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DESERET NEWS PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
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For the Chief Editor's office No. 74.
For Deseret News Book Store, 74.
For City Editor and Reporters, 259.
For Business Manager, 259.
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MORE FIRECRACKERS.

The Salt Lake Tribune has found something which it imagines will awaken interest in political circles, but which really renders it an object of ridicule to people of all parties. The Deseret News suggested that it would be a graceful act on the part of the county commissioners to make a reduction in the tax levy for 1904, as the total valuation of property for the year is greater than before. We found no fault with that, we made no criticism of it except to praise it for its energy and good work, and the Tribune has kept up a fire of pyrotechnics every day, however, and explosive fury without light or beauty—on the assumption that the "News" has abused the county board because its members are Republicans. Well, neighbor, fire away, you only expose your own folly and fury, and do not even approach the subject in view. Our simple question remains unanswered: Is it, cannot the county tax levy for 1904 be somewhat reduced?

WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE?

The dreadful holocaust at Chicago, consequent upon the fire in the Iroquois Theater, has impressed itself deeply upon the public mind. This, with other great calamities which have followed rapidly upon each other's footsteps, has aroused the people of this country so that there is a general desire to fix the responsibility for them upon some individuals or authorities. In order that punishment may overtake those who can be considered guilty of negligence, or other criminal conduct which would warrant the calling down of vengeance upon their heads.

In the case of the theater conflagration in Chicago an attempt has been made to place responsibility upon the city authorities, because of their alleged neglect to enforce the city ordinances for the protection of the public in places of amusement. It is estimated that the damages demanded in the scores of suits planted against the city, aggregate about \$6,000,000. A test case, however, has been taken through the courts, and finally the superior court in that city has rendered a decision, exempting the city from responsibility and declaring the corporation to be liable for damages caused by that terrible conflagration. This will doubtless have the effect of stopping further litigation on this account against the city of Chicago, which would have been pursued to very great lengths but for this ruling of the court.

As to the New York harbor, which exceeds the Chicago tragedy both in extent and in the nature of the disaster, it remains yet to be seen whether punishment will be meted out to the persons decided to be responsible for it, or whether damages will be recovered to any amount by the living friends of the doomed victims of the catastrophe.

It is to be hoped that lessons of caution will be drawn from these events, and that inspectors appointed to overlook buildings, and vessels, and works in which accidents are likely to endanger human lives as well as public or private property, will do their duty faithfully, and, if not, will be made to bear their portion of the responsibility arising from mishaps and that courts will be disposed to act justly in such matters, with due regard to the rights of the public as much as to those of corporations and of capital.

LET THEM ALONE.

We think that some of our friends are wasting their time and playing into the hands of contentious disturbers, by entering into street debates and giving encouragement to adventurers who have nothing to lose but everything to gain from such encounters. People who are satisfied with their own faith need not be disturbed by wordy assaults upon it from persons who make capital out of such agitation as they can succeed in promoting. It is useless to attempt to convince them of their errors. They are engaged in stirring up strife, and are filled with the spirit of contention, and are not inquiring after or investigating truth for its own sake, but simply seek to make trouble and excite anger, by attacks upon the belief and character of men and women whom they endeavor to vilify. These blatant street defamers ought to be treated with quiet disdain. They feed upon the resentment

they endeavor to provoke, and accomplish their purpose when they can induce some one to assist their assaults. It is the height of folly to permit them to occupy our places of meeting and to get up discussions for their benefit. No good comes of such disputes. It only feeds their vanity and creates contention, without evolving light or dispelling darkness. It is really giving place to the devil and encouraging his servants. The casualty they use and the casualties they utter may catch the unwary and lead a few simple folks astray for a time, but they will accomplish next to nothing if left severely alone. Friends, pay no attention to their slanders or their sophistries!

COLORADO'S TROUBLES.

Colorado and her labor troubles are not attracting the same attention they were a few weeks ago, but the situation is far from reassuring. The deportations continue, only Tuesday last a dozen men being sent away from Cripple Creek. How long such a condition of affairs will last no one can tell; it must cease some time by matters becoming better or worse.

