

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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SALT LAKE CITY, JAN. 19, 1900.

DON'T NEGLECT THIS DUTY.

We once more direct the attention of the taxpayers in Salt Lake City to the election which is to be held tomorrow, Saturday, at the polling places designated by the Board of Education, a list of which will be found in another part of this paper. Public sentiment is divided on the question to be submitted to the voters. It is whether they will authorize the Board of Education to borrow, without interest, the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of keeping in operation the district schools in this city till the full end of the present term. Unless this money can be obtained, the schools will have to be closed at least three weeks before the usual time for the summer. There are not sufficient funds on hand to pay the expenses of maintaining them for the usual length of time. The decrease in the valuation of property, placed upon it in the assessment, is the cause of this deficiency. To borrow the sum necessary seems to be the easiest way to supply it. We have to repeat the statement, in order to correct a mistaken idea which is popularly entertained, that the Board does not contemplate the issuance of bonds. It is expected that the loan will be repaid out of school funds which will accrue in the future.

There is naturally, if not logically, associated in the public mind with this contemplated loan for school purposes, the closing of the schools for two weeks beyond the holiday vacation, and the attempt to enforce vaccination upon the school children against the wishes of their parents. People feel that if the Board of Education has no respect for the aversion which the majority entertain against the enforcement of an arbitrary regulation, which is absurd on its face, they will not accede to the request of the Board for more money to carry on the schools.

This, however, does not strike us as altogether reasonable. If it is desirable to keep open the schools to the full length of the term, the course of the school Board on the vexed question in dispute will not render that object less desirable. The closing of the schools before the proper time will work no particular hardship on the Board of Education. The injury will be to the children, who will not receive the full amount of tuition, and to the teachers who will not receive the full amount of the salaries which they expected to earn when they entered upon the duties of the school year. It is true, they will receive pay for two weeks' enforced idleness. That is not their fault. They did not close the schools. They were ready for work when the regular vacation ended. The two weeks already lost to the educational system in the city cannot be made up, nor can the teachers be required to lose anything of their pay in consequence. To require them to work for nothing when the funds on hand are exhausted would not be legal, although some seem to think it would be equitable.

Whatever opposing views may be held on the question of the loan, it is necessary that they should find expression at the polls. Those who desire the schools to be maintained until the full term expires, should vote "Yes" at the election tomorrow. Those who are opposed to the borrowing of money which will have to be paid out of the taxes at some time, should not neglect the only opportunity which will be afforded them to enter their protest by voting "No." That is the simple question to be decided. The Deseret News advises every taxpayer in this city to go to the polls tomorrow and vote for that side of the question which recommends itself to his or her best judgment.

FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITIES.

We have received a budget of newspapers from the East containing reports of lectures delivered by Elder John M. Whitaker of this city, in New York State and Pennsylvania. Several of them contain letters from his pen, and all are in defense of the people of Utah against the attacks made upon them from the pulpit and the press. We are pleased to see that in these discourses and letters the doctrines of the Church are set forth in plainness, fortified by quotations from the Scriptures and by arguments logically presented. They do not contain strictures against the various religious denominations, but keep within the limits of legitimate controversy.

The fact that so many newspapers which once were closed against such communications, are now open to Elders who are able to present the subject of "Mormonism" intelligently, is evidence of the changed condition of public feeling, and a desire to learn the truth about a people and a religion of whom little more than one side of a dispute has been heard. By this we do not intend to convey the idea that public sentiment in regard to the marriage question has been changed, or even modified. It is the disposition to learn something from the "Mormon" side of

the subject to which we now allude. It is a favorable sign, and the change has been brought about through the agitation which was intended to effect the very opposite of what it has accomplished.

