

DESERET EVENING NEWS
PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sunday Excepted).
Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager.
SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
(In Advance).
One Year\$3.50
Six Months2.00
Three Months1.00
One Month35
Saturday Edition, per year.....2.00
Semi-Weekly, per year.....1.50
Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.
Address all business communications and all remittances to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Entered at the postoffice of Salt Lake City, as second class matter, according to Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.
SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 1, 1909.

A BAD MEASURE.

Nothing of value would be lost if the "rigid liquor bill" that is "to be introduced" to counteract the prohibitive legislation demanded in no uncertain language by the people of Utah were relegated to the waste basket. It cannot be proposed seriously.

In the first place, its effect would be to deprive the communities of local self-government in the matter of issuing saloon licenses. It says, in substance, to the people, if you are not satisfied with the manner in which the traffic is conducted, just turn it over to certain state officials, and they will run it for you. But that is an experiment that had better not be tried. In order to bring honesty and competency into the management of municipal affairs, the people must be given a more important part than they have now. That seems to be the general trend of the sentiment all over the country. This bill proposes to curtail the power now exercised by municipalities. It is a step in the direction of government by commissions, which is not an American ideal.

In the second place, it renders it possible for the chief officials to make the saloon part of a political machine, for sinister purposes. There would be no danger as long as the State is blessed with good officials and the leadership of the predominant party is in honest hands, but that may not always be the case. It is a measure that in some particulars reminds one of the infamous Ripper bill of Pennsylvania fame, and which was framed, if we remember right for the sole purpose of strengthening a political machine.

According to this bill licenses can be refused at the option of the board. Consequently if a license is applied for by a political opponent, it can be refused. And if an applicant refuses to contribute toward the campaign funds of whatever party happens to be in power, he can be turned down. The people are not willing to vest that power in a few men. It is a dangerous experiment.

Legislators will do well to bear in mind that the saloon cannot be regulated by law. It is an utter impossibility to frame any law that will restrict the liquor traffic within the bounds of temperance, for the simple reason that very many of those who engage in that kind of business deliberately break the laws enacted for their regulation. Regulation does not regulate, and prohibition may not prohibit as long as officials can be bought to close their eyes; but prohibition outlaws the saloon as it does the "red-light" district and the opium den. It drives away that form of temptation from the main thoroughfares, and that is something. The people are asking for a conservative law that closes the saloons and puts a stop to the open, shameless traffic in souls that now disgraces our cities. They demand a good prohibition law, and they will not be satisfied with a poor substitute for the present laws.

The people are determined to stop the retail liquor trade. They will not tolerate the filthy, vicious, criminal saloon. They are weary of persistent violation of necessary and reasonable ordinances and of the hypocrisy and immorality of many alleged guardians of the law who are the secret allies of such offenders. That is the secret of the agitation, and party leaders should not make the mistake of failing to read the signs of the times right.

IRRIGATION WISDOM.

The storage of winter precipitation in soils is the subject presented by Dr. John A. Widtsoe in a recent bulletin from the Utah Experiment station.

The problem of irrigation, with that of storing the winter moisture in the soil, is one of perennial interest and of great practical moment in this region. It is coming to be believed that the natural precipitation over the larger portion of the Great Basin, if properly conserved by summer following, is sufficient to produce crops without irrigation. Moreover, since the amount of moisture found in the soil in the fall depends on the crop grown, the total amount of water applied during the season, the summer precipitation and, on an irrigated farm, on the date of the last irrigation, it is true as Dr. Widtsoe remarks, that "the beginning of irrigation wisdom is the conservation of the natural precipitation," also that irrigation should be supplementary

to the natural precipitation. To learn that a considerable portion of the winter precipitation passes down through the soil below the depth of eight feet is something of a surprise. It has been supposed that very little of the winter moisture is lost by downward percolation under average conditions in most of semi-arid valleys.

