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SALT LAKE CITY, - - NOV. 4, 1907.

CITIZENS ABOVE PARTISANS.

Anent the subject of Church interference in politics, it is interesting to note that at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in this city on Sunday morning, Rev. R. G. McIntyre, while condemning those members of the "Mormon" Church who, as citizens, urge a combination of reputable citizenship to overthrow the present corrupt administration of city affairs here, just as citizens are doing, have done, and will continue to do in other municipalities where "Mormons" do not cut a figure, when speaking for himself and to the members of his Presbyterian church flock, said, as quoted:

"I believe it is the duty of every Christian minister everywhere to urge the voters faithfully to perform their duties to the State at the polls. But in view of the peculiar and unusual situation in civic affairs in Utah, I feel more keenly my obligation to urge every voter here tonight to be sure to do his and her Christian duty at the ballot box next Tuesday.

"While directly the church and state are separated, yet indirectly they are inseparable. God, who is the head of the church, is the head of the state. The moral condition of the church determines the moral status of the state. Likewise that which vitally concerns the state has its effect upon the church. It is therefore not only for the highest civic and industrial good of Salt Lake City, but also for her best religious welfare that every Christian vote, and vote wisely, in this hour of crisis in our municipal history."

All of which shows that while Rev. McIntyre is blindly unjust when a "Mormon" is referred to, is insistent that his Presbyterian church is "inseparable" from the state. Possibly the time may come when Rev. McIntyre may broaden out sufficiently to understand that in this country every other church has just as many rights as has his own; and when he advises the Christian voter to "vote wisely," the "Mormon" has as much right as he to give that same advice; albeit the "Mormon" may have a better sense of propriety than to do it in the pulpit and then condemn others for doing the same thing.

In this matter of church and politics, the Rev. F. B. Short, preaching at the First Methodist church Sunday evening, admonished the voters of his flock, in the following manner:

"Some people back there may be criticizing me for talking politics from the pulpit. I tell you there is nothing here or elsewhere that affects the welfare of the people of this country or city so much as politics.

"I have a right, as a minister, to deal with politics in so far as it affects the welfare of the people. The government of this city and nation will always be safe just so long as it is in the hands of good men. The need of the hour in Salt Lake, in Cleveland, New York and San Francisco is to have men of good Christian character in office.

"Some Christians do not like to mix up in politics. I have a brother who told me that they are not fit for a preacher to be in. Then politics are in need of renewing, or the ministers should be kicked out.

"A politician told me recently that the affairs of this city are in the hands of a little clique of men that you could count on one hand. The time now is in this city when you do not know whether you are Republican or Democrat.

"The cry of the day, from the White House down, is honest men."

And if Rev. Mr. Short, the Methodist, as well as Rev. Mr. McIntyre, the Presbyterian, can advise from the pulpit how the voter shall cast his ballot, so can the "Mormon," the Catholic, or the Baptist. The Presbyterian and the Methodist have the same rights under our flag as do all the others—no more, no less.

It is our firm conviction that in the many crises that confront municipalities, states, and even the Union itself, there is a time when citizenship rises far above partisanship, in its demand upon the patriotism of the voter. That the same conviction abides in the heart of the great body of voters in this Nation was shown when, in the war for the Union, partisanship was cast aside by the men who carried the flag to victory; when a similar condition prevailed in the war with Spain; and when, upon other occasions, locally and nationally, the voice of the partisan was hushed in the cheer of the citizen, who swept aside all individual and partisan considerations for the public good, and marched on the broad line of a common patriotic citizenship to victory over the wrong. A display of that same citizenship is justifiable in the present crisis and in future emergencies, as it has been in the past. Every good citizen recognizes that there come occasions when patriotic citizenship is immeasurably superior to blind partisanship.

MISCHIEVOUS STUDENTS.

Riotous Yale students recently made themselves so obnoxious to the law and order loving element in New Haven, that the board of aldermen passed a resolution calling on the courts to take drastic measures to end these disturbances. The university authorities are doing what they can to repress this perennial, perpetual spirit of disorder but readers of the "News" with college experience, are aware with what success the average college professor acts as an impromptu "guardian of the peace," in attempts to catch the elusive undergraduate in the act of disturbing the peace. However, within the last 10 days several Yale students have been arrested and fined heavily in the local police court for acts of rowdyism. This is encouraging; and the hope is that there will be further arrests, which with a few college expulsions, may calm down the altogether too efflorescent spirits of the untamed undergraduate, for it is members of the two lower classes who are generally the guilty parties.

But "there are others." Yale has no monopoly in student disorder, in destroying street lamps, carrying off street and business signs, and engaging in a thousand and one other student pranks that disturb the sleep and reflections of peaceful citizens. Harvard sophomores blew up one of the beautiful stained windows in Memorial Hall, Cambridge, one night, painted a red shirt and socks on the statue of John Harvard, and then daubed all over the sidewalks, "To —— with Yale." The pranks and antics of the "Med Face" of Harvard for years kept the institution in a constant apprehension and the good people of Cambridge in terror, until finally, by the aid of students themselves, the faculty and local police were able to run the offenders down and suppress the Order.

