

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sundays excepted.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Charles W. Penrose, Editor.
Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance.)
One Year \$2.00
Six Months \$1.25
Three Months \$0.75
One Month \$0.25
Saturday Edition, Per Year \$2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year \$2.00

NEW YORK OFFICE.
In charge of B. F. Cummings, manager
Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office,
1121 Park Row Building, New York.

CHICAGO OFFICE.
In charge of B. F. Cummings, manager
Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office,
1121 Park Row Building, New York.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE.
In charge of F. J. Cooper, 75 Geary St.

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
the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 20, 1904.

DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
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For the Chief Editor's office No. 74.

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CHARGES AND DENIALS.

You can't please everybody. You need not expect to satisfy a partisan or religious opponent, nor to stop silly remarks from prejudiced writers. In the opening session of the inquiry by the Senate committee on privileges and elections into the charges against Senator Smoot, after his answer had been received the attorney for the protesters, Mr. Taylor, introduced new matter, to which the Senator had time granted to reply. He soon furnished a specific answer to those further objections. All of this was in regular order and the "amended answer," if it may be so designated, was rendered necessary by the "amended" or supplementary complaint.

This seems to offend some of the Senator's antagonists and they want to know why he makes so many denials. The Salt Lake Herald has an editorial, in which the Senator's response to the new charges is called a "virulent attack of the dental disease," and for which "no anti-toxin has been found." It is further spoken of as Senator Smoot's "most recent outbreak," and a lot of suppositious gossip follows, by way of reply to the gentleman's answer. Some further reflections are cast upon the "senator-apostle or apostle-senator," and it is declared "a pity that he did not content himself with merely denying offenses he was charged with."

Well, isn't it "a pity" that the protesters against him did not content themselves with charging him with offenses of which they deem him personally guilty, instead of making accusations against other persons and the entire "Mormon" Church? And since they did not so "content themselves," and their charges were received, and he was required to meet them, where does the "pity" come in that he entered his denials? Was he to remain dumb? Was he to leave the impression that the charges must be true because he couldn't or didn't say anything about them? That is the way our contemporaries usually argue when anything relating to "Mormons" or the "Mormon" Church is advanced. If answer is made they call it an "attack," if no notice is taken they say "it has never been denied."

It is a fact that nearly all the allegations of the protesters are aimed at the "Mormon" Church and the purported acts of persons therein other than the Senator, and that rightly they have no direct relevancy to the question of his right to his seat. But they have been entertained by the committee and he has been required to answer them, and if he had failed to make the denials, now criticized by some carping and thoughtless persons, his silence would have been construed as consent. But they should not ignore the Senator's objection to those irrelevant charges, for his answer commences with the subjoined paragraph:

"I am advised and aver that none of the matters contained in these revised and amended charges, even if some were true, are such as to furnish any legal ground for my expulsion from the senate. Insisting upon this objection to the jurisdiction of the senate, and renewing and replying to the new charges and motion to strike out heretofore made in reference to the original charges, I answer as follows:

A little reflection, with a grain of common sense, would suggest that "fresh denials" are consequent and requisite when fresh charges are entered. If any "anti-toxin" is called for, it should be for the "virulent attacks" of the accusing "disease," which render necessary our morning contemporary. And why does that paper go into the accusation business itself in charging that, "at least one and perhaps several officials of the Mormon Church have taken upon themselves plural wives since 1890, either with or without the consent of the Church authorities." A little "anti-toxin" of the kind described appears to be necessary in its own case.

We are aware that scandal, and gossip, and slander have been busy as to the matters mentioned, but what have those insinuations and perhaps and may-be-noes to do with the election and qualifications of Reed Smoot to a seat in the United States Senate? And why sneer about an "Apostle-Senator"

and say nothing about a Reverend-Representative, or Elder-Congressman, or Elder-President? The animus exhibited in the present crusade is indicative of the intolerant spirit that inspires the whole movement against the Senator, and is deeper and yet smaller and more despicable than mere partisan virulence and political bias. Is there an "anti-toxin" that can be made available against the virulent attacks of journalistic Mormophobia? If so it is in strong demand.