The figures for an irrigated farm are that over 55 per cent on non-irrigated farms 93 per cent of the total winter precipitation will remain in the upper eight feet of the soil without being lost by downward percolation into the earth or by evaporation into the atmosphere. A comparatively small portion, therefore, is lost by evaporation.

Dr. Widtsoe finds further that the drier the soil is in fall, the more of the winter precipitation there is to be found in the first eight feet of soil; that to make farming without irrigation successful a considerable per cent of soil moisture must be carried over from year to year; that fall plowing tends to conserve the natural precipitation; and that fall or winter irrigation is advisable on deep soils with good drainage though it should be practised in moderation.

VESTED RIGHTS.

The liquor interests are making considerable ado over what they claim will be the confiscation and destruction of \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 worth of property, should prohibition legislation be enacted, in rendering inoperative the extensive brewing plants in this county and the superabundant saloons scattered over the town and suburbs. The usual, and time worn protest of interference with, and destruction of vested rights is offered here with emphatic vigor, just as it has been urged elsewhere in the country when the existence there of the saloon curse has been threatened.

The contention may be safely made that the term "Vested Rights" is not applicable to the saloon, or in fact to any form of property devoted to the manufacture or sale of alcoholic drinks. Neither is it too much to claim that, as a matter of just equity, the liquor interests have no rights that the law is bound to respect. It is a growing belief that were such a question carried up to the United States Supreme court on constitutional points, the court would decide the saloon, brewing and distilling interests were engaged in an immoral traffic which the several states are only acting within their police rights in suppressing as hostile to the welfare of society. If the business of the liquor interests is legitimate and on a par with the various commercial activities of the day, why does their finished product never form part of the displays exhibited at public fairs and expositions? The dairyman, the horticulturist, the packer, the wool grower, all take pride in pushing into public view their various finished products? Did one ever see the finished product of the saloon and the liquor interests placed on exhibition at any of our fairs? Never. You could not induce a saloon keeper to put his finished product on such exhibition—no, not with a shot gun. There are, however, places where such finished product may be seen at any time on exhibition, viz., out in the gutter, unable to move, or behind prison bars.

The finished product of the saloon is an abcess in the side of the body politic, which may be cut out by the legislative or judicial knife for the same reason that the surgeon cuts out pustular formations in the individual anatomy—because dangerous to the body. People complain of noxious cesspools, asking that they be abated as a sanitary necessity. The saloon is a moral cesspool whose absolute abatement is demanded as an imperative necessity in moral sanitation. How can any fair minded person stand on our main street corners for a hour, particularly in the evening, and, after seeing the motley horde of profane and often indecent humanity stream in and stagger out of the neighboring grogshops in rotten, disgusting profusion, speak of the saloon as anything but a crying evil that should be wiped out of existence for the salvation of the growing generation of the community and the cleansing of the channels of human life.

Vested interests? Of course the brewer, the wholesaler and retail dealer of this horrible virus will decain against any interference with their "vested interests," properties into which they have put so much money, and from which they are reaping such an outrageous harvest. But they all know, and have known all along, the destructive character of their business; that they are dealing in a stuff that ruins a man—body, mind and soul, and destroys not only the vitality of any community, but, where the poison is allowed to run unrestricted will destroy the nation itself. Such "vested interests" are interests vested in a hell producing product worse than that of a tarantula. No money, no quarter should be shown the liquor men. They are evidently frightened in this state, with the outcome of the agitation in the southern states, and the probability that it will be effectual in this, and are evidently trying to stave off the day of judgment by posing in the role of reformers. But remember the old adage:

"When the devil was sick,
The devil a monk would be,
But when the devil got well,
The devil a monk was he."

Let Cuba beware of a third intervention.

"After me the closed season in Africa."

In politics a plumber is one who gets a "plum."

The good trusts are more in potentia than in fact.

In his own way a Marathon racer is a globe trotter.

Even a legislator may see his duty and not do it.

A bill has been introduced in the House making provisions for the blind.

Should no provisions be made for the hungry also?

