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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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THREATENED EXTENSION OF THE STRIKE.

THE dispatches indicate the probability of the strike of the engineers and firemen of the C. B. & Q. Railway assuming gigantic proportions before it terminates. If the professions of active sympathy of the employees of other roads for the strikers should take shape the trouble may extend to the greater portion of the system of the whole country.

The workmen appear to feel, according to their expressions, that a failure on the part of the C. B. & Q. men to bring the company to terms would be disastrous to the whole fraternity, on account of what they esteem to be the certainty of other corporations taking advantage of the defeat to reduce labor remuneration. The position of the Brotherhood seems to be now, that strikes are to be ordered on all systems whose corporations give any assistance to the C. B. & Q., by handling the freight of the latter or otherwise favoring it. Quite a number of lines have determined to do this. The probability is, that the threatened consequential strikes will soon be inaugurated. If so, the west will be affected to a large extent, as the D. & R. G. and U. P. roads may possibly participate in this latest struggle between capital and labor.

The consequences that would result to the business of the country from an extensive widening of the area of the conflict could not be estimated. The losses it would entail would be too enormous for present approximate computation. The inconvenience to which the railroads would be put would be as nothing compared to the effects upon the avenues of trade, which could by that means be blocked to an unparalleled degree. Yet the position of the roads would be terribly embarrassing. The incidents connected with the initial lines where the strike began are peculiar, the shifts to which the management is forced into being more or less desperate, notwithstanding the encouraging bulletins indulged in. A recourse to a training school expedient is unique. But it is doubtful that competent engineers can be made in a few days. We have no such idea, and train men are confident that the process is an impossible one. The fact of a passenger train being run on the road by a one-eyed engineer is rather suggestive. It is an expedient of doubtful safety and therefore questionable propriety.

Notwithstanding the difficulties under which the road or roads may be placed, if we were to venture an opinion as to the final issue of the strike, it would be to the effect that the corporations will triumph, except an element should be resorted to that would be greatly to be deplored. That element is force. Without it the corporations have the advantage. They have the snags of war—the means of conducting it. They have no starving wives and children to urge them to surrender, and when that inducement to capitulate exists it is one of great potency, appealing to the tenderest and most vulnerable portion of men's natures. If the corporations can manage to go along even in slipshod shape, and can gauge the time it takes a large body of men who generally live from hand to mouth to exhaust every available resource for the sustenance of themselves and those dependent upon them, they can tell just about to the same extent when there will be a surrender of the strikers. It would come to that or desperation, and it would be horrible all around if the latter consequence should result. It would mean bloodshed and destruction.

In victory for the strikers the corporations see an increase of power for the employee; in defeat for that side they see a red letter day for the capitalist. The workmen would then be more largely than ever under the dictum of corporations, which would result in semi-enslavement for the masses, and a powerful temptation to the latter to rise against their masters and overwhelm them with the power of force.

These struggles are jeopardizing the safety of the national commonwealth.

(From Thursday's Daily, March 8.)

THE LAST DAY.

This is the last day of the present session of the Legislature, though, following former precedents, the body may sit all night tonight and till an indefinite hour tomorrow, during which time a recess may be taken, but an adjournment would end the session.

While the closing hours are characterized by a rush, at the present writing there appears to be a probability that all pending measures of importance will receive consideration and be disposed of by formal action. Up to the hour of writing no serious difficulty had arisen between the Assembly and the Executive, nor had developments taken place indicating that such was likely to be the case.

A large number of bills have been passed, but many of them have been spoken of by members from a distance as "lawyers' laws," as they relate to procedure in the courts and like matters, and are not of special interest to the general public. The legislation looking to the establishment of public institutions, which has passed or is awaiting final action, will distinguish the present Assembly over all its predecessors to a degree that will mark a new era in the legislative history of the Territory. Among the public institutions for which one or both branches of the Assembly have voted appropriations are a reform school, an agricultural college, capital buildings, territorial fair buildings and a deaf mute institute. We are informed that the Governor is holding bills which make appropriations, until he can get them all together and act upon each with reference to the others.

A comprehensive review of the work of the Assembly at the present time is impracticable, for the reason, among others, that so much of it still awaits final action, and there is still opportunity for changing vital features of measures now deemed well matured. Of the bills awaiting action, two of the most important are the substitute for Allen's school bill, and the bill organizing the territorial militia. The former provides for a tax of eight mills, the fund thereby created to be distributed for the benefit of all the school children in the Territory, including those in private, sectarian and mission schools. Aside from this feature it conforms substantially to the present law and school system. The militia bill was, we are informed, adapted from the Texas law and prepared at the suggestion of the Governor. It contemplates a complete and active organization of a military system for the Territory.

It is a foregone conclusion that one excellent and much needed piece of work will be consummated by the present Assembly—the compilation of all the laws which will be in force in the Territory when it shall adjourn, and the publication of them in one volume, suitably arranged and indexed. Repeated statutes will of course be omitted, and all amendments made in such as are in force will be included in the compilation.

THE ONE MAN POWER.

For years there has existed in this Territory a public sentiment demanding the establishment of a penal institution for juvenile offenders, in the nature of a reformatory. Every sentiment of human sympathy, and every dictate of wise statesmanship revolts at incarcerating in a prison, in company with experienced and abandoned criminals, boys and girls of tender years, who have gone but a little way in a wrong path. Next to providing for the insane, philanthropy demands judicious provision for the punishment and reformation of youthful criminals.

The present Assembly has been in hearty sympathy with these sentiments, and with a generosity which has brought upon it the criticism of taxpayers, it voted \$75,000 for a reform school, and passed a wise and humane bill for the conduct of the institution, and the education and reformation of its inmates. Though some members and many citizens thought the appropriation too large, it is safe to say that the people would not have complained at the cost had they been permitted to see the institution established.

But the one man power, so anti-republican and anti-American in its character, intervened to prevent this. Governor West vetoed the reform school bill. The sole ground of his objection to it was one of personal ambition on his part; it provided for the election by the Assembly of the directors of the institution, instead of making them appointive by the Executive. This action on the part of the Governor was in some degree foreshadowed by the debate which occurred in the House while the bill was under consideration; though during that debate it was shown, by cogent logic and citations of judicial authorities directly applicable to the question, that such officers as directors of public and penal institutions, were not officers within the meaning of section seven of the Organic Act, under which the Governor claims the appointing power.

Believing that it would be an act of betrayal of the liberties of its constituents, and the riveting upon their necks of an unbearable yoke to act otherwise, the Assembly refused to give the Governor the power which he demanded, and there will be no reform school for an indefinite period of the future. It is but right and justice that the world should know the reason why. Hereafter when there shall