbidly and completely as if the final weapon were to be aimed at a person other than the one who wielded it. The members of such clubs, when known, should be taken into legal custody for the crime of conspiracy to commit murder, or if a death ensues the result of their combination should be held for the higher offense. There should be no more condonation of the crime of suicide in human legal procedure than there is in the divine law. It is murder, and though the victim is out of reach of mortal courts, those who willfully aid in its commission, by rules or agreements such as have been referred to, should not escape the legal responsibility because the murderer held the weapon. The Jersey City club treasurer had some sense left when he refused to abide the rules of the organization. His fellow members ought to be taken care of either in jail or the asylum.

The Young Family Reunion.

For some weeks the executive committee of the Young Family association have been busily preparing to celebrate in an appropriate manner the birthday of President Brigham Young. Last Friday, through the kindness of the Presidency of the Church and Apostle Lorenzo Snow, the Temple was opened in all who desired to take a name for the progenitor of Patriarch John Young, and 153 of the family and friends availed themselves of this glorious privilege. The assembly room of the Temple was beautifully decorated and the picture of President Young hung in the archway, entwined with flowers and drapery.

Saturday, June 1st, through the invitation of the president and executive committee, about 300 members of the family assembled at 1 o'clock in the Social Hall and formed in procession and, each carrying bouquets of flowers, marched to the grave on the hillside, where, after solemn prayer and a few quiet words by Elders Brigham Young and F. D. Richards, the last resting place of the beloved dead was covered with flowers. The company returned to the Social Hall for the afternoon's exercises.

President Joseph F. Smith and family, Bishop Winder and wife, Dr. K. G. Maeser and daughter, with Sisters M. J. Snow and Hannah Sorensen were the guests of the occasion. There, with Elders Brigham Young, Franklin D. Richards, Dr. Seymour B. Young and the wives of President Young and of his brothers, John, Joseph, Fielding and Lorenzo, occupied seats on the stage. The stage was decorated with flags, vases of flowers, vines and wreaths.

After a beautiful opening prayer by Elder F. D. Richards, the following program, which was under the management of Bishop Clawson, was splendidly rendered:

Song ..... Choir
Opening address ..... Elder Franklin D. Richards
Recitation—"The Passing of Pioneer Brigham Young" ..... Mrs. Minnie Young Snow
Recitation—"Mother's Last Lullaby" ..... Phoebe Young Sanford
Recitation—"All Good Things Come Home" ..... Mrs. Ellen Young Jones
Recitation—"Mother's Prayer" ..... Mrs. Sarah Young Williams
Recitation—"Mother's Prayer" ..... B. S. Young
Song ..... Mrs. Susie Young Gates
Incidents of our Chicago pilgrimage ..... Elder K. M. Young
Song in character—"Old of New York" ..... Alice Clawson

Every number was applauded and greatly enjoyed.

At the close of the exercises delicious refreshments were served under the direction of the refreshment committee. Social converse, pleasant interchange of greetings and handshakings were then indulged in by all. New nieces and nephews were introduced to old aunties and uncles, and old nieces and nephews were made acquainted with some of their young mothers and aunties. "Glad to see you," was on every lip, and love beamed from every eye.

The occasion made a delightful epoch in the family life and left every soul present eager for a return of such unalloyed happiness. Only one regret marred the occasion, a number of the family whose P. O. street and number addresses were not known, or who, names are not on the books, were omitted from the invitation list. It is greatly desired that all members of the Young family will at once send their names and addresses to the corresponding secretary in order to future advisement of the movements of the association.

At the business session held on Friday night, it was learned that over $[illegible] had been donated during the past year, over $[illegible] of which has been paid in to Zion, Temple work and the traveling expenses of the corresponding secretary while in Boston, other amount is kept of all moneys collected and disbursed by the treasurer, and careful records of all meetings are made by the secretary. Hundreds of names are awaiting the family for Temple work, and the work of redeeming the dead is being sedately prosecuted by a few of the family.

It would not be just to close this report without mentioning the cheerful and zealous labors of the ladies of the executive and refreshment committees whose efforts went so far toward making the affair the glorious success that it was; also the committee of arrangements and decoration, who brightened and beautified the words, with their gracious appropriations.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows:

President, Brigham Young; first vice-president, Seymour B. Young; second vice-president, Franklin W. Young; secretary, W. B. Dougall; corresponding secretary, Susa Young Gates; treasurer, Wm. Kneiter. Executive committee—Maria Y. Dougall, Nettie Y. Nash, Myra Y. Kneiter, Persis L. Young, Phebe Y. Beatie, Sarah Y. White.

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