We consider the present opportunities which are opening for our missionaries in the States, very encouraging, and that they call for all the energy, faith, and perseverance which are usually characteristic of our Elders in the field. They should avail themselves of every offer to explain the doctrines of the Church, and the attitude of the Latter-day Saints in regard to the controversy now in progress, affecting as it does not only the welfare of Utah, but of the whole nation. We advise them to pursue those opportunities in every avenue that shows the possibility of success, and we entreat them. The harvest is ripening, get ready to "thrust in your sickles and reap!"

BOERS AND BRITISH.

General Buller's reference, in his order to his troops to advance, to the treachery of the Boers in the use of the white flag will be interpreted as a rather strong intimation to the soldiers that they are not expected to be over scrupulous in the observance of the rules of civilized warfare. Possibly this interpretation is wrong, should subsequent events prove that it is not, but that such scenes as the "pig-sucking" at Blomfontein are repeated, General Buller will surely forget much of the sympathy that is now felt for the British cause.

Great Britain has justified her war on the ground that it is one for the furtherance of a higher civilization than that represented by the Boers. She cannot afford to let the actions of her generals contradict this profession of solicitude for humanity.

The Boers themselves have, as far as known, shown a disposition to conduct the war according to the rules of civilization. One evidence of this is the treatment accorded to the British prisoners of war. An English officer writing to the Figaro, Paris, admits that no complaint can be made of the sanitary regulations. The guards are polite, and the camp is often visited by high government officials. The food supply by the government is ample, and permission is besides given to the prisoners to buy whatever they want. Each of the prisoners is allowed an iron bedstead with mattress and pillow; they are given pajama suits, flannel underwear, towels, and a suit of clothes instead of the worn-out uniforms.

The writer completes his picture of prison life among the Boers in this way:

"We live in a large stone building that is cool and comfortable. We are annoyed by flies and at night by mosquitoes. We are guarded night and day by a strong police force. We are surrounded by iron palisades. On a grass plot in the rear of our building tents for our servants have been erected. The Boers allowed us to bring over 10 lbs. of our own food. We use tea at 6:30 and indulge in a cold bath. Then we walk around the building eight times, which makes a mile. At 8:30 we breakfast on porridge, bacon, marmalade, butter, jam, tea, and coffee. After breakfast we generally read and smoke until luncheon time, at 1 o'clock, when we get bread, butter, jam and marmalade. At 4:30 we have tea, and at 7 o'clock dinner. Then we play whist, and go to bed at 9:30. The Boers cash our checks when countermanded by the senior officer."

If this is anywhere near the truth, the Boers cannot be charged with savagery, or cruelty. Perhaps at times small detachments have been tempted to use the white flag treacherously, in the heat of battle, but that charge has been brought against both sides, we believe.

The forward movement now commenced by Gen. Buller should be of the greatest importance. If he succeeds in relieving Ladysmith, the campaign enters upon a new stage. It will undoubtedly be followed by a general movement all along the line.

So far the Boers have not proved themselves capable of driving the enemy back, although the advances have been temporarily checked. If no other success attends the Boer campaign in the future, it can be only a question of time when the British forces will arrive at the gates of Pretoria.

SENATOR HOAR AND TAGALS.

Former United States minister to Siam, Hon. John Barrett, is evidently of the opinion that the Tagal rebellion in the Philippines would not have broken out but for the difference of opinion expressed in this country as to the correct policy with regard to the ceded islands.

In a speech delivered recently in Chicago, Mr. Barrett declared that the address of Senator Hoar on January 9, 1899, against expansion, was called to the attention of the Tagals, and thus translated and distributed among the Tagals. This was, as will be seen, immediately before the outbreak of the rebellion on the 4th of February. Mr. Barrett told his story thus:

"I was in Hongkong at the time, and I remember the incident distinctly. I was coming down stairs in the hotel, when I met the president of the Hongkong junta, and he had just received the long dispatch he had just received. It gave a large part of Senator Hoar's speech in full and a summary of the rest of it. I asked the president who was going to do with it, and he told me that he meant to send it to the officers of the army in the Philippines. He was urged not to do so, but he protested that it had been printed in the United States and was public property. Four days after that speech had been delivered it was in the hands of those who saw an opportunity to make political capital of it. The speech was published and distributed among the soldiers and I believe it was the culminating influence that brought about the open insurrection. This speech, you must remember, was delivered before there was an open insurrection."

