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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 21, 1907.

LEGISLATIVE MISTAKES.

One of the serious mistakes made by the Legislature that is about to adjourn, is the neglect to pass the bill relating to the closing on the first day of the week of saloons and places of amusement. This was a measure demanded by the majority of the people of Utah, both Church members and others, and the passage of that bill would have been in the interest of public morality. The manner in which it was treated by some of the legislators, who seemed to think it was merely a suitable subject for levity, was an open insult to the better sentiment of the citizens who expected them to guard the interests of the people against an element that displays disrespect for all things sacred. The people ought to make a note of the debate on that bill and remember, in the future, who they were that sought to make a measure designed for the better observance of the Sabbath, ridiculous. If they should conclude that men with such sentiments are not to be trusted in responsible positions again, they would only stand on strictly logical ground.

It is probably true that the laws already existing are more than ample to close up on Sundays, all places of business, including amusement halls. If they were enforced as they ought to be, but since there has been some dispute on that subject, the legislators were only asked to make the statutes relating to Sunday closing so clear and so broad that there could be room for no doubt as to their meaning. There was absolutely no occasion for loading the bill down with ridiculous provisions, until even the friends of a decent Sabbath found it unwise to vote for it.

The Legislature has committed other errors, but the Governor, fortunately, is in a position to correct these, as far as the judicious exercise of the veto power can be applied, and it will be admitted that this power has been exercised with commendable discrimination.

A NEW ERA COMING.

The conferences held between leading financiers and railroad men, and President Roosevelt ought to be productive of good results. The President knows what the people want. And he is in the habit of expressing public opinion emphatically and without fear. It is evident, too, that even the railroad magnates have confidence in his sound judgment, and that they are convinced that he is for a square deal.

Out of all this agitation a new era is likely to arise. For a long time the main question before the American mind has been economic question before the American people was the development of the country, and the railroads have been, and are, among the chief factors in this development. If the owners and managers of lines of transportation secured for themselves a large share of the wealth they helped to create, the people did not object. The country was made habitable. Homes were built. Business was established, and unlimited opportunities for making a living were created. But conditions have changed. The people have commenced to look upon the rapid accumulation of wealth in a different light. A new era with new problems seems about to dawn. The creation of wealth is no longer the main issue. The problems of fair distribution are about to be taken up in earnest, and there is no reason why they should not be solved satisfactorily.

These are world-wide questions. They do not belong to this country alone. They do not affect one line of business only. They are present in every country in the civilized world, and the reformers are actually looking to this country for the most reasonable solution of the problems, because here the practical sense of the people is free to find an expression in legislation, without the opposition of obsolete institutions.

As a beginning of the establishment of new conditions the expressed views of several leading railroad men, as to the necessity of taking the public into their confidence, are satisfactory. W. C. Brown, senior vice president of the New York Central Lines, for instance, recently demanded "a restoration of public confidence, based upon the widest publicity of corporation affairs and absolute fairness, equality, and stability of rates." That is the very way out of the tangle. This public as a rule is conservative. It only asks for fair treatment. It realizes that the millions needed for the maintenance of railroads are paid by the public, and they only ask for the cessation of extortion in every form. Show the public that there is no extortion no discrimination; and that there will be peace and good will. On the other hand, unless public confidence is restored, it will be possible for some agitator to carry the people with him in a general outburst not only upon corporations but upon the institutions of the country.

DEADLY PNEUMONIA.

Pneumonia has amounted almost to a scourge in some parts of the country this winter. The western mining camps have suffered tremendously from its ravages. Sometimes very strong men have succumbed quickly under its fierce attacks, but its most numerous victims are among those who have had physical weakness and personal habits that have rendered the system unable to shake off the disease, though persons

