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A BELATED REPORT.

The Auditor's report, made public five months after the date prescribed by law—but what is a little thing like the law between friends?—is a peculiar document. It is not specially enlightening on the financial operations of last year. But this seems clear. At the end of December the City was very nearly \$100,000 in the hole. The debt was possibly much larger, but that much seems to peep forth from under a mass of figures.

This is gathered from the balance sheet. Among the assets we find uncollected taxes and water rates to the amount of \$294,042.48—in round numbers, \$300,000. But we learn from other sources that this asset has proved to be worth to the City, up to date, only \$185,157. That is to say, the City has been able to collect only that amount of the so-called uncollected taxes and water rates. Of the uncollected water rates, given in the balance sheet as \$34,963.64, only \$23,118.70, we understand, has been collected. So the asset of \$300,000—in round numbers—has practically shrunk to about \$185,000. With the inflated figure the revenue surplus is made to read \$22,271.45, but, when the facts only are counted, that figure is wiped out and a deficit of at least \$86,634.48 remains.

The City fathers must have known the real situation long ago, but they have shown no desire to economize, though the necessity of economy has been evident. The reckless extravagance has continued, and now the deficit is nearing the half-a-million mark, it is said.

The question naturally arises whether the act of creating the indebtedness existing at the end of last year was not illegal. The City authorities cannot legally go beyond the limits of indebtedness prescribed by law. They cannot issue warrants beyond the actual amount of taxes for the year, since that would be to contract indebtedness without the necessary authorization by the taxpayers. The fact seems to be that the City at the end of last year found itself plunged into debt illegally, by the manipulators of the City council. No wonder the Auditor has been withholding the financial report!

The citizens are now asked to vote a loan of \$600,000, at a time when the interest rate on money is high. They are promised a number of improvements in return for their vote. They are even promised an aqueduct that cannot, legally, be constructed with money borrowed for the purpose of increasing the water supply and extending the sewer system. That shows their honesty and sincerity in promising. We are not mistaken in venturing the opinion that at least half of the \$600,000 is needed to pay off the indebtedness now existing and part of which has been contracted without authority. Some of the remaining half will be needed for campaign purposes. Very little will be spent on improvements.

It is perfectly clear that the City is in a bad way financially and that money is needed, but first of all the City fathers should free themselves from the influence of the present state of affairs, and become true. As long as they permit the self-constituted junta to rule them they cannot expect a confidence vote by bona fide tax-payers. In any other city the parties responsible for law-defiance in the matter of issuing illegal warrants and refusing to publish the financial reports prescribed by law, would be made to give an accounting before the proper tribunal.

THE GLORIOUS FOURTH.

The glorious Fourth is upon us, and the small boy will again be busy setting off firecrackers and making all the noise he can, in spite of all protests and remonstrances. There are, however, some forms of this kind of amusement that should be strictly prohibited even on that day. In years past miscreants have thrown lighted firecrackers under horses, causing runaway and endangering human lives; they have placed a number of torpedoes on the car tracks, not considering the possible consequences to nervous passengers when the cars run over the loaded trucks and cause a series of loud explosions. Such pastimes should be condemned most severely. Even those who believe in noise, will admit that no one has a right to endanger the lives of others, for his own amusement.

Mrs. Isaac L. Rice, in an article in the Century, reminds the readers of that magazine that the noisy and fiery celebration of the Nation's birthday is an innovation contrary to the ideals of the founders of the Republic. In the infancy of the nation "nothing resembling in the least our wild orgy of noise was dreamed of." Indeed, she writes, "the such a suggestion been breathed to the sons and daughters of our revolutionary fathers would probably have been that the plan savored more of China, the land of noise and the home of the firecracker, than of their own country, and have been profoundly shocked at the idea that such an anniversary could receive so murderous a recognition." Originally the day was celebrated with oratory, music, processions, meetings of patriotic societies,

garden parties, theater performances and public fireworks.

The writer makes these suggestions:

"Let us, on this day, forget the noise of battle and the passions of international strife, and remember only the wonderful spirit of sacrifice, and patriotism, and brotherhood which animated our Revolutionary heroes. Let us, who know what the day means, endeavor to make it both memorable and illuminating to those who do not, by opening the hearts of the children of the poor and ignorant, of the distressed and disheartened alien within our gates, to at least a partial significance of what we honor in our glorious festival."