That is a serious charge. Did Mr. Barrett examine the transmission of the speech made to Hongkong? Or the translation that was distributed among the Tagals? If not, he is hardly a competent judge as to how much of the Tagal rebellion was due to the views expressed by Senator Hoar, and how much to the hostility already existing, intensified by words and phrases ascribed to the senator.

But it is a fact that Senator Hoar's address against the ratification of the treaty of peace as far as related to the Philippines, when transmitted to

the islands caused an uprising against this country, that is pretty clear proof that the Tagals are not the intelligent patriots their friends picture them. Intelligence would have told them that a country in which they have warm friends among the leaders of all political parties, cannot aim at becoming their oppressors. Common sense would have taught them to wait and see what would be offered them, before interrupting the friendly relations. Their action in firing upon the American outposts and thus precipitating a sanguinary conflict was dictated by savage instinct, rather than reason. It proves beyond controversy that they are not a tribe in whose hands the fate of all the other inhabitants of the islands can be entrusted. They have evidently no idea of parliamentary government with liberty of opinions and of speech. They must have had a vague idea that, as soon as Aguinaldo had led his half-clad savages against our troops, Senator Hoar would be ready to lead an American host against Washington. On no other theory can it be explained that a speech delivered in Washington could incite them to actual hostilities.

But on that theory it is clear that the Tagals are unfit for self-government. They need education in every direction. The very fact that their leaders could delude them into believing that either Senator Hoar, or any other American, would take sides with rebels, proves that the policy of the government is the child of necessity. The natives must be taken care of, until they are in a position to take care of themselves and enjoy the liberty of grown-up States.

AUSTRIA'S DIFFICULTY.

It does not take much of a spark to cause an explosion in a powder magazine, nor does it require much of a pretext for a revolution when the public mind is kept in a state of constant agitation.

Austria, it seems, is threatened with a revolt because the emperor insists on the Czechs in the army, on roll call, responding in German instead of in their own language. It is a difference of only one little word, but that may prove the straw that breaks the camel's back.

The story is told as follows by an Eastern exchange:

"The army regulations of the empire require that the soldiers report each to the control commission, and each man as his name is called must step forward and present a pass which certifies to his having served. It has become an established custom that he shall answer with the word 'here,' although this is not prescribed by law. The language of the entire army during service being German, the soldiers are expected to use the German word 'here,' but in Bohemia the Czech soldiers insist upon using the Bohemian equivalent, 'side.' Trouble over the matter began about four years ago, when those replying 'side' were arrested for disobedience and imprisoned. The ill-feeling then aroused has been fostered by the Czech agitators, who constantly praise the language and nationality. Now the emperor has declared that 'here' and not 'side' must be the response, and the prediction is made that the issue which has been raised may lead to the dissolution of the empire."

"Delegate Stranaky, who is a fiery Czech, a few days ago made a speech in the Austrian senate, which the emperor, meeting him after dinner, criticized as of a tone calculated to produce uneasiness among the people. Stranaky tried to defend his position, but the emperor replied: 'In the side question I am irreconcilably opposed to your view. I am ready to proclaim martial law if the people do not yield in this matter. In my affairs I have no joking, and I tell you right now I will pardon no one.' Stranaky pointed out that the word 'here' was not required by the army regulations, and the emperor said: 'That's a mere lawyer's quibble. I tell you this is a question of the language of the army when in service, and that language is German.'"