predisposed to fleshiness, and whose habits were the best, have been frequently visited with fatal consequences. In Nevada the rapid death rate has been accounted for by so many men being exposed to the elements through lack of proper clothing and shelter. In New York the Grim Reaper has been taking victims at over two hundred a week. All the hospitals are bedded for the admission of patients suffering from this dread malady, and these institutions are taxed to their utmost to accommodate those who are borne to their doors, many of them actually dying as they are brought in. Never before has pneumonia left such a death trail in the great metropolis as this winter, said to be the most unhealthy ever experienced there. With all of its facilities for warmth, care and shelter, it has proved to be infinitely worse than the bleak and chilling expanses of the Nevada deserts and mountains. Its weather, too, is worse. It is the essence of dampness in winter and the height of humidity in summer. Apropos of this fact it may be related with interest that a New Yorker consulted his doctor and asked him if he did not think a change would be good for him, whereupon the man of medicine, making a compound of his wit and wisdom, replied: "Yes, you need a change. Stay right here in New York and you'll get it every half an hour."

Just as the snowfall has been unusual in New York this winter, so have the fogs and other forms of heavy moisture. According to a "News" correspondent, the physician who is quoted above, says that these damp atmospheric conditions have been causing a total of more than five hundred deaths weekly in New York alone, from all the forms of pulmonary trouble.

THE GOLDFIELD TROUBLE.

A correspondent complains of the treatment accorded by the press to the labor organization that is causing so much trouble at Goldfield, Nev. He thinks that the charges made are exaggerated, and that there is "another side" to the controversy, which has not been given a full and fair hearing. The outside newspapers may not know all there is to know about the quarrel among the laborers in the Nevada mining camps. But, last summer the Tonopah Sun criticized the I. W. W. What was the result? That paper was promptly boycotted, and so was the Goldfield Sun, belonging to the same owner. The newspapers, who belong to the I. W. W., were ordered not to sell the Goldfield Sun on the streets, whereupon the printers and pressmen (members of the American Federation) went out and sold it themselves. They were called down by the I. W. W., were not only ordered to stop selling the paper, but to tear up their union cards and to join the I. W. W.

Such tyranny in this country is not to be defended. It is un-American. It hurts the cause of labor more than any trust magnates can do.

District presidents of the organization are said to exercise almost autocratic prerogatives. They say who shall and who shall not be permitted to stay within the boundaries of their jurisdiction. No one not favorably disposed to them is permitted to remain. No one can work without permission from the autocrat. Such rule is not American. It is rather Russian and should not be permitted to prevail. If the press protests against it, or warns the people against the dangers involved in such tyranny, it does so in the interest of the workmen, who have as much right to enjoy full liberty as any other class of citizens.

A STUDY IN COST OF LIVING.

As a contribution to the discussion of high prices on the necessities of life, a lecture recently delivered at Cambridge, Mass., by Vicomte George d'Arville, on the prevailing prices in former centuries is of interest. The lecturer proved that the cost of living never followed the advance or diminution of wages, but that prices on commodities and wages were regulated by laws operating independently of each other. As to the cost of living, the lecturer said that at the close of the 16th century the wages of a day laborer in the country was equivalent to ten hectoliters of wheat, while today it is equal to 27 1/2 hectoliters. Wheat at that time was almost too expensive for the laborer. Meat, on the contrary, was cheaper than it is now. At the beginning of the 16th century a kilo of beef was equal to two kilos of grain, while today it is worth seven kilos. This increase in price did not result from a scarcity of cattle, but from the increase in population. Milk, butter and cheese have not increased so much, and this is because today the cows are better fed. The figures show that while the production of grain has increased more than in full proportion to the increase of the population, the meat production has not had a similar increase.

The lecturer further said that fish, except along the coast, cost two or three times more than it does in our time; shell oysters cost ten times more—sixty cents to two dollars the hundred—than oysters kept in barrels. Fresh fish cost four times as much as the salt fish of the seventeenth century.

As for clothing the conditions were similar. A suit of clothes today, the lecturer said, represents but three or four per cent of the budget of the workman, while formerly the cost was the same and represented, for a moderate salary, eight per cent. The so-called superiority of ancient materials is a legend. The common families were too poor to have napkins and stockings. For 200 to 300 years, with his daily salary, the day-laborer could merely buy 40 to 70 centimeters of cloth; today he can buy twice as much. Cotton was three times as expensive 100 years ago as it is today.