A STAND FOR JUSTICE.

The Kansas City Journal of recent date had the following special from Topeka. It is a fair statement of facts concerning the present agitation and expresses the sentiments of a large number of conservative and just citizens of this and other states, who are not so outspoken as the gentleman interviewed, nor so willing to defend that which they believe to be right. We are of the opinion that others who entertain the same views as those declared by the judge, would lose nothing in the long run by taking a stand for justice, even if it should not be in line with popular intolerance.

"Gentles as well as Mormons of Utah, aside from a very few political agitators, are opposed to the fight being made now on Senator Smoot and they would feel disappointed if he were unseated by the United States senate. Smoot is a man of unimpeachable integrity. He is not a polygamist. He has only one wife. He is greatly devoted to his family and he is one of the very best men in Utah."

"Thus spoke Judge C. W. Morse of Salt Lake City, in discussing the Smoot case. Judge Morse is judge of the district court at Salt Lake. He is a brother of J. C. O. Morse, state railroad commissioner, and is visiting here today."

"Smoot was elected to the senate by Gentiles and Mormons," said he. "A vast majority of the people of Utah want him to serve as senator. He is a banker, and a big woolen manufacturer and a good man. While the ministerial union of Utah, composed of Gentile preachers, started the trouble for Smoot, I understand they have now quit. The only people out our way still pursuing him are some agitators. Most of the opposition now comes from Eastern organizations. I understand Helen Gould is furnishing some of the means to carry on the fight."

"The Smoot case is entirely different from the Roberts case. Roberts was a polygamist. He fenced up to having three wives. Smoot has only one. He doesn't believe in polygamy. He cannot be bounced for that cause. The only ground on which his opponents hope to get his scalp is that he is an Apostle of the Mormon Church. But our way, where we know the agitators say that an Apostle has to take a Church oath which is antagonistic to the allegiance to the United States government. This Smoot denies. But our way, where we know Smoot, we are not only willing but anxious that he represent us as United States senator, and as I said, we will be greatly disappointed if he is unseated."

VICTORIES FOR PEACE.

The peace sentiment is growing in strength and influence in France, as in other parts of the world. It would not be surprising if that republic should yet take the lead in Europe in the campaign for universal peace, as it has paved the way for the rights of man, and led in the progress of arts and sciences. Baron d'Estournelles has but given expression to a strong popular sentiment in his successful efforts for the adoption of arbitration treaties. This is evident from the fact that so many of the leading men of the country are devoting time to the labor for peace.

Recently a member of the Deputies, M. Gustave Hubbard, made a strong plea for the reduction of armaments. He quoted a former minister of state in Austria who, in the address to the crown, stated that it was his duty to predict for the military states of Europe general bankruptcy if they continued to follow the policy to which they were devoted and which there seemed to be no means of stopping. This was nearly a quarter of a century ago, the same year in which Von Moltke asked: "Who can deny that all Europe is groaning under the weight of an armed peace?" Yet since that time the annual expenditure of the six great European powers to maintain this armed peace has increased fifty per cent. He closed his fervent address by an appeal to the government to support the jurisdiction of the Hague court by bringing before it pending controversies. "I should like," he said, "Mr. Minister, to have your Administration support the jurisdiction of the Hague court with all your influence; I should like to see France in the first rank among the nations that wish to see such institutions developed."

It is a long step from the Bismarckian policy to that reflected in this address. That questions of this character can be discussed in the leading legislative assemblies of the world now, is evidence of how far we are advanced toward a millennial condition. Formerly such schemes and aspirations were discussed in private, but only by persons considered as visionaries, or cranks. It is different, when practical statesmen take the subject up as worthy of the attention of governments and legislators. This is evidence of the wonderful victories won by friends of peace during the last few decades.

WHERE MEN GROW OLD.