The new Franklin stamps are not worth two cents.

The way to corner water is to cut the ice in squares.

All men are born equal but how soon they begin to differentiate!

The Balkan situation is as changeful as a kaleidoscope but not nearly so pretty.

No prohibitionist ever made the failure in life that the drunkard makes.

The chief mark of the "old fashioned winter" was cold and discomfort at home.

You can lay up something for a rainy day but it is hard to forestall a blizzard.

A court is not necessarily deaf to cries for justice because it postpones a hearing.

When a storm prostrates the telegraph wires no news is not good news to the newspapers.

Dr. Wiley no doubt looks upon that board of experts that says benzene of soda is not injurious as the real poison squad.

After awhile there may be so many legal holidays that it may be necessary to set aside work days by legislative enactment.

The differences between President Gomez and Vice President Zayas show that the elements of discord and rebellion still exist in Cuba.

At Hot Springs, Ark., a church was lifted from its foundation by a heavy wind and carried a block. This is a new kind of religious uplift.

In Utah we have to have a government of the people, by the people and for the people, or a government of the whisky interests, by the whisky interests and for the whisky interests?

Many years ago a leading citizen of Senator John Y. Smith's home town was killed by a man who didn't believe in prohibition but did believe in the virtue of whisky drinking.

At the dry farming congress which meets at Cheyenne the 23rd inst., an effort will be made to have the name of the organization changed, the claim being made that it is a misnomer. No doubt it often is.

The Asiatic Exclusion league must have had a terrible nightmare when it sent that message to the President asking him to "save the republic." The republic doesn't need saving, being perfectly well and healthy.

William Dean Howells says that "the simple fact is that Poe was lacking in imagination as well as he was in sincerity." Mr. Howells is the critic who, some years ago, said, in substance, that Scott did not amount to much as a novelist.

ERA OF EXTRAVAGANCE.

Philadelphia Record.
New Jersey is trying to escape a deficit of \$300,000, Rhode Island is confronted by an impending deficit of more than \$100,000. The state audit of Massachusetts shows requirements for this year of more than \$12,000,000, against which there is cash and estimated revenue of less than \$9,000,000. The requirements are about a million more than last year, and the estimated revenue is only a half a million more. States and cities are with hardly an exception plunging into extravagance, and they must choose between heavier taxes or a curtailment of expenditures.

THE AGE OF MICROBES.

Lord Rabblesdale.
People just now are living in a state of almost morbid apprehension concerning what they should eat and drink. There have been the paleolithic age and the red sandstone age. The present age, however, is known as the bacillus, microbe and tubercle age.

PICTURES OF SILVER.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.
Why cannot the more valuable wedding gifts be photographed and then be displayed in photographic form? The photograph of a Swiss watch from Uncle Silas, or a pearl locket from Aunt Hannah, or a silver salad spoon from the McCorkies, would do away with a great deal of anxiety that is felt by the caretakers during the time that the more valuable gifts are being inspected by a crowding and curious mob of guests. The photograph of a certified check from the bride's godfather would look well, too, and this is also true of the photograph of the plat of the valuable vacant lot—a gift from the bride's papa or the bride—on which the bridegroom may decide to build.

BRYAN AND THE OREGON PLAN

New York Tribune.
The Nebraska legislature is preparing to pass a bill providing for a popular election of senators somewhat after the Oregon plan. Mr. Bryan is to be the beneficiary of this legislation. His friends think that he can repeat Governor Chamberlain's experiences, carrying the state in 1910 and receiving an election from a republican legislature.

JUST FOR FUN.

Now the "Expert" Club.
Mr. Taft has certainly struck off a very good epigram in saying: "The greatest flars I have ever met are unprincipled experts." He is destined to meet more of them.—Springfield Republican.

The Funny Things We Heard.
"What time it is!"
"Just struck twelve."
"Oh, it must have been later than that. You couldn't have counted right."
—Boston Transcript.