"Let us enter personally into the work, giving tender endeavor as well as means to the task of making the occasion the happiest of all the year to the ignorant and the wretched. Let us give them a day of liberty in the country or in the parks, where they will see our beautiful flag floating everywhere about them, and where their untrained ears will become accustomed to the ringing rhythm of our national melodies. Let us give them memories of the Fourth, such as flags and pictures of our heroes and of those whom we love as well as honor. There let them listen to the story of the birth of our Republic, and have it told simply and, if necessary in their own tongues, so that all can feel how great were those who made the country free, and how wonderful is the boon of liberty now extended to the oppressed of other countries."

All, except hoodlums, possibly, will admit that a celebration consisting of oratory, music, processions, dramatic performances, etc., would give infinitely more pleasure and be more appropriate to the day.

GOOD ROADS AGAIN.

Some municipal problems seem never to become completely solved, and one of this class is that of improving the means of transportation between cities. Good roads movements are always with us.

As their object is education, and their means publicity working for the public welfare, they usually find a warm reception, and cordial support. If after many columns of newspaper space is used, and many fine speeches made, some practical county commissioner is induced to dump two loads of sharp cornered small rock, where before he dumped only a load of round cobbles, then the publicity has not been undertaken in vain.

Just now the people of Salt Lake, under Mr. Orson Hewlett, and the people of Weber county, under Joseph Peery, are attempting to get a better road between Salt Lake and Ogden. Automobile parties will use it more, if it is built, but the automobile enthusiasts declare they are working as much for the buggy and wagon driver as for themselves, and that their movement is associated with antagonism to scorching in all its forms.

Any movement which condemns scorching is to be commended, and if to get good roads, the automobile fraternity has decided to open fire on its own extremists, they will find a public sentiment much in their favor.

On July 8 an automobile mass meeting will be held at Lagoon. Automobile drivers, and all who care for the good roads movement, have been invited to attend. From their discussion much enlightenment should come concerning the most practical way to improve at least one of the state's chief highways.

ANOTHER COLONY IN TROUBLE.

The founder of the Esperanza society is reported to be in trouble. The originator of this organization is a Finland, John Albertus, who is said to have spent many years of his life trying to solve the problem of communistic cooperation. Some years ago he discovered the beautiful Parana valley in the Argentine republic, and secured some concessions from the government. Then he began gathering colonists.

The story of this colonizer goes on to recount how he came to San Francisco a little over a year ago and appeared at various meetings and secured enough members to start the brotherhood which he represented at first as merely a lodge in which cooperation was to be discussed and studied and socialism explained. When these first members of the Universal Co-operative Brotherhood realized that they were to pledge themselves to be part of a new colony, many dropped out. But many remained, and, presently, Albertus had lodges in San Francisco, Philadelphia, New York, and perhaps other places. Then he went to South America and sent home glowing reports of success in the matter of securing concessions. But serious trouble seems to have developed. Some of the men who were to have assisted Albertus in the work of colonizing abandoned the leader at a critical moment and are coming home to report on their experiences.

If we want to appreciate the success of the Latter-day Saints in colonizing wherever their lot has been cast, their work should be compared to that of the numerous imitators who have followed them. Although the latter had the pattern of the Church leaders before them and were, as a rule, well equipped with money, and although they generally secured the best locations obtainable for their experiments, they have generally failed. The Latter-day Saints have transformed deserts into gardens and built thriving cities, while fighting starvation, grasshoppers and Indians.

While contemplating the failures of many colonies planned on a co-operative basis, it is pleasant to read about the phenomenal success achieved by the co-operative societies of England. For many years these societies have given members the benefit of the profit on handling the various classes of goods. Now, according to the London correspondent of the New York Sun, a movement has actively begun to combine and nationalize all these separate co-operative organizations in one society. During the early part of the month the annual congress of these various organizations was held in Manchester. It was attended by 1,500 delegates, representing a general membership of 2,500,000, which, with their families, would mean ten million persons interested in these enterprises, or almost one-fourth of the entire population of Great Britain and Ireland.

