

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

STATEHOOD FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH.

Elsewhere we give the substance of a private telegram from Washington, which conveys the news that on both sides of the Senate chamber there is an agreement to take the Utah statehood bill from the Senate calendar on Monday next, and discuss and pass it without further delay. There are many subjects of importance that of late have occupied the public mind here in Utah much more than the matter of the Territory's admission into the national sisterhood, but the latter consummation is one which, even amid the pressure of other excitements, is always able to arouse its due share of interest.

If the bill should pass the Senate in the form the committee of that house recommended, the measure would again have to be considered by the House of Representatives for concurrence in or rejection of the Senate amendments. And when both houses have agreed as to the terms and phrases of the enabling act, there still remains the action of the President either to approve it, or disapprove it with a statement of his reasons for so doing. All this will take some time, even under the most favorable circumstances; and yet, in view of the practical unanimity of both houses and all parties on the justice and the necessity of the bill, we see no reason why the whole thing should not be disposed of in a very few days.

When the bill went through the House with such a whirl last December, with only two days' debate and two negative votes on final passage, there were sanguine Utonians who thought the people of the Territory would be given statehood as a Christmas present. The NEWS was not so premature. But we venture now to suggest that no more graceful and opportune commemoration of the Twenty-fourth of July could be imagined than such as would occur if the Congress and the President of the United States would provide for us, on the anniversary of the Pioneers' entering the Salt Lake Valley, the means of carrying this then barren but now most fair and fruitful domain full-fledged into the Federal Union!

FROM ANOTHER QUARTER.

To add to the greatly disturbed condition of the nation from the railway strike comes the news of an outbreak of hostilities in the Coeur d'Alene country, northern Idaho, where there was such serious trouble two years ago. Troops have been called for, as further rioting and bloody work is expected. In the event of active hostilities which cannot be controlled by the sheriff, Governor McConnell will take the field in person with troops to secure the restoration of order. On this occasion it is stated that the outbreak was on the part of a hundred masked and armed men, who killed the blacksmith

at the Gem mine and captured Superintendent Neill, the foreman and other prisoners, and sent them into Montana by way of Thompson Falls.

The Idaho trouble cannot last long in its present form at least, though it is possible for serious work to be done while it is on. The miners there, by their murderous work as told in the dispatches, have placed themselves in an attitude where the state authorities must deal summarily with them until they are behind prison bars, and where their procedure evokes no sympathy from the general public. Whatever may be the differing sentiments of citizens in various parts as to the merits or demerits of strikes, the people do not feel tolerant toward masked assassins and mobssuch as are reported to be doing the criminal work at Coeur d'Alene.

This outbreak at the Gem mine, however, suggests a feature that is much broader in its application than to merely the local trouble. The miners there are smarting under the occurrences of two years ago, and are seeking to wreak vengeance on the managers. They find that they are unable to do so by peaceful, legal means and are resorting to violent methods. That is the very feature which gives promise of serious disaster as one result of the great strike now on. In European nations, when the masses are overthrown in an uprising of this nature they subside so far as the general movement is concerned until some new element enters to again arouse them. But in America it is different. Though overawed by the presence of superior force or crowded into submission by its application, there is actually no subsiding of a permanent nature. There is merely an awaiting, because of the pressure of circumstances, for a better chance.

This lesson is shown in the history of our continent. Ages ago, when a people whose forefathers came from the tower of Babel occupied these United States an internecine conflict broke out in the land. One side or the other was defeated alternately, but the beaten party was never subjugated until destroyed, and then there was but one man left. A thousand years later, the scene was re-enacted so far as the "never surrender" feature is concerned, and the only way by which a cessation of the conflicts between the forefathers of the present aborigines, the Lamanites, and the Nephites was effected was by the annihilation of the latter. The same spirit was exhibited at the founding of this Republic, when the revolutionary armies were beaten again and again but could not be whipped into submission. And in the late civil war, if the policy of repression had been persistently followed by the victorious Union representatives, instead of that of reconciliation which was adopted, the great rebellion would not have been ended yet. It would have been continued in one form or another in that spirit of determined resistance to oppression which seems indigenous to this part of the world.

The conflict now on between the

railway managers' association and the railway union is for the mastery of one or the other, in which the power of the government now is practically on the side of the managers' association, and incidentally on the side of capital against labor. The procedure may be the only safe course to pursue today; but when it ends in the immediate issue, what then? Suppose the managers' association wins, what is the spoil of the victory? The labor element will feel that it is forced to an inferior position, and is in a condition of slavery. Suppose the government, or associations of employes or capitalists, should open negotiations for a system of arbitration which is now refused in this dispute? If made in good faith it would be the tender of an olive branch which would go a long way toward effecting a general reconciliation. If presented before one or the other party is thrown down in the contest it would be of infinitely greater value in the line of peace. But if the government and capitalists decline arbitrament and are content to abide by the settlement of force, the full effect of such policy will be to inspire the labor organizations to recruit their forces and augment their numbers for another and greater contest in which the desire for revenge will play a prominent part.

It seems strange that capitalists and the ruling powers in the nation do not take into account this certainty of trouble from another quarter than merely a question of wages. It is a war of sentiment, of conviction, that cannot be settled by force without annihilation of one or other of the parties. It could be satisfactorily determined on the principle of unselfish arbitrament. But as matters stand today, the contest which is now on and is spoken of as "a battle to the death" means more than merely the conclusion of the present strike. It is an irrepressible conflict which will grow more sanguinary as time goes on and it is ended by the destruction of one of the contestants, or until the conciliatory method is adopted by the people or instituted for their salvation by a Higher power.

HOGS AND FEED.

Now that the transportation of freight is suspended by the strike on the railways it is announced that there is likely to be a serious shortage in the ham and pork supply. Perhaps some consumers of this article of diet will feel like letting the importation get as low as possible in quantity when they learn how the hogs are fed. It is an old story how that offal and animals which have died are thrown to the hogs, to be converted by nature's processes to hams, pork and bacon for human food. Such a procedure was adopted once by a hog raiser in Salt Lake county, and was followed until the officers discovered what was going on and checked the business.

The statute and the officers are not as strict, however, in other places as they are here in respect to what food is given to animals that are being prepared for human consumption. An instance of this may be shown in the method adopted by California hog raisers in procuring food for the ani-