According to the Chicago Chronicle, there is a country where men are still young at the age of one hundred years. If this is true, the members of the century club, who aim at the discovery of the secrets of longevity ought to study the climate of that country and the customs of its inhabitants, and every other detail, for there the key to the mystery of life is preserved. It is northern Africa. A traveler, recently returned from Morocco, Algeria, and Tunis, says he saw there a multitude of centenarians. A man had to be 150 years old there, to have any reputation for age at all. "It is a treat," he says, "to drop into coffee houses where public story tellers rivet the attention of a crowded audience and where the fars of All Baba are still in common use, to frequent public squares where snake charmers, barbaric musicians and other story-book delights are a commonplace;

to meet a kadi riding to court on a white mule and to mix with people who tell you stories of djinns as if they were everyday occurrences. But of all the strange things I saw there, the strangest were the old people. There are so many of them, and they are so strenuous. A gray-bearded old man of 70, who is trying to sell curios to a tourist for thrice their value exclaims: 'By the beard of the prophet, may my grandfather die if I tell you I am not true!' Looking at his gray beard, you think he is quite safe in calling down that curse upon himself, but when you make inquiries you find that he really has a grandfather living, aged about 110, and that the old gentleman is still going about doing business on market days."

Well, people in the Mohammedan world do not wear themselves out by being in a hurry. As a rule they never do today what they can postpone till tomorrow. They have, until recently, had no trains, no street cars, to catch, and no automobiles to dodge. They have saved their strength. They have not even been worrying about getting old, for in many cases they do not even know exactly how old they are. This, together with a congenial climate, must have had the effect referred to.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The foreign trade of the United States for December is said to have broken all previous records, the total exports amounting to \$175,000,000. A previous record-breaking month was October, 1903, with a total of \$163,000,000. For the past year the total of our foreign trade was a new record—\$1,484,900,000 exports, \$955,000,000 imports, the largest of any year on record. Exports were \$124,000,000 larger than in 1902, imports \$25,000,000 larger. In the first half of 1903 imports increased by \$55,000,000, in the second half they decreased by \$30,000,000. Exports in the first half increased by \$59,000,000, in the second half by \$65,000,000. As cotton alone increased by \$75,000,000 in the last three months, the bearing of the remarkable conditions in that staple on our foreign trade as a whole is made evident. Further analysis shows for the year 1903 an increase in agricultural exports of \$23,000,000; in manufactured and other goods, largely materials for manufacture here, \$4,000,000. In six years, since 1897, our exports have risen by \$385,000,000; our imports in five years have increased by \$369,000,000.

What a splendid snow! Long may it last!

The true postal department enquiry: "Is there a letter for me?"

As Rosalind was for no woman so Mr. Bryan is for no man.

Chicago's theater enabling ordinance looks much like a disabling act.

What more natural than that radium ores should be found in Emery?

Casablanca is the finest example of "standing pat" the world has ever seen.

Is the great strife of the University to be for athletics rather than learning?

Cold weather melts a coal pile as rapidly as sunshine does a huge snow-bail.

Japan's reply is said to be distinctly negative. Something after the "Nay, nay, Pauline" order.

Corea is filled with panic. It may not be long before she will be filled with Japanese and Russian troops.

San Domingo wants the United States to establish a protectorate over it. What S. D. needs is to have a snuffer placed over it.

It is being discovered that Dakota divorcees will not stand in any climate notwithstanding the warrant to the contrary.

King Peter is prepared to renounce the Serbian throne. It is about the most uncomfortable and insecure seat in the world.

Minister Beaupre says there will be no war between Colombia and the United States. Why doesn't he tell us something new?

Under the new ordinance all Chicago theaters must have an automatic sprinkler system. The object is to avoid a baptism of fire.

The Chicago city council is trying to render the theaters of that city safe for patrons. Its efforts are to be commended. And may they be successful!

It seems that the cause of the uprising of the Hereros in German South-western Africa is that they cannot forget their former freedom. Of what a crime are these natives guilty!

"If the Smoot case should establish a precedent of ousting senators in the interest of public morality, it might necessitate the holding of a number of special elections by the different state legislatures," says the Denver Post.