The associations are said to aggregate sales of almost a billion dollars yearly, yielding a general profit of ten per cent, which is distributed among

the members in dividends and in provision for various social and community needs such as libraries, educational facilities and entertainments. The larger plan would take from these separate associations their present autonomous character and merge and concentrate control and authority in a co-operative council or parliament, working through sub-committees and taking under its direction a very comprehensive group of interests.

Through the success achieved by such associations, the lesson of cooperation is taught to the world. The seed sown by the leaders of the Church is bearing fruit in the world, just as the doctrines taught by the Prophet Joseph are influencing the thought of the world.

Just now all roads lead to Denver.

An ounce of silence is worth a pound of hot air.

The uprising in Mexico seems to have come to a sudden setting.

Towne is after the vice presidential nomination but it may go to the country.

See to it that the patriotic little boys bring all their fingers home tomorrow night.

The Pseudo-American administration is crying, like Shylock, "I want my bond."

The per capita circulation has dropped 6 cents. Did it drop it in a slot machine?

Physicians are advocating the silence cure. The less said about such a cure the better.

Riches are beset with dangers; and such being the case perhaps it is well that few people have to face them.

Hang the starchy banner out tomorrow. But do not leave it hanging out over night. Flag etiquette forbids that.

At Sagamore Hill Mr. Roosevelt is making hay while the sun shines. For him the sun has shone almost all his life.

Being a living issue, the Denver anti-injunction plank will not be made out of dead timber but probably of live oak.

Mr. Taft is going to Hot Springs, Va., for the summer. Wherever he may go he will find that it is a hot campaign.

It is said that Mr. Bryan will not straddle the anti-injunction plank. A wise decision, as such planks are usually two edged.

The New York Times says that Mattewman is full of intellectual men. A statement that does not show any particular intellectuality.

Mr. Taft is to be notified of his nomination on July 28. Such being the case he will be precluded from saying, "This is so sudden!"

Brazil denies the rumor that she is building warships for Japan. Will Captain Richard Pearson Hobson accept the denial in good faith?

A New Jersey woman dreamed, she was going to die, and then wept bitterly because her dream failed to come true. Isn't that just like some women?

LOW BIRTH RATE.

Chicago Record-Herald.

"French depopulation" is a familiar phrase. The publication of the statistics in Finkler's never fails to cause a discussion of the steady decline of her birth rate and the grave consequences, military and other, to be apprehended. Until now, however, "depopulation" has been used in a loose sense, for, after all, up to the publication of the figures for 1907, no one expected an actual excess of deaths over births. The average annual increase of 763,000 deaths to 774,000 births. Whether this showing will change the optimistic views of those "modern" thinkers who claim that her low birth rate is France's proudest distinction and the clearest proof of her culture, her desire for comfort and happiness, her horror of congestion, filth, misery, disease, is a question. As to the majority of thinkers they doubtless edgely their brains even harder to devise anti-race suicide remedies.

EIFFEL TOWER.

Scientific American.

Next January the Eiffel tower will become the property of Paris, in accordance with the agreement entered into in 1889 with its contractor and architect, M. Eiffel, that the steel structure should belong to the city after twenty years. M. Eiffel deposited a bond of \$200,000 to bind the agreement, and this money will now go to M. Eiffel, to whom Paris will do with the tower is a problem. Admission fees and the sublet contracts to the restaurant hardly pay 1 per cent of the capital invested. It took eleven years for M. Eiffel to recoup his expenses, notwithstanding the great exposition of 1889, which brought thousands of visitors to the tower. The entrance fee now is only 20 cents, hardly enough to cover the cost of running the huge elevators, and the city will have to devise some scheme to make the tower pay. There is now a subsidy paid yearly by the French government on account of the wireless connections established there, but this is so small that it is not worth considering. It is generally believed that the tower will prove a white elephant in the hands of the municipality.

WHEN A MAN MARRIES.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Boston physician declares that he has found in one young woman six separate and distinct personalities. It is commonly stated that every man has three personalities. They are, the man he believes himself to be; the man he is and the man other persons believe him to be. Granting that the average woman has as many personalities as the average man, about a half dozen totally different persons stand comprising the terms of a contract when two persons marry. In the case of the Boston girl there will be involved in the marriage contract—granting, for the sake of argument, that this particular Boston girl marries as many as nine totally different personalities, and possibly a dozen. And yet persons who have never tried it, and can know nothing about it, wonder why two persons who have gone to church and

agreed to the provisions of the contract sometimes find it difficult to stand to the agreement.