There are numerous nationalities, languages, and dialects represented in the Austrian empire. The German element is estimated at about one-fourth of the entire population. It is evident that this minority cannot safely insist upon the remainder adopting the German language in preference to their own. If the emperor insists, it is not impossible that it may cost him his empire. The matter at issue is a trifle, but the principle involved is important. Nationality cannot long survive the death of the language. And it is for their national life, that Czechs, and Magyars, Croats and Roumanians are fighting. The final solution of the Austrian problem will perhaps be the union of the German population with the German empire, and the establishment of a number of small principalities under Russian protection.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

There seems to be more apprehension on this side of the Atlantic on account of the reported movement of Russia toward Herat, than there is in England. The British public is so absorbed in the Transvaal question, that a more or less suspicious gathering of Russian troops near the capital of Afghanistan does not have the effect it used to produce on the British people.

According to the figures of the Chicago Record, Russia now has in Turkey no less than 50,000 troops. It is believed two-thirds of these would be sufficient to occupy Herat and furnish a base of operations against the Indian frontier. There is no conclusive evidence that this at present is the policy of Russia; the probability is that it is not; but it is certain that the present time appears to be more favorable to a hostile move of that nature than Russia has ever had. Great Britain would hardly be in a position to pay close attention to her interests in Afghanistan. While the Boer war lasts, she will have to postpone the day of reckoning with other nations.

Russia is slowly pushing her boundaries southward in Asia. There can be no doubt of that. But at the same time she is not spilling for a war with Great Britain, which would to a large extent be a naval struggle. Russia is not prepared for that. She is not on too friendly terms with the only power that might be a useful ally—Japan. Her finances are not the most flourishing. For some time yet Russia will probably continue to expand silently and grow in strength. When she has drawn the sword it will be because her millions are fully prepared to "go up on the breadth of the earth" like Gog and

Magog in the apocalyptic vision. Russia is a giant, but she is not yet prepared to commence a struggle that may involve the entire civilized world.

THE DENOMINATIONS.

The New York Independent, as is its annual custom, has compiled statistics showing the growth of the various religious denominations during the past year. From the figures it appears that there were in 1899, 153,901 ministers and 187,863 churches, with a total membership of 27,710,004—a decidedly small showing out of a total population of 75,000,000 souls, even if the fact be taken into consideration that some Protestant denominations do not count the small children among the "members."

The Catholics have the largest number, or 8,669,090. Next come the Methodists with 5,509,516. The Baptists are credited with 4,443,628; the Presbyterians with 1,569,847. There are 1,575,778 Lutherans, 1,118,296 Disciples, and 1,043,890 Jews. The total number of Latter-day Saints is given as 343,093.

The greatest increase during the year is credited to the Baptists, the number being 83,261. The Catholics come next with 52,123. The Methodists are given 35,051, and the Lutherans 40,226. The United Brethren are said to have decreased 20,900; the Christians 11,954, and the Dunkards 500.

"TOO MUCH FUSS."

The Salt Lake Tribune is endeavoring to make out that the "News" has a desire to imperil the safety of the community from contagion. Our contemporary seems to have forgotten what it said on the 7th of this month. It can be repeated now, profitably:

"There is too much fuss being made about the matter of a few cases of supposed smallpox in the city. All precautions should, of course be taken, to see that cases or suspected cases shall be isolated, but it is not worth turning the city inside out for anything this far presented. In the first place, it is not half as dangerous as scarlet fever, and we have had some scarlet fever in the place for months. Up to date there have been not only no deaths, but no very sick patients. The Board of Health ought to perform its duty, and people ought to have the advice of their physician, and if he advises it, should have the family vaccinated. With that done they can rest easy. No one should be afraid of it, and the school board in insisting that children who attend the public schools must show that they have been vaccinated. It is justice, and moreover, it is the desire of the great majority of the people that it shall be so. But there is not a bit of sense in advertising under scare heads that there is an epidemic of smallpox here, for it is not true, but it is also true that there is no probability that it ever will be true."

BELIEVES NOTHING.