It is evident that modern methods of production have cheapened everything needed to sustain life in comfort. The masses that were living in misery, as do the majority of Orientals today, have been lifted up and are now enjoying luxuries beyond the reach of the queens and princes of preceding centuries. The raising of the standard of living has, undoubtedly, had the effect of prolonging life, as well as adding to the general comfort. It ought also to insure more

general content. That it does not, is an anomaly. The poor Arab under Turkish misrule, who earns 25 cents a day, which supports him and his family, seems more happy and content in his mud hut than many an American laborer in his luxurious home.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

"The twentieth century belongs to Canada." That is a war cry that our neighbors on the north are making the most of. It was original with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and it has been taken up until its ring is not only heard all over the Dominion, but throughout the United States and Europe as well. Under an advertising banner upon whose folds that inscription is emblazoned it is proposed to make good Sir Wilfrid's prediction. And thinking men admit that its chances for verification are more than bright. Immigrants from the states have crossed the border by tens of thousands the past few years in search of homes, and most of them are prospering—many of them are becoming rich beyond their rosiest hopes of future independence.

Now comes William Whyte, second vice president of the Canadian Pacific railway, proclaiming its possibilities as being greater than those of any other country, a view that Frank G. Carpenter, the world wide traveler and correspondent of the Deseret News, set forth in a series of articles written for this paper some months ago. Speaking of the chances in the Dominion Mr. Whyte says:

"Western Canada is the young man's country. It is the Land of Opportunity, in that there is no honorable employment that can not be made use of and for which commensurate value will be given in exchange. With its assured growth and certain development, the young man steadily broadens his scope of influence and continually increases his material welfare. In the Land of Opportunity the young man's stock need only be industry. It would be better if he had more, but this alone will yield dividends which will go to make more capital. Industry was about all that the pioneers in all countries—the men who first laid the foundations for empires, and who blazed the way for prosperity, intellectual and material progress—had, and they were young men. Today there is no place in a new country. They have no place in any country. The pioneers of all times were young men, courageous, strong-hearted, optimistic, honorable young men, who believed in and practiced the Gospel of Work."

In western Canada, where tremendous crops have rewarded the energies of the tiller of the soil, it is essential that the home-maker be a young man, as the labor is of the hardest kind. There is need for mills, and stores and factories, and mechanics to build them, and men, young men, to run them. It is this class for which Canada is calling and she is not doing it without method.

All railroad presidents lead to the White House.

Poor Rev. Mr. Dill! He can't help it. He was born that way.

All the butterflies of fashion paid court to "Madame Butterfly."

A soft answer turneth away wrath, but it won't head off panics.

"Avoid a man who habitually drinks alone!" says Mr. Henry Clews. Before or after taking?

In California after the Japanese school question, Ruef and Schmitz the deluge, or floods.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller says that he is opposed to over-capitalization. Hear! Hear!

In his investigation of the railroad problem, the President is pursuing laboratory methods.

The Sage foundation proves that Uncle Russell builded better than he knew when he left all to his wife.

Sartorial artists say that the prevailing color this season will be gray. If stocks keep on going down it will be blue.

Don't judge by appearances. Some of the wildest wildcat companies have the most elaborate and elegant stock certificates.

Sitting on the lid in Cuba has cost Uncle Sam just two and a half million dollars. It comes high, but Uncle Sam must have peace there.

Thaw's counsel claims that Jerome's move for a lunacy commission is a victory for their side. If so, another such victory would annihilate their cause.

The donna is learning and justifying its existence. It has positively refused to be baited by Stolypin and has got down to plain, matter of fact business. Therein lies its hope.

Were it not for the industrial war in Goldfield and the warfare between the sheepmen and cattlemen of Wyoming, peace would reign throughout the world, except in Central America, which is a world by itself.

