

him to work in harmony with correct principles, and to contend for the reward he seeks. With our soil, climate and system of irrigation, horticulture can be made to produce a vast revenue, provided the legislative authority will adopt proper measures for its protection; and all citizens should sustain their representatives in the Legislature in such proper efforts as they may put forth in this direction.

It has been fully demonstrated, in two or three settlements in counties north and west of us, that the codling moth can be exterminated by united effort. Under the leadership of the Bishops in the places referred to, the owners of orchards have unitedly adopted measures to rid them of the insect pests, and the consequence has been a good crop of apples, free from worms. We presume there are a number of other towns in the Territory that could add similar testimony; hence the Legislature need not fear that in passing a law for the destruction of this pest they are requiring the people to do the impossible. On the contrary, it is believed that the discoveries of modern science will render comparatively easy the extermination of the pest, as soon as thorough co-operation among orchardists can be secured; and this, at least, the law ought to be able to accomplish.

MEXICO'S AGILE ENEMY.

We do not know what is the underlying motive of the Mexican authorities in their announced determination to subdue or exterminate the Yaqui Indians, or how far, indeed, this program meets with favor among the intelligent people of the southern republic. We have excellent reason to believe, however, that in undertaking such a course the government will assume a very large contract, and in its fulfillment is sure to meet many huge obstacles. The chief grievance against the tribe, so far as present information gives it, is that they merely want to mind their own business, and in pursuance thereof desire no interference whatever with the Spanish race. Grave misdemeanors, these! Furthermore, they raise their own supplies, elect their own rulers, and have resisted the invasion of the conquerors ever since the days of Cortez. This temerity must be rebuked! Every attempt thus far made to force them to pay taxes to the Mexican government has failed, and they have stood their ground successfully against every army sent to punish them.

No doubt the latest attempt to effect their submission is and will be more imposing than any that has preceded it; but the Yaqui country is surrounded by mountains, whose few gaps have heretofore been, and still can be, successfully defended against a host by a handful. The question as to what to do with the recalcitrant natives would accordingly seem to be secondary to the greater question as to how to get at them.

An eastern authority gives the definition of the name Yaqui as "The Shouter," it being a peculiarity of these natives to shout loudly whenever they speak at all. Recent threats and boasts of the Mexican army would

indicate that this shouting habit has become contagious. Good taste ought to suggest, however, that the record up to the present time leaves the inducement to that kind of conversation all on the side of the aborigines.

STUDY LANGUAGES.

Elder Charles J. Wahlquist, at present engaged in missionary labors in Copenhagen, Denmark, sends a communication to the News, in which he, among other things, touches a subject that received some attention in these columns only a few days ago, viz.: the importance of young members of the Church studying foreign languages. The writer says he has met with a great many Elders who felt the disadvantage of having to spend so much of their valuable time while abroad in studying the grammar of the people to whom they were sent as messengers of the Gospel and he strongly feels that it would be for the benefit of the Elders themselves as well as the cause in which the people is engaged, if more attention could be paid to this matter at home.

The views set forth by Brother Wahlquist need little additional comment to that made on this subject a short time since. The facilities for learning languages both for commercial and other practical purposes are most abundant in this Territory. There is scarcely a settlement in which may not be found persons competent or willing to teach at least the German and Scandinavian languages. Parents of foreign birth could deem it a duty to teach their mother tongue to their children, while of course seeking to acquire familiarity with the language of their adopted country. Then there are excellent facilities in our systems of schools, both public and denominational, and these will multiply still more as the seats of learning increase in number and efficiency.

We agree with our correspondent that the facilities within the reach of nearly everybody are not taken advantage of to the extent that the importance of the matter deserves. We regret the fact as much as he does, and hope it will receive attention and correction at the hands of leading spirits in the various localities where the Saints are established. If a good many more of our young men would make it a point to acquire some knowledge not only of the modern vernacular tongues but also of New Testament Greek and Hebrew, it would amply repay them when called to go abroad and preach the Gospel. We are essentially a missionary people, and a subject of such supreme importance as the preparation of our young men for the duties that will some time be required of them, is one that is worthy the early, earnest and thorough attention of the whole people.

IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE.

The biggest and weightiest question with which the present Legislature has to deal is that of revenue, and it is a pleasure to observe that most of the members are approaching the matter with an earnest realization of its im-

portance and a patriotic determination to decide it, as near as human wisdom may, in a manner to subserve the best interests of the largest number of the people. It will be a matter of deep regret if the question shall evoke from any side a spirit of selfishness, of jealousy or of partisanship. We hope there will be no flings on the part of city members against their colleagues from the rural districts, and that the latter on their part will not indulge in sneers and aspersions against the motives of the representatives from the wealthier and more thickly populated districts. A grave financial condition confronts us; it can be met only by prudence, patience and patriotism.

The recent statements put forth by the ways and means committee received comment in these columns at the time. Those figures showed as plainly as language could that the sharp ax of retrenchment must be laid at once to the root of the tree of expenditure. It was made plain that the many channels through which the public funds have been heretofore distributed with lavish hands must be now less liberally supplied or closed altogether until a change in the financial conditions will allow of their being reopened. It is a straight business proposition that confronts the legislators, and they are expected to display business tact and courage in dealing with it. The people will be satisfied with nothing less. They are in neither the mood nor the situation to be plunged farther into debt. The demand on every hand is for retrenchment. The alternative at the present time is too dark and dangerous to be considered. That policy in which the people of the Territory will alone give support to their representatives in the legislative halls is one that will dispense with all needless expenditure, that will curtail the outlay to that which is absolutely necessary for the immediate present. Under this line of policy every appropriation of the public funds asked for and proposed will be carefully scrutinized by the Legislature and if it is not a necessity in the proper and economic business management of the Territory's affairs, it will be refused.

The fact that economy can be exercised to a very considerable extent is well understood. Salaries can be reduced, the expenses of official service be restricted, and appropriations in various directions be placed at a minimum and not be longer kept at "boom" figures. There are some features, however, that cannot bear great financial restriction without resulting in injury. These are particularly in the line of public works that give employment. Of all times this is an occasion when the people generally require assistance from the Territory in providing for them employment that they may earn a living and be able to get through to the better times that will necessarily result from wise financial legislation.

Another item of deep interest that is connected with the revenue question is that of the division of the territorial and school tax. In the issue as to whether the Territory or the schools should receive three mills out of the five mills tax, we are emphatically