The inaugural address of Governor Vardaman, of Mississippi, on the negro problem, out Tillmans Tillman. He declares that education is the curse of the race, a shallow and false observation, and calls upon the people of the whole nation to rise up and demand the repeal of the fifteenth amendment. He might just as well call on the people to sanction the secession of the southern states, and his call would be responded to just as promptly. Governor Vardaman shows himself most unprogressive.

RUTH CLEVELAND.

Springfield Republican.

The bereavement which has come to ex-President and Mrs. Grover Cleveland in the death of their eldest daughter, Ruth, will call out the sympathy of

the country. The heart weakened during a mild attack of diphtheria, Ruth was 12 years and three months old, having been born in New York Oct. 3, 1891. There are left two girls and two boys—Bessie, born in the White House at Washington, Sept. 9, 1894; Marion, born at Buzzards Bay, July 7, 1895; Richard Folsom, born at Princeton, N. J., Oct. 28, 1887; Grover Jefferson, born at Buzzards Bay, July 18, 1893.

Portland Oregonian.

The death of Ruth Cleveland closes early a life begun under bright auspices but shadowed for years by ill health. Born during the height of her father's popularity as chief magistrate of the nation and her mother's popularity as the first lady of the land, the child's name was, for a time, upon every tongue and her infantile graces were everywhere descanted upon. The early promise of her life was not, however, fulfilled, and her death is mourned with tender sorrow by those who loved her most. She was 12 years of age, the eldest of the ex-president's family of five children.

THE HEARST BOOM.

Denver Post.

The real strength of W. R. Hearst's presidential boom lies in the fact that it is always somewhere else. In Colorado the story is that Hearst can swing the St. Louis convention. In California the Hearst boomers claim Colorado. In the east he is the favorite of the gold west. In the west he is the idol of the toiling masses in the big eastern cities. In New England they read about the wonderful growth of the Hearst boom in the south. In the south the story is that the New England factory centers are honey-combed with Hearst clubs. For advertising purposes, the Hearst campaign is as fine as Sir Thomas Lipton's splendid efforts to lift the cup. That Sir Thomas failed did not spoil the splendor of his hitherto unexampled ad.

Houghton, Mich. Mining Gazette.

There is one good thing about Will Hearst. He is a good advertiser and he recognizes that if he doesn't land the Democratic nomination for president, the money spent will not be wasted for he has already received any amount of "reading" notices, editorial and telegraph pages, top of column, next to pure reading matter," on contracts better than any patent medicine advertising agent ever got from a business manager of a newspaper.

Boston Record.

According to all accounts, the chief reason for locating the Democratic national convention in St. Louis in broiling weather was that the majority of the committee feared that if the convention met in Chicago W. R. Hearst's chances of securing the nomination for president would be improved. One of Hearst's newspapers is in Chicago, and the labor convention that is to name a president for next June will probably be held there. Of course, Hearst's friends can have a newspaper in St. Louis within three days, and he probably will be found as powerful there as in Chicago.

Springfield Union.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Press, speaking of the sentiment of the Democratic national committee, says: There are really only four candidates talked of in this Democratic gathering—Parker, Gorman, Olney and Hearst. The "yellow" candidate has a crowd of subsidized boomers on the ground, and they are making much noise in shouting his praises. Cleveland is berated savagely by Western and Southern Democrats whenever his name is mentioned, and as for Olney, he is regarded merely as a second string for the Cleveland men. It is said he will not be able to hold the delegation from New England, as delegates from Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont are for Parker.

SALT LAKE THEATRE

TONIGHT LAST TIME.

Alberta Gallatin

In the much Discussed Ibsen Play—

"Ghosts"

HERALD: "The play is admirably presented and well worth seeing."

TRIBUNE: "If you are in a mood to study the deeper things of life you are likely to find this play worthy your closest attention."

NEWS: "The audience sat with bated breath while the play played upon the highest notes of feeling that can be struck in the human breast."

TELEGRAM: "Miss Gallatin interpreted the character in a manner that stamps her as an emotional actress of much merit."

PROF. PAUL: "Ghosts" has occasioned me more thought than any play I have witnessed in years."

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