Only the other day a Kentucky judge commended the jury in the Strothers case for vindicating the "unwritten law." Now comes Governor Comer of Alabama who says, in pardoning a man, "I pardon this man because he killed the man who ruined his daughter." A decent respect for the opinion of mankind would at least have suggested that the Alabama governor tell the reason for his act in his act.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSEKEEPING.

New York World.
Upon Sinclair's Englewood experiment has been conducted long enough to disclose the obvious defects and benefits of co-operative housekeeping. The benefits are mainly economic. Co-operation reduces housekeeping expenses by lower cost of supplies and reduction of waste, by getting along with fewer servants, in the saving of fuel, in the cheaper care of children by the community kindergarten—in a number of ways which count up a good many dollars and cents. The defects are almost entirely social. While women are the chief complainants and the constant sufferers from present housekeeping conditions, the difficulties in conducting co-operative housekeeping successfully come mostly from the want of a common aim. It would be thought that a woman who for years had been reaped with servant troubles and who every day worried

over the household bill of fare and every month faced a deficit in the household accounts would be only too glad to be relieved from such anxieties and would enjoy the freedom from domestic cares. Yet the Sinclair experiment has proved that it is next to impossible for many of the women members to refrain from interfering. Whatever there is for breakfast, they would like to have something else, or at least a different style of cooking. The chamberwork and dusting and sweeping should be done some other way or at other hours. The dinner might be better served. The children should also be taught differently in the kindergarten. Instead of rejoicing over their relief, the feminine tendency is to create new worriment. The habit of worry is in many cases so fixed that the victims fret for new anxieties.

A NEGRO TO OXFORD.

New York Evening Post.
A negro has won the Rhodes scholarship at Oxford university allotted to Pennsylvania this year; yet "at this writing" he has come of a social revolt in that part of the world. Indeed, the ancient academy will admit a black man with a calmness that would seem perfectly astounding and suicidal to some people in this country. But in one respect the successful candidate, Mr. Locke, gives offense beyond that of race. His announcement: "I intend to devote myself to study while in England." To be a negro beating white competitors is bad enough; but to advertise one's self, in addition, as a mollycoddle, is to strain even the impossible beliefs of Oxford.

CAN SUCH THINGS BE?

Pittsburg Gazette Times.
For several days past, and in all seriousness, reports have been sent out from Washington to the effect that managers of the great railroad systems are proposing that the federal government assume control of all interstate transportation. It is claimed that the common carriers look upon a plan of this nature as their only refuge from the antagonism and interference of state legislatures. These reports are severely criticized, and yet it is a fact that, finding themselves between the devil and the deep sea, the railroad interests have turned longingly toward the White House, hopeful of catching some word or seeing some sign of encouragement. Unquestionably, too, they are not enamored of what the states are doing, but prefer to take their chance with the president and the general government. This is an unwitting tribute to Mr. Roosevelt and implies that, after all, the railroads consider him safe and square.

JUST FOR FUN.

Mud and Poetry
Spring is bringing on its greens
With a rush.
And the roses and magazines
Run to slush.—Ex.

Battle of the Titans.
"Jerome scored a great victory yesterday."
"How was that?"
"Delmas wanted the windows up and he wanted them down."—Ex.

A Cheerful Job.
"It must be hard to be humorous and exuberant every day."
"It is," admitted the press wag.
"Yet you seem to be able to manage it."
"Yes, I know I'll get fired if I don't."—Ex.

Incorrigible.
"You made a good thing out of the state capital."
"I'm going to investigate you."
"Could you get my brother on the committee? He'll divvy."—Ex.

And the Squash!
I think you will enjoy the following from our English cousins. We have laughed ourselves weak over it. A barrel was sent to London at Christmas containing apples, a Hubbard squash, some cranberries, and a sweet potato. This is from the reply:

"The apples were fine, but the potatoes, alas, had gone quite bad and spoiled. The cranberries are very handsome, but seem somewhat acid to our taste. The squash was a novelty, and I dare say we didn't know exactly how to deal with it on the table for dessert, but James found it extremely difficult to cut. Later I stewed it with lemon and sugar, and he declared it delicious!"—Boston Transcript.

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