Must Fly for It.
"The Aero club has hung up a prize for airship."
"How high has that purse been hung up?"
—Louisville Courier.

Holding Back the News.
"I suppose your wife was tickled to death at your rise in salary?"
"She will be."
"Haven't you told her yet?"

"No; I thought I would enjoy myself for a couple of weeks first."—Nashville American.

Economy.

Many a woman draws a month's salary along the street and then sends her husband because he will not turn up his trousers.—Judge.

His Error.

Mr. Flatwell—Look here! You must have made a mistake. I haven't ordered a piano.
Delivery Man—Taint a piano, it's your wife's new hat.—Louisville Post.

Probable Difference.

Wife—Is there any difference between a fort and a fortress?
Husband—Not much, except, of course, that a fortress must be harder to silence.—Lippincott's.

Murder and Killing.

Mountain ideas on the general subject of killing are peculiar, and one hears odd things said by the mountaineers who come to Frankfort. One of them was here the other day to see about getting a parole for one of his relatives who was in prison and was telling about the killing of a man.
"Did they indict you for murder?" was asked.
"Oh, no," said the man. "I shot right there on the spot."
"Well, but sometimes they indict a man for murder even if he did shoot a man right there on the spot," said the Frankfort man.
"No," replied the mountain visitor, "I shot him right there on the spot. I did not go behind a log and shoot him."—Frankfort News.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Strand Magazine for February is an excellent number and contains a variety of good things. Hall Caine continues his story of Modern Egypt, "The White Christ." Harry Lauder, the highest-priced vaudeville artist in the world, commences his life story under the title of "My Reminiscences," and tells in his own way the struggles he had in his earlier days to make both ends meet. Henry Purcell includes his "The Comic Side of Crime," with some stories, amusing and gruesome, which he cleverly illustrates. Becket Wilson writes on the subject of "The Best Altered Ghost Stories." Aitkens contributes a natural history article on the subject of "Bills of Birds," illustrated by the eccentric humorist, J. A. Shepherd. Solutions to the World's Best Puzzle are given by Henry E. Dudeney, while a Honorable Goldin writes of his experiences as a conjurer and incidentally relates how he has "puzzled Royalty." The fiction includes stories by Morley Roberts, Arthur Morrison, Frank Saxton, Barker Phillips, and E. Nesbit. The "Beautiful Homes" series is continued. The color section is devoted to Metropolitan opera artists.—\$3.35 Duane St., New York.

For general attractiveness and lively interest The Red Book Magazine is commended. The leading article, "Old Souls in New Bodies," offers a series of startling analogies between the careers of certain great figures of antiquity and other great personages of our present day. Notable is the case of Caesar and Roosevelt. Moreover, every woman will be interested in Mabel Herbert Ureter's article "Desirable Husbands," in which the statement is frankly made that deep in her heart every woman wishes Don Juan were her husband. These two articles alone would be sufficient to attract more than ordinary attention, but it happens that they are backed up with interesting a group of short stories as ever The Red Book, famous for its short fiction, has ever offered. Among the writers represented are Archibald Marshall, William Macdonald, Fannie Headlip Lee, Harrison Rhodes, and William Chester Eatabrook. The issue opens with a new and delightful series of portraits of Miss Maude Adams in her latest Barrie play, "What Every Woman Knows"—114-164, State Street, Chicago.

"Cleveland the Man," by George F. Parker, a paper containing some intimate reminiscences of a beloved national character; "Our Navy on the Land," by George Kibbe Turner, the story of the greatest waste of national funds in the history of the United States; "Work at the Rockefeller Institute," by Burton J. Hendrick, an article describing the wonderful experiments of Dr. Alexis Carrel in transplanting the organs of animals; "The Scientific Solution of the Liquor Problem," another paper of the series by Dr. Henry Smith Williams, which has attracted national attention—these and other features make the February issue of McClure's Magazine an unusually strong number. The number also contains the second installment of Mrs. Humphry Ward's new novel, "Marriage à la Mode," in which she gives a remarkably striking portrait of President Roosevelt; an instructive paper dealing with "The Origin of Life on this Planet," and an article entitled "Lincoln and Lincoln," in which the writer shows with what patience and discrimination the great president heard the many petitions that came before him. There are short stories by Mary E. Watts, Joseph Kitchell, Robert Sloan, Caroline Lockhart, Hugh Wakefield, and Adele Marie Shaw.—44-60 East, 22nd St., New York.