The present very regrettable situation was first brought about by lawlessness, lawlessness so aggressive that drastic measures became a necessity. This necessity in turn has begot lawlessness. The latest phase of the case is the offer of an old civil war veteran to raise a couple of companies, under authority of the governor, of war veterans, to defend the people of Cripple Creek from thugs and highwaymen, and restore peace to that more or less distracted place. The governor's decision in the matter has not been announced. Acceptance of the offer could scarcely fail to be regarded as an admission that the machinery of government, as to that part of the state, had broken down.

The situation altogether is peculiar and very distressing, and one that calls for statesman-like treatment of the highest class. Colorado has taken hold of it with strong hands and a determination to master it. It is one of long growth and it will naturally take some time to settle it. Those who have undertaken this task do not seem to have kept always in view the fundamental fact that in such a situation there must be absolute loyalty to all laws, irrespective of persons. It is a hard thing to do at times, but that it is hard is no excuse for not doing it.

It is easier to offer criticism than a practical remedy, but where criticism is honest and offered in a friendly spirit it often points a way to a remedy. In the West particularly it should never be forgotten that the situation that now confronts Colorado may any day confront any other state, and that the cause for which she is fighting is, in greater or less degree, a common cause.

A SENSIBLE VIEW.

The Nampa, Idaho, Herald, under the management of Messrs. Harte and Brownlee, seems to be doing well. At any rate it presents a fine and thrifty appearance, and its columns are well supplied with good reading matter, none of which comes from "patent" sources. We are pleased to see that it takes a sensible view of the controversy, started in that State by a political scheme, over the "Mormon" question. As to the subject that is continually thrust forward as though it was of vital importance, the Herald remarks:

"The practice of polygamy has ceased. We do not believe there have been three polygamous marriages since the manifesto of 1890, and if there have been any they were surrounded by peculiar and exceptional circumstances. It is true that there has been much wild gossip, in Idaho and Utah, concerning new cases of polygamy, but when these yarns have been investigated they have evaporated and vanished into thin air. A grand jury was impaneled at Salt Lake last year to investigate these polygamy stories. A majority of these grand jurors were Gentiles, men of character and standing. They were instructed by a Gentile judge to investigate every charge of polygamy brought to their attention. The prosecuting attorney who conducted the investigation was an anti-Mormon. After a month of investigation, and after sifting every open charge and idle tale, these grand jurors reported that they were unable to secure sufficient evidence upon which to base a single indictment.

"The old polygamists who entered into their polygamous relations prior to 1890 still continue those relations. It was understood and expected by the anti-Mormons that they would do this and the practice has been acquiesced in and is so acquiesced in to this day, by all except a few disgruntled politicians who have personal grudges to gratify. Judge Powers, leader of the anti-Mormon fight, admitted this in his testimony before the Senate committee and declared further that the practice has been condoned by all of the leading politicians of both parties.

"Under these conditions, the demand from certain quarters that the Republicans of Idaho should make polygamy an issue would seem to be ridiculous. Polygamy can no more be made an issue than can human slavery. It is argued that because the Democrats have taken up the question the Republicans should pursue the same course. That is not sound reasoning. The Democrats open some kind of a Pandora's box every time they get together. To do the foolish thing with them a party tradition, a fixed habit, it is true that they were hypnotized by Fred Dubois at the state convention and sought to revive the corpse of this dead issue, but they have been curing Dubois and each other ever since, and now their chief hope is that the Republicans will commit the same blunder. It is not likely to come to pass."

AS TO DOG BITES.