A local contemporary characterizes it as a humbug to quote the Scriptures in support of a doctrine. This is surprising in view of the offensive and defensive alliance existing between that sheet and the Utah ministers. But contempt for the inspired word should be expected from the ally that openly makes light of the entire work in which the other ally—the ministers—is engaged. And this is a matter of record. On the 12th of December last, the contemporary referred to said editorially:

"Did Bishop Leonard ever know a chronic liar to be broken of his habit by conversion? Did he ever know a vicious woman who loved to slander her sister woman and make roars in the neighborhood, that was cured of that by conversion? Does conversion make a man more fair in his judgment of his fellowmen? Is he not just as likely, after conversion, if he runs against three or four dishonest men, to conclude that the whole community is rotten as he was before? Commercial honor is not established by the churches. That is a purely worldly adjustment as the Bishop will see if he mixes much with them. There are plenty of men who are scrupulously particular to meet all their obligations, who would be dangerous men for Bishop Leonard to trade with. And there are a good many men who believe that belong to Bishop Leonard's church, who fulfill all their obligations to the church, that Bishop Leonard would not like to make administrator of his estate."

A rank infidel could not have lashed the Utah churches with less mercy. It will be admitted that the opinion on religious questions of the author of that paragraph can have no weight whatever. It is a confession of faith, that should remind the various Utah ministers of the Scripture injunction: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

Andrew Carnegie says he was born "to the blessed heritage of poverty." He seems to have got well rid of his inheritance.

Gen. Methuen is said to be in robust health again. It may be possible that he will yet be able to reckon with the London papers which declared him to be hopelessly insane.

The war experts at home have done the fighting and relieved Ladysmith on paper—just as they did with Kimberley. But it yet remains for the soldiers to perform the real task.

The censored dispatches from South Africa are so contradictory, and consequently unreliable, that outside of strict official announcements little confidence can be placed in the early special dispatches that come through.

There is a goodly measure of financial patriotism in Lord Strathcona, the British peer who is spending a million dollars of his own money to maintain a body of fighting men in the British army in South Africa.

Before the rumors of Ladysmith having been relieved will have an air of probability there will be necessary some account of successful fighting on the part of the British, with the Boer forces that now block the way.

The U. S. naval attaché at Paris, France, still hopes to be able to find the body of Commodore John Paul Jones, buried there. Whether or not the bones of the dead hero are found for removal to Arlington cemetery, John Paul Jones is now one of the great figures of modern history.

to run away when beaten, so as to come back at the next opportunity.

George D. Pyper will admirably fill the position of manager of H. J. Grant & Co., and it will be a pleasure to do business with him in that as well as other capacities.

The appointment of Horace Easton to fill temporarily the place of Evan Stephens as leader of the Tabernacle choir is an excellent selection and will receive the full support of all who are interested.

Chinese dirt packing is now held to be responsible for the introduction of bubonic plague into Honolulu. If this claim be established, it may arouse even inland cities in this country to the imminent danger of shipments from the orient such as tea, ornamental plants, toys, etc.

The commissioner of internal revenue says a bequest of money to a priest to pay him for saying masses for a soul is liable to a legacy tax. But it is not to be presumed that the priest whose inheritance is mulcted in the sum of the tax would reduce the quantum of prayers in consequence.

The Russian Lieutenant Romanoff, who predicts a war involving Russia, Japan, Germany and Great Britain, gives some of the best reasons yet advanced for thinking such a conflict likely. Yet his suggestion that Germany will be opposed to England is not probable, judging from the trend of Anglo-German official relations.

The statement by Mr. Carnegie that employers have no confidence in tipsters and gamblers will not be without good effect upon every industrious and energetic young man who hears it, as he will not fail to recognize its force. But the chief trouble with young men who gamble and tipple is that they are usually anything but industrious and energetic in the way of real labor.

Such answers to scripture quotations and to statements of fact as "yellow," "rank humbug," "impudent impostor," "curse and a plague," "dangerous man," etc., etc., are so conclusive and contain such deep reasoning and lofty thought, that we have nothing to offer which will meet these literary efforts of the Tribune, or overcome the potency and purity of its language. Go up head of that class!