The following are features of Harper's Bazar for February: "Social Boston, Past and Present," Julia Ward Howe; "The Worth of a Woman," a poem, Charlotte Louise Rudyard; "Work and Its Realities," Rev. Samuel McComb, D. D., associate director of the Emmanuel Church Movement; "In the Fittingroom," a monologue, Marie Manning; "The New York Climbers," part III, Alice Duer Miller; "The Red Thing," a domestic farce, John Kendrick Bangs; "A Love Song," a poem, Frank Dempster Sherman; "The Housemother's Problems," Bazar readers; "The Girls of Gilton," Everett T. Tilton; "The Best Thing Our Club Ever Did," a symposium, "Late Winter Street Gowns," "Evening Gowns and Cloaks," "Hats and Gowns," "Inexpensive Fashions," Marie Olivier; "Modern Beauty Culture," "Improvement of Teeth," Lina Board; "What Is a Lady?" Maud Howe; "The Maiden's Complaint," a poem, Priscilla Leonard; "Smart New Embroidered Waists," Elizabeth Washington; "These Pages for Men," "Dressing on Less than \$10 a Year," H. W. F. and "Yesterday's Dishes Made over," Josephine Grenier.—Harper & Bros., New York.

"Peacock" Rock Springs
Stand for all that is best in Coal. If you do not buy by experience, try it. Lump, Nut Black.
CENTRAL COAL & COKE CO
Phones Bell, Exc. 35, 38 So. Main. Ind. 2800.

SALT LAKE THEATRE GEORGE DYER, MANAGER, CURTAIN & S.
TONIGHT
Tuesday and Wednesday,
Wednesday Matinee,
Charles Dillingham's Production of
THE RED MILL
Book by Henry Blossom.
Music by Victor Herbert.
COMPANY OF 60
ORCHESTRA OF 21
Prices—Evening, 50c to \$2; Matinee, 25c to \$1.50.

Colonial Theater
THIRD SOUTH Between Main and State
Bell Phone 434. Ind. 199
TONIGHT
James A. Herne's
SHORE ACRES
With ARCHIE ROYD as "Uncle Ned."
Prices—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00; Matinee, Wednesday and Saturday, 25c, 50c. All Seats Reserved. 25c, 50c. New Week: "Florence Gear" in "MARRYING MARY."

BUNGALOW
State Between 2nd and 3rd East
TONIGHT
Mr. Willard Mack
And His Players Present
Gillette's War Story.
SECRET SERVICE
Prices—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00; Matinee, Wednesday and Saturday, 25c, 50c. 1,000 seats at 25c. Next week, STRONGHEART.

Opheum THEATRE
ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE
Four Franchises, Una Clayton & Co. Anna Woodward, Donald & Carson, James H. Cullen, Carroll & Baker, Vernon. The Klondike.
Opheum Orchestra.
Matinee daily except Sunday, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00. Evening, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00. Next Week: Opheum Show, direction Mr. Martin Beck.

READ THE THEATRE MAGAZINE
FOR THEATRICAL NEWS AND STAGE PICTURES.

AUDITORIUM
ROLLER SKATING RINK.
Open afternoons and evenings cater to only the best people. Ladies are admitted free at afternoon sessions. Held's Band furnishes the noise.

\$2.65 Offer
Women's Shoes
Values \$3.50 & \$4
Two thousand pairs by actual count, representing broken lines and short sizes, from our early fall styles. We have your size.
First Come—Best Pick
Christenson
120 MAIN STREET.