Needles and pins, needles and pins. When a man marries his trouble begins.

In these words one of the classicists, possibly Mother Goose, sets forth certain facts with regard to the state of matrimony without entering into any analysis of personalities or explanation of the causes of strife. Possibly most of our marital troubles arise from the unexpected conduct of unsuspected personalities subject to the terms of the agreement without having been consulted at the making of it.

JUST FOR FUN.

The Rub.

"My!" exclaimed little Billy, as he gazed at the lithograph. "I'd like to be a graffite. Just think how easily you could 'rubber' over the baseball fence."

"That's all right," replied Tommy, "but there is another time when you wouldn't want to have a neck like a graffite."

"When is that?"

"Why, in the morning when your ma begins to scrub your neck with soap and water."—Chicago News.

First Aid to Nature.

Tourist—Looks like pretty good soil around here.

Native—I reckon 'tain't so worse.

Tourist—What crops do the farmers grow in this section?

Native—That all depends, stranger.

Tourist—Depends on what?

Native—On what sort of seed they put in an' the weather.—Chicago News.

The Fussy Bachelor.

"Yes," said the proud mother, "we are going to name the baby Theodore, but we feel confident he will make a name for himself before he is 25."

"He'll be lucky," growled the fussy old bachelor, "if he doesn't have two or three aliases by that time."—Chicago News.

A Demonstrated Theory.

"Father," said little Rollo, "is it true that riches do not bring happiness?"

"Quite true, my son. If you doubt it observe how much more the people in the bleachers seem to enjoy themselves than those in the grand stand."—Washington Star.

Buried Hopes.

They met on the bleachers.

"I thought you got off to go to a funeral," sneered the boss.

"Well, what do you call this?" demanded the bookkeeper, as three more visitors scored on errors by the home team.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Spurred by Hunger.

"I suppose you get your inspiration from the soldiers, the sculptors, the great men of life?"

"Well, no," answered the truthful bard or near-poet. "The butcher furnishes most of mine."—Exchange.

Secret of Nora's Success.

Mistress (astounded)—You can't read, Nora? Good gracious! How did you ever learn to cook so well?

New Cook—Shore, mum. O! lay it not 'bein' able to read 't' cookery books.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The July American Magazine is crowded with good reading. "Mr. Dooley" writes a platform for the Democratic party, and has run with Bryan, Governor Johnson and the other candidates. Octave Mirbeau, writing on "Animals and Automobile," tells of a Motorist's experiences with the beasts of the road—horses, cows, chickens, dogs, geese, mules and men. A Popplin's illustrations for this article are as clever as genius can make them. George Fitch describes a visit with Roosevelt, and McCutcheon's cartoons add to the gaiety of the article. G. Stanley Hall writes wonderfully, and yet very plainly, about race suicide and the instruction of children during adolescence. Ray Stannard Baker describes "The Black Man's Silent Power." The fiction is stirring and substantial. "Simple Simples," by William J. Locke, author of "The Beloved Vagabond," is joyous reading. Lincoln Steffens tells the story of a doctor. Casper Day tells a story of courage. Venita Selbert contributes a child story. Porter Emerson Browne tells an old soldier story. "The Interpreter's House" contains the confession of a young husband and some extraordinary comment on marriage and divorce. "The Pilgrim's Serp" includes a number of striking short contributions in the form of letters, comments and confessions from readers of the magazine. Some of the titles are: "A Discouraged Short Story Writer," "Husbands and Wives Whom the Stage Keeps Apart," "What Is Expected of the Eighteenth-Century Man?" and "The Highest-Paid Preacher."—341 Fifth Avenue, New York.

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IDEAL HAIR BRUSHES, regular \$1.00 for	75c	CARBOLIC ACID, an ounce, 10c.	15c
JAVA RICE POWDER, regular 40c size, for	35c	Two ounces for	15c
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Woodbury's soap, 20 cts 8

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