That story about an American soldier trying to assassinate Gen. Otis sounds exceedingly improbable. If a bullet whizzed past the head of the general while he was on the firing line, it was far more likely to have come from a Filipino sharpshooter, as in the cases of Gen. Lawton and Maj. Logan, than from the American line. The active sympathizers with the Filipino insurgents are not strongly in evidence in the American army ranks.

ROBERTS AND KITCHENER.

Kansas City Star.
The arrival of Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener—both lords on account of their military services—at Capetown ought to mean a unity of action among the British forces in South Africa, and in union, according to the ancient adage, there is strength. But a more impressive fact than the appearance of any two generals is the presence of a British army of 120,000 men. That force, measured by the ordinary rules of warfare, ought to break down or wear out the Boer army, unless the latter is reinforced from some now unknown and unexpected source. It is quite possible, however, that this operation will not be marked by any brilliant feats at arms, and from what is known of Lord Kitchener, there may be considerable deliberation and making assurance doubly sure in getting started.

San Francisco Call.

Whether the general will undertake an advance or try waiting tactics remains to be seen. Political reasons ought to mean an immediate advance. It is estimated that the war is costing Great Britain upward of two hundred million dollars a month, and the ministry needs at this time a victory in order to retain its hold upon the commons. Therefore both for the sake of saving expense by shortening the war and for the purpose of achieving a victory which will strengthen the government, the field marshal may be inclined to make an immediate advance in force. On the other hand, military reasons incline in favor of delay. He has everything to gain by waiting for reinforcements and artillery, while the Boers, on the other hand, like all irregular armies, will suffer from every month of inaction.

UNREST IN GREAT BRITAIN.

New York Evening Sun.
Sir Charles Dilke has put the defenders of the Salisbury administration in a hole by asking if the government could "the right steps in the military situation with the regular army." The facts known at the time. Mr. Balfour's second speech yesterday is no answer. "He did not claim that the army system was perfect, but he did not claim that he ignored the extraordinary military problems of the present war, between which and the problems with which continental headquarters staffs had to deal there was no parallel." Does Mr. Balfour expect sane persons to draw the conclusion that the Boers are more advanced than any other soldiers in the world? But it all looks like getting ready to jump on Wolsley. He was a military genius who insisted that in the future cavalry would be of little value.

Evening Wisconsin.

The great sensation in England at the present time is the speech of Arthur J. Balfour, the government leader in the house of commons and first lord of the treasury, at Manchester on Tuesday night. Balfour, after Premier Salisbury, is the most influential member of the British ministry. In his speech he was perfect, but the critics could not ignore the extraordinary military problems of the present war, between which and the problems with which continental headquarters staffs had to deal there was no parallel. Does Mr. Balfour expect sane persons to draw the conclusion that the Boers are more advanced than any other soldiers in the world? But it all looks like getting ready to jump on Wolsley. He was a military genius who insisted that in the future cavalry would be of little value.

Kansas City Star.

If reports are to be believed, the London press is preparing to make war on the imperial government and lend all aid and comfort possible to the Boers, unless the press censorship in South Africa is relaxed and the papers are in some way helped to more news from the seat of war. With the London papers publishing the quantity and character of the ammunition in British magazines, and the style and extent of the reinforcements sent to South Africa, to other words the quantity and character of the British general in command are going crazy and are to be brought home to lunatic asylums, it would seem that the

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liberty of the press in war times was quiet thoroughly enjoyed in London, and certainly a Boer officer in the lines at Mafeking or Ladysmith could ask for nothing more satisfactory and complete than the war news as published in the leading London papers.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.
The British will thresh around in their humiliation and anger, and blame each other with some degree of justice, and some measure of justice. But they will soon settle down to the truth, namely, that the Boers have caught them all napping, and since there is no use crying over spilt milk, the best way out of the muddle is to fight out, and while doing the fighting, use a little more common sense and a little more cunning.

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