G "FULL OF IDEAS" M
If you are interested in profitable advertising ask for our booklet—
"Full of Ideas"
It tells about our service—what we do and how we do it.
Yours for the asking.
GILES-McALLISTER ADV. AGENCY
26-6 Atlas Block.
A "FULL OF IDEAS" A

SIX BEST SELLING BOOKS.
RECORD FOR DECEMBER.
According to the foregoing lists, the six books which have sold best in the order of demand during the month are:
1. The Trail of the Lonesome Pine, Fox\$1.50
2. Lewis and Johnston\$1.50
3. Peter Smith\$1.50
4. The Feeding of Diana, Mallory Ward\$1.50
5. The Red City, Mitchell\$1.50
6. The Man from Brodney's, McCutcheon\$1.50
In addition to the above we have a large stock of other popular books of the day.
DESERET NEWS BOOK STORE
6 Main St.

Z-C-M-I Embroidery Specials.
Embroidery edging and insertion, values up to 12½c a yard, nice variety of widths to select from, a yard 5c
Embroidery edging and insertion, values up to 20c a yard, nice variety of widths to select from, a yard 10c
A lot of fine narrow Swiss and Nainsook embroidery edgings and insertions (baby sets) values up to 25c a yard for 12½c
Corset cover embroidery and 18 inch flouncings, values up to 40c a yard for 25c

White Goods Specials.
LONGDALE MUSLIN, regularly sold at 12½c a yard, in this sale—
10 yards for \$1.00
HOPE MUSLIN, regularly sold at 10c a yard, in this sale—
12 yards for \$1.00
LONGDALE CAMBRIC, regularly sold at 15c a yard, in this sale—
9 yards for \$1.00
HONEST WIDTH SHEETING, regularly sold at 10c a yard, in this sale—
12 yards for \$1.00
INDIAN HEAD SHEETING, regularly sold at 12½c a yard, in this sale—
10 yards for \$1.00
GIB L. L. SHEETING, regularly sold at 8 1-3c a yard, in this sale—
16 yards for \$1.00
INDIA LINONS, regularly sold at 25c a yard, in this sale—
5 yards for \$1.00
ALL CALICOES will be sold Monday and week at—
16 yards for \$1.00
INDIA LINONS regularly sold at 10c a yard, in this sale—
12 yards for \$1.00
INDIA LINONS regularly sold at 12½c a yard, in this sale—
10 yards for \$1.00
INDIA LINONS regularly sold at 15c a yard, in this sale—
8 yards for \$1.00
INDIA LINONS regularly sold at 20c a yard, in this sale—
6 yards for \$1.00
INDIA LINONS regularly sold at 25c a yard, in this sale—
5 yards for \$1.00

All Other Cotton White Goods in Staple Dept. Included in This Sale
Impelling Price Reductions in Carpet Size Rugs in the Carpet Department
Our Drug Store is at 112-114 So. Main

TRIBUNE BICYCLES, \$50.00 Models for \$35.00 1909 TIRES
MEREDITH & GUTHRIE CO., 68 W. Third South St.
See our \$2.00 Tires. They are Good.

The Non-Wear-Out-able Rixdorfer
Combines beauty and richness of effect with durability in service.
This new floor covering is thoroughly sanitary and easy to clean.
It is designed for every room in the house.
Color scheme can be maintained with Rixdorfer.
It comes in width—6 feet 7 inches. It costs the yard, laid—
\$4.25
We are Exclusive Dealers
Let Us Show You "RIXDORFER"
H. Dinwoodey Furniture Co.

THE WISE MAN FIRE INSURANCE
Knows that his building is never free from the liability to
FIRE
He insures everything—even his haystacks and barns. Investigate and you will find that the most successful business men are the holders of the largest.
INSURANCE
We can protect you in any line.
HEBER J. GRANT & CO.,
Insurance, Real Estate, Etc., 26 Main. Phones 500