A Princeton sophomore, recently a Salt Lake resident, varnished all the freshman seats in chapel during the night, and in the morning, from 40 to 60 ruined pairs of pants on the doleful faced owners, told a very sad tale. To come closer to home; only a week ago, a bunch of students here placarded residence and business house fronts and other public places with football posters, without the slightest regard to the property they were defacing.

People often ask, Why will college students do such things? Secondary school students are, as a general thing, pretty closely watched; and then there is a more or less exaction of parental control that tells for something. Furthermore, there is not that wide diversity of character in any one school that is found in a university. The atmosphere is comparatively quiet. There is an homogeneousness in the environment that does not tend toward rude, lawless activity while from the nature of things the immature mind of the preparatory school student is not excited and inspired to lawless conduct by contact with turbulent spirits older than himself. He is yet "in the green," he is unsophisticated, timid and shy. But when admitted to a university, the young man is free from the healthful restraints of the secondary school, in a large measure from parental control; he is thrown into surroundings where the academic authorities shrink from exercising police functions or any interference with the freedom of student activity, and where the local civil authorities are often inefficient in the preservation of order. The young Freshman is brought into immediate contact with associates good, bad and indifferent from all classes of society in various parts of the country he is practically his own master as regards conduct to a greater degree than ever before, and the combination of circumstances hitherto unparalleled in his past experience, often result in reckless if not riotous conduct, upon slight provocation. But by the close of sophomore year, the underclassman sobers, steadies down, if he has been able to weather the gale, so that on attaining to the dignity of an upperclassman, a realization of his position exerts a quieting effect that is generally permanent. The disorders we read of are rarely indulged in by Seniors or Juniors. In the great majority of cases they are the work of Sophomores and Freshmen. Whether these last can even be tamed or not, and made to maintain a peaceful and sober demeanor during the embryonic period of college life is a question which has not yet been solved.

THE PARCELS POST.

We believe that practically all civilized countries except our own have a well organized and very efficient system of sending small packages by mail at the actual cost of carriage.

The parcels post has been vigorously opposed by certain commercial interests of the country, on the ground that it would permit the large mail order houses of the great cities to take a great deal of the local business in certain lightweight articles.

Postmaster-General Meyer maintains, however, that the plan he proposes will enable the smaller retailer to compete successfully with the large mail order houses. His plan contemplates a system of local parcels post at a reduced rate, the contention being that this will give the countryman who has a store at the small railroad town a chance to get orders from the farmers by rural delivery or telephone and fill them through the special parcels post system.

The argument of the Postmaster-General is that this will be a boon to our rural population, and to the storekeeper, so the latter can receive his orders by mail or telephone and dispatch the desired merchandise by the rural carrier. The farmer will be saved from hitching up his horse and losing the time he needs for planting or harvesting his crops, and it will enable the storekeeper to increase his sales and meet the requirements of modern trade.

If his recommendations are adopted, he says, it will cost 12 cents a pound for the mail-order house to send parcels to the rural delivery patron from any city postoffice, while for delivery from the distributing office of the rural route, or if mailed by any patron of any rural route for delivery to a patron on the same route, or at the distributing office of said route, the charge will be but 5 cents for the first pound and 2 cents for each additional pound up to 11 pounds, or 25 cents for a package weighing 11 pounds.

The New York Journal of Commerce declares that the effort of such a change would be to put "the government into the business of delivering goods for manufacturers and retailers by the parcels post system," and "would enable mail order houses in large places to extinguish the business of the storekeeper in small places to the profit of the big concerns and the loss of the little ones at the expense of the public revenue."

The Postmaster-general proposes to meet this objection by doing the delivery for the small storekeeper over the rural routes at a reduced charge, 5 cents for the first pound and 2 cents a pound for the additional weight up to 11 pounds. This, he thinks, would enable the village storekeeper to deliver by mail order houses, which after paying the regular rate to his town would have the delivery made from the postoffice for nothing.

These proposals are vigorously combatted by the Interstate Grocer also, which declares that if this much were done "efforts would also be made to raise the limit of weight from 11 pounds up, perhaps indefinitely, for if the delivery teams go about they might as well take all the packages that offer at so much a pound. The only safe policy in a country of such magnificent distances and inequality of service is for the government to keep out of the carrying and delivery business and leave it to private enterprise, except for what is legitimate 'mail matter' to be transmitted from place to place and distributed at destination.

We suspect that some of the opposition to the proposals of the Postmaster General represent a mere survival of the old idea that led teamsters to oppose the introduction of railroads, tailors to attempt to prevent the use of sewing machines, the typesetters to object to the introduction of linotypes, etc.; and that our own country is big enough and its people resourceful enough to tolerate the introduction of the improvements of civilization that would benefit the great mass of the people without substantial loss to any class. Surely some plan can be devised that will give the people a modern mail service without any of the dire effects suggested by the opponents of the parcels post.

