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SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 28, 1909.

#### CHANGE OF FAST DAY.

Owing to the fact that the conferonce of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement associations will be in session in this City on the first Sunday of June, the Fast day will be observed on the last Sunday of this month. May 30, in the Salt Lake, Ensign, Pioneer and Liberty stakes, in order to give all in those stakes interested in Mutual Improvement work an opportunity to attend the conference.

JOSEPH F. SMITH. JOHN R. WINDER. ANTHON H. LUND. First Presidency.

#### SENATOR HOPKINS.

The long contest in the Illinois legislature for the United States senatorship ended on Wednesday by the defeat of Senator Hopkins and the election of Congressman William Lorimer. The result was accomplished through a coalition between Democrats and anti-Hopkins Republicans.

The Tribune here expresses great for at the defeat of Mr. Hopkins because this Senator did not bow to the demands of anti-"Mormon" agitators for the expulsion of Senator Smoot. But the stand Senator Hopkins took in the famous case is an everlasting honor to .m. When the proposition was to set aside the Constitution of the United States for an alleged "higher law," Senator Hopkins was one of the men who braved the fury of misdirected public opinion and cast his vote for the vindication of right and the maintenance of American insti-

We can not believe that the activity of the emissaries sent out from Salt Lake by "American" party bosses to work against Senator Hopkins in Illinots had any influence upon the electio; one way or another, but their presence there shows the vindictiveness of defeated office hunters.

Senator Hopkins, in his memorable address in the United States Senate, January 11, 1907, proved that that body has no power to arbitrarily determine the eligibility of its mem-The constitutional limitations forbid that. This, he said, was clearly expressed in the debate in the Constitutional Convention of 1787. Madison contended that the qualifications of United States Senators should be stated in the instrument that created such officers, because to leave this to the different legislators would be dangerous. And this view prevailed. The qualifications called for in the Constitution negatived the idea that any other qualifications could be exacted, either by the Senate or by any one of the states.

The speaker next proved that the following, "Each House shall be the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members." did not give the Senate the authority to exact any other qualifications than those defined by the Constitution. He proved this by quotations from eminent authorities. He quoted Alexander

"The qualifications of the persons, who may choose or be chosen, as has been remarked upon other occasions, are defended and fixed in the Constiare defended and fixed in the Constitution and are unalterable by the le-

He quoted numerous other authori-

"The qualifications to be judged are those, as I have already stated, prescribed in the Constitution itself. If the Senate find those qualifications exist in the applicant for a seat in this body from any given state, then, under all precedents, such Senator is entitled to take the oath of office and take his place among the members of take his place among the members of this great legislative body,"

He then proved that a state cannot add any qualifications other than those prescribed by the Constitution. This was demonstrated by reference to the case of Senator Trumbull and the argument in that case by Senator Crit-"It was not supposed," he added, "by the framers of that great instrument that the Senate of the United States would sit as a court of inquiry or an inquisition to investigate the career and character of any man whom a state might see fit to honor with a seat in this body. It was left by the Constitution of the United States to each state to determine the character of the men whom they would prefer to represent them as United States senators.

Having proved that the Senate has no power to expel a member arbitrarily, he pointed out that it was admitted by all that Senator Smoot possessed all the constitutional qualifications and that he had always lived a pure and upright life, "Why, then," he asked, "should be be expelled from this body, disgraced and dishenered for life?"

Senator Beveridge characterized this argument as "unanswerable."

In his further discussion of the ques tion just quoted, Senator Hopkins gave eloquent utterance to many truths worthy of the consideration of all American citizens. He said, for in-

"If, however, Mr. President, it shall appear from a candid consideration of all the testimony which has been presented to the Committee on Privileges and Elections that Reed Smoot stands forth faultiess of any offense punishable by law or any conduct unbecoming a Christian gentleman, then the mere fact that he is a member of the Morinon Church, or that he is an apostle in that Church, should not de-

bar him from exercising the rights of a Senator in this body, and should not deprive the State of Utah, which, under our Constitution, has the same rights and privileges accorded to any one of original thirteen States, from hav ng a full representation in the United

Here is another notable extract from

"But, Mr. President, while it is true that the people of no State in this Re-public have ever seen fit to make as a part of the organic law of the State any such provision as this [meaning any provision for a state-church], it is a notorious fact that the various re-ligious denominations have, from the earliest history of the Republic, taken a greater or less interest in all public questions and in the politics of the par-ties that have from time to time con-trolled the destines of the Republic. Not only that, but men have combined outside of religious organizations to control cities and States and the Republic itself.

"If organizations, religious or otherare to be condemned because are interested in politics, where would the Senator from Michigan him-self be today? He belongs to a great political organization that has for its political organization that has for its object the controlling not of the destinies of the State that he so ably represents in this body, but it has ambition to, and has, as a matter of fact, for more than forty years, controlled the destinies of this Republic itself. Is it any more for members of a religious organization in any State to prefer one of their own number as a United States Senator than it is for a political or-Senator than it is for a political or-ganization in the State of Michigan to prefer the senior Senator from Michi-gan as their representative? If we are to embark upon criticisms of this character, where can we stop?'

One more extract:

"The problem that confronted these nen who had plural wives after the aws of Congress had legitimized their children by their plural wives was What should be done with the mother; of their children? Should they be driven into the street penniless and un-cared for, or thrown upon society in the anomalous and unenviable position that they would hold? Or should these men who, when they took them as plur-al wives, believed, as did the women, that the relation was sanctified in the sight of God and that it was pure and xalted by religious approval, card for

"The consensus of opinion in the State of Utah among the Gentiles as well as the Mormons was that if the husbands of these plural wives cared for them, without flaunting such relations in the face of the public, it would be better to let them care for them along with the children these women had borne them and let time and death solve the ultimate problem of the extinction of polygamy in the Mormon

leading citizens of Utah who were non-Mormon not only acquiecsed in this solution of the problem, but they gave it their sanction by word+ and

Such were the doctrines enunciated and facts presented by Senator Hopkins. They were, as Senator Beveridge said, unanswerable.

The Tribune hates Hopkins because the Senate accepted his views as sustained by the evidence in the case. By that outcome of the investigation the hollowness of the Tribune pretenses became evident to all the world. By that decision it was made clear that American sentiment is not with the Tribune

in its efforts to persecute the Church through the aid of the government. For this the paper will never forgive the Senators who voted to uphold the Constitution. But, for all that, Senator Hopkins and the other, Senators who voted with him performed a service for free American institutions that will be remembered in American history long after the vaporings of the Tribune are

### THE TOWN MEETING.

Students of city government in genthe New England town meeting was the best example of pure popular govern ment that ever existed.

Once a year, and oftener if necessary in the good, old time, all the voters of a New England town were summoned to a public meeting, in which most of the town business was performed. Town officers were chosen for the year. especially the "townsmen," or selectmen-a board of executive officers who sat from time to time during the year. The main business, however, was to legislate for the town, and it was a place for vigorous discussion, and for the development of parliamentary law. In times of trouble it was the center of protest, as when the Cambridge town neeting in the Stamp Act days instructed its representatives that "they use their utmost endeavors, that the same may be repealed; that this vote may be recorded in the Town Book, that the children yet imborn may see the desires that their ancestors had for their freedom and happiness."

Some parishes were governed by a "select vestry," in which the people had no voice, but this mode of government never became popular in this country Free citizens do not take kindly to the 'select vestry" form of government

In the more complex forms of mod ern life ,the town meeting, as first instituted by common consent is impractical. But the proposition has been made to revive that institution in the form of a large representative council-say one for every 1,000 inhabitants-and make the executive officers dependent upon and responsible to this body. In ali probability reform in city govern-

ment will tend in this direction. The Cleveland Plain Dealer says that Cleveland probably clings as closely to the form and spirit of the town meeting as so large a city can. The people's elected representatives in the council are never allowed to forget that their commission comes from the public that nothing they may do will stand if it be contrary to the popular will upon the subject. When the city administration hesitated whether or not to pass the security franchise last year the matter was taken up in a series of pubic meetings throughout the city. The public is invited to meet council committees to discuss with them all sorts of topics relating to public service and at all points the will of the people is

listened to as the controlling influence. This should contain a hint to the people of this City. The trouble here is that the voice of the sovereign people is seldom consulted and never heard above the clamor of profit-hunters. The people may protest against the saloon traffic and the "stockade" business, but their protest counts for almost nothing. They may protest against the increase of taxes to abnormal proportions, but

### RUNES AND VINLAND.

ber of the Descret News an item stating that a slate rock with some runic inscription, supposed to have runic inscription, supposed to have been cut in the year A. D. 1362, has been found. It would be interesting to see the text, word for word. There is nowhere, to my knowledge, any record of a crew like the one mentioned hav-ing left for Vinland; but that does not make it impossible. The cutting of ing left for Vinland; but that does not make it impossible. The cutting of this record on a stone, must have been due to fear of annihilation, and the runic text may have been used instead of Gothic or Roman, because it was easier to cut it. I believe the runes were not used, except for their preservation, as late as that. Few if any of the wel-

lum manuscripts, have runle characters, and it is reasonable to believe that the text which is on the veilum (calf-skin) manuscript, was adopted, contemporary with Christianity in the year A. D. 1000 in Iceland, and considerably earlier in the other Sandinavian countries.

The only Vinland expedition which

The only viniand especition which I can possibly connect with this remarkable incident is that of Bishop Erick Upsi from Gardar in Greenland. He went in the year A. D. 1121, with a ship and crew in search of Vinland, and was never heard from again. It is not impossible that this relic belongs to that party

to that party.

JOHN THORGERSON.

Thistle, Utah.

that makes no difference. If the town neeting cannot be resurrected, public meetings can nevertheless be called, and these should be made use of for the education and instruction of the voters. If there is anything the dishonest politicians fear it is public discussion and public enlightenment. They fear intelligence, because they depend upon automatons for the success of their schemes.

Does heaven help embezzlers? They help themselves.

Near-winter keeps coming back into the lap of spring.

As the course of empire westward takes its way so does Weston.

There is far more love in an air castle than there ever was in any cottage.

If we ever talk with Mars it will, of course, be about war. That is his

An industrial warehouse, it seems, can be marooned by a railroad as well as by water.

If freetraders find the new tariff bill bitter pill they will also find it well sugar coated:

Sometimes it is interesting to read the story written between the lines of an old maid's face.

The tariff may be in the interest of the common people but it gets more and more uppish.

The Teddy lion can never hold such a place in the hearts of children as the Teddy bear did.

to reach the North pole, and as proof he can show the head. A Baltimore man has had erected in his garden a statue to Adam. He

Secretary Nagel found it no trouble

certainly was the first citizen of the Down in Georgia they say that "imperious Caesar, dead and turn'd to Clay, might stop a hole to keep the

There is one advantage a stutterer has; he can never utter hasty words, those things that cause so much trouble and regret.

The aeronauts having conquered the air, now the artillerists are inventing guns to destroy the airships. Such is the warfare of science.

beasts of Africa that the authorities did not remove the bag limit in favor of Colonel Roosevelt.

Thirteen more men implicated in the recent Turkish uprising have been hanged in Constantinople. Thirteen seems to be an unlucky number in Moslem as well as in Christian coun-

What a luxuriant place the St. Francis hotel must be! When a witness in the Calhoun case entered a certain bath room he found money in the soap dish. It had the effect of "soft soap

If the law provides that the clerk of the juvenile court shall be paid a salary, he should be paid; if it does not make such provision he should not be paid. It is not a complicated question but a very simple one.

"Ed" Corrigan, the once famous mil ionaire turfman, has gone broke, and s now at the bedside of his dying wife in Kentucky, himself a broken-hearted nan. Old residents of this city wil recall the time-more than a quarter of a century ago-when he brought Pear Jennings here to beat Jack Gilmer's

### CONGRESS BEAT HIM TO IT.

Philadelphia Record. A man who presented himself at the reasury department on Thursday last saying that he understood the govern-ment had more money than it knew what to do with, and proposing to "help out" by taking a million, was committed to an asylum for lunatics The record of the Sixtieth Congress liscloses a state of mind among the numbers differing but little from that of this strange visitor. They also see to have been oppressed with the ide and proposed to relieve him of \$2,000,000,000 or so. The appropriations of the Sixtieth Congress footed up to \$2,050,000,000, approximately \$500,000 pe

### GEO. MEREDITH'S PREDICTION.

Louisville Herald.

William T. Stead, in a letter of in-teresting reminiscences concerning George Meredith, the last of the great Victorian literary school, who died the other day, relates that the novellst was convinced his native country would some day yield the palm of supremacy to the United States. So strong was his belief that he went as far as to advocate the marging of Great Parisis. his belief that he went as far as to advocate the merging of Great Britain with this republic, and predicted that eventually such a political amalgamation would be the salvation of the Anglo-Saxon race as a dominant power in the world. Naturally these views were not popular with Meredith's compatriots, although, according to Mr. Stead, they were shared by that great empire builder, Cecil Rhodes, whose political intuition has been proven trustworthy in more than one instance.

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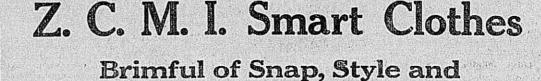
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