These are commonly called the "dog days." There is a popular notion that the canine species are more susceptible to rabies during the hot months of summer than at any other time. If a poor, thirty dog with his tongue hanging out runs panting through the streets in some of the big cities of the country, the cry of "mad dog" is set up, and while many people rush wildly away, others pursue the poor creature with rocks and clubs and take a course likely to drive it into the condition that is dreaded. There is a great deal of misunderstanding in regard to the subject of hydrophobia, and fears are entertained which are often entirely groundless. Some very good common-sense advice has been given on this subject

by the department of pathology of Columbia College, which we commend to the general public. It is this: "In the first place, remember that every dog isn't mad, and, furthermore, every mad dog isn't hydrophobic. Hydrophobia is a disease from which, if a dog has it, he cannot recover. He dies within five or six days. Hence, do not kill the dog. Keep him tied up. If he recovers, it constitutes proof that his bite is not dangerous. But if you are bitten by a dog go at once to your physician and have the wound cauterized." And another point is "not to be frightened if you are bitten. Worry helps to cause prostration, while a cheerful disposition helps to cure many diseases." That the condition of the mind has much to do with the health or otherwise of the body is a truth that is being pressed upon general attention and it is a fact that fear is a potent factor in the spread of disease.

All blessings on the Old Folks!

Political straws show which way the hot air blows.

How fortunate that men do not live by meat alone.

There are few platforms whose planks are free from nuts.

In England there are no flags at half mast for Kruger.

Mr. Cleveland continues to be an apostle of Joe Jeffersonian simplicity.

The shades of night are not falling so fast these days as window shades are.

What politicians those Japanese are! They deny nothing, they admit nothing.

Already nearly enough original Parker men have been discovered to elect him.

The two most popular summer resorts this year are Oyster Bay and Esopus.

In St. Louis they have learned that a house of delegates divided against itself cannot stand.

Russia has all the money she wants or needs. That will be handy when she comes to settle with Japan.

The dispatches report that at St. Joseph Swift is killing a few hogs. They are not of the end seat variety.

A good many fishermen are going it on their own hook these days and find their lines cast in pleasant places.

Henry G. Davis of West Virginia must be a hale old man. He is expected to make a first-class running-mate.

Ex-Senator Davis and Senator Elkins exemplify in their own persons that it is not like father-in-law like son-in-law.

Mrs. Eddy proposes to discipline any of her followers who steal her time. She is right. Time is the one thing that can never be recovered.

A green diamond has been found in a South African mine. That's nothing. Right here in Salt Lake City green-horns can be found any day.

The Igorites at the St. Louis fair will continue to wear the garb, or lack of garb, they have worn all the time. They are no followers of titful fashion.

Already babies are being named after Judge Parker; some Alton, some Brooks, some Parker, some all three. In the language of the great Artemus, "This is 2 mitch."

In the government forest reserves Uncle Sam is planting 2,500 trees a day. He should see to it that the hatchet is buried at the same time so that no one can cut them down.

Pugilist Fitzsimmons has been detained at the Coney Island police station for taking a lion cub without the consent of the owners. Probably he thought the whelp belonged to the British lion.

M. Santos-Dumont has arrived in France and announces that he will not return to the United States to compete in the aerial flight contests. He can scarcely be blamed for his experience at St. Louis was most unfortunate and very discouraging. He attributes the cutting of the balloon attachment to cranks and not to his rivals. They may have been cranks who did it, but the universal opinion in this country is that they were vandals and scoundrels. It was an outrage upon a distinguished foreigner as well as upon every American, for the country's reputation was injured by it. It is to be regretted that M. Santos-Dumont is not coming back, and it is to be hoped that the vandals will yet be caught and punished.

The butcher strikers in Chicago have begun rioting unusually early. The strike was not twenty-four hours old before they commenced their lawlessness. It took the form of an attack on a squad of police. No serious damage was done anyone, but most serious damage was done the strikers' cause. It started one of those plague spots that spread very rapidly, and that becomes harder to cure the more they spread. Not very many of the men on strike were implicated, but enough were to cast the blame on all. And that is the way it always is in strikes, and causes them to come into such bad repute. The country is becoming, in fact has become, very tired of strikes, because of the lawlessness that is their invariable accompaniment, and the country is determined that it shall stop. Colorado's action shows what is the feeling on this point. The labor organizations have become so vast that when once put in motion in the form of strikes, they soon get beyond the control of those who start them. The Chicago strikers are manifesting very bad tendencies very soon. The merits of their cause, whatever they be, will soon be lost in the demerits of their action.