HOW TO VOTE.

From sundry expressions heard of late, it would seem that the "News" is expected to give advice on the question of how to vote.

The "News" would say that all who come to this State to live from its resources and enjoy whatever of prosperity is dug from its mountain borders, or forged in its shops or made in its factories, have a distinct and personal interest in seeing that its government is representative, and keeps in touch with the progress which makes for fair opportunities as each man sees it to make use of them.

For these reasons the Republic may only be secure while all who live under the laws help to make them and the city of Salt Lake may be only safe from discontent while all who live here in good faith may make their votes felt in good faith.

Gentiles and "Mormons" must live here together. The laws of the city must protect or injure them both.

"Mormons" have the same right to be free in voting as have Gentiles, and must preserve this right if they would preserve their power to be good citizens of the country whose laws they should help to make if they are to be governed by them. When a crusade is organized under the slogan that it is "American" to rob the "Mormon" of all rights, strip him of potential citizenship, and seek, through arraying all not of his creed against him on a platform that he may neither hold office, nor employment under the bureaus spending the taxes he is called upon to pay, then this movement must not be met as a political movement, but as an assault upon religion. The "American" party would have disfranchisement from potential citizenship a penalty which a man must pay in order to hold in his heart a certain religious belief, and acknowledge this belief before the world. With this crusade on, the voting "Mormon" has a harder problem to decide than if he went to the polls as other men may to decide who of the candidates will best and most fairly govern the city, who will make the improvements his section of the city needs, and who knows through business experience, most about handling city funds.

We regret that this problem is forced upon each member of the Church, who is also a voter. How each of them solves it is an individual problem, and in doing it we can merely wish them the success that a heart honestly concerned with the city's welfare and a mind matured to judgment in local conditions through years of experience, ought to assure them.

Boost the "American" party out.

The great household word these days is coal.

The weather man is riding for a magnificent fall.

It isn't the price of livestock that has gone down.

Strong men and chorus girls always come to the front.

Go to the polls early and urge your friends to do the same.

Wall street is the greatest place in the country for going to the wall.

"United we stand, divided we fall," is the motto of the banks today.

The banks have done more than the tailors to make checks fashionable this fall.

Financing a railroad or a trust is nothing compared with financing a parle.

One of the best safety appliances that the railroads can adopt is obedience to the law.

To keep the tramp from the door is a harder problem than to keep the wolf from the door.

For rapidity in counting and announcing results, the voting machine beats "Old Figgers" all to pieces.

Mr. Roosevelt only spoke of "undesirable citizens." When he was President Mr. Cleveland spoke of the "undesirable west."

A German professor says that modesty is a disease. It is one of those diseases that doesn't become virulently epidemic.

Caid MacLean tried to escape, was recaptured and placed in irons by Raisuli. This will tend to make his captivity more galling.

"There are more fathers of forty children in Texas than in all the rest of the country combined," says the Houston Star. Go to the Lone Star state for the roaring forties.

Commissioner Leupp proposes that the Ute Indians on the Cheyenne River reservation shall eat their bread in the sweat of their faces. Of all the ways in the world that an Indian does not like his biscuit it is that very one.

The Golden football team continues to "kick" over the result of its game with the University of Utah team. If it had done more and better kicking on Cummings field the result might have been different.

John McNulty of New York gave a beggar a meal ten years ago, the man asking his name and address at the time. The other day McNulty received a thousand dollar bill from the beggar whom he had befriended. This is the most illustrous example yet of casting bread upon the waters and having it return after many days.

FISH IN THE LAKE.

Portland Oregonian.

A tourist from the east who has visited the Pacific coast tells a new fish story. He relates to the Brooklyn Eagle that passengers crossing Salt lake on the new cut-off amuse themselves by fishing out of the car windows. He caught some mighty big carp there, he says. Perhaps he shouldn't be blamed for not having remembered that no fish, of any kind, exist in Salt lake. But that's a minor blemish to the story.

IN FAVOR OF SEA LEVEL.

Philadelphia Record.

Ten years before the probable completion of the Panama canal the great maritime nations have begun the construction of steamships that could not be got over the staircase of locks which is to be a feature of the present plan. It is now proposed that locks shall be enlarged to meet the requirement of larger ships. This would involve millions of dollars of increased expense. The suggestion of this new difficulty may really prove advantageous if it shall serve to bring about a reversion to the sea-level plan of construction.

CONSOLATION.

J. Clegg Wright.

The spiritual world is seen in the providence of nations and of men. You tell me that nature is under law; I tell you that history is under law; I tell you that the human race is under law, and that no wild blind chance is regulating the destiny of life; that you are not rocked in the cradle of the infinite deep without a guiding star; that thy soul is not left to steal blindly its way through the breakers of the ages. That little boy of thine, with curly hair and sweet blue eyes, that thy affection nursed with doting pride and love, that little boy that loved thee and went his way into the invisible is safe in the hands of the infinite, held like yonder shining star, and never a soul was lost in the byways and forests of eternal life.

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