From all over the land will come the demand that they be halted at once in their lawlessness.

DESPOTIC RUSSIA.

New York Evening Sun.
The Czar's letter to Prince John Obolenski, the new Governor of Finland, is really a proclamation to all the nations which have been taken into the fold by Russia that they need hope for nothing. They are to have as much liberty as the rest of the empire, and no more. They must be content to sink their individuality, to lose all their distinguishing traits. The sooner they become Russified the better for themselves. It is a broad hint and it means business.

Oakland Enquirer.
The action of the Russian Czar in dealing leniently with the Pinsk notwithstanding the recent assassination of the governor-general, is in keeping with his character. Besides, he would rather have peace throughout his dominions in the present crisis than domestic war.

Boston Transcript.

Odd despotism, Russia. Tolstol has brought out in a newspaper published in a foreign and unfriendly land a lot of unpatriotic utterances of a kind that, if he were an American, would have led to inflated declarations from army and navy experts that the man was a traitor and ought to be shot. The Russian authorities, however, seem not to be at all excited. They may issue a formal statement, but it is entirely unlikely that any action will be taken against Count Tolstol.

INDIANS ARE PROLIFIC AUTHORS.

Kansas City Journal.
Of late years the number of writers among the Cherokees has greatly increased. They are historians in the tribe whose works are used as textbooks in the Indian schools, and who are cited as authorities not to be disputed. There are also Indians who have written codes of law which before being put in permanent form had been handed down from generation to generation. The Indians today obey these laws with a greater reverence than they do the laws of the United States. There are Indian novelists—novelists who devote their time to entertaining the Indian mind with romance with entangled plots and bloodcurdling climaxes. These books are popular among the Indians. Edition after edition of some works is published, and they are read by buck and squaw alike.

POOR DUBOIS!

Chicago Chronicle.
Eight years ago Senator Dubois, of Idaho, walked out of the St. Louis Republican Convention because that body declared for the gold standard. Now he is attending a Democratic Convention in St. Louis and boldly declaring himself in favor of the gold standard. What is more, he declares that the Mountain States are cured of their silver craze and now favor the gold standard.

Wills and Words.

Two wills were filed with the probate judge in Atchison county. One read:

"Will—I give all my property to my wife."

The other read:
"I give, devise and bequeath all my property, real, personal and mixed, together with all tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances thereunto belonging or otherwise appertaining to, wherever situated, to have and to hold, for all time and forever," etc.

And the first is as good as the last.—Kansas City Journal.

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SALT LAKE & LOS ANGELES RAILWAY.

SPECIAL SALT AIR TIME TABLE.

JULY 15TH.

| Leave Salt Lake. | Arrive Salt Lake. |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 11:30 a. m. | 11:30 a. m. |
| 12:30 p. m. | 12:30 p. m. |
| 1:30 p. m. | 1:30 p. m. |
| 2:30 p. m. | 2:30 p. m. |
| 3:30 p. m. | 3:30 p. m. |
| 4:30 p. m. | 4:30 p. m. |
| 5:30 p. m. | 5:30 p. m. |
| 6:30 p. m. | 6:30 p. m. |
| 7:30 p. m. | 7:30 p. m. |
| 8:30 p. m. | 8:30 p. m. |
| 9:30 p. m. | 9:30 p. m. |
| 10:30 p. m. | 10:30 p. m. |
| 11:45 p. m. | 11:45 p. m. |

J. E. LANGFORD, Lessee.

Lagoon

TIME TABLE.

| Leave Salt Lake. | Leave Lagoon. |
|------------------|---------------|
| 6:30 a. m. | 7:30 a. m. |
| 9:30 a. m. | 10:30 a. m. |
| 11:30 a. m. | 12:30 Noon |
| 1:30 p. m. | 2:30 p. m. |
| 3:30 p. m. | 4:30 p. m. |
| 5:30 p. m. | 6:30 p. m. |
| 7:30 p. m. | 8:30 p. m. |
| 9:30 p. m. | 10:30 p. m. |
| 11:30 p. m. | 11:45 p. m. |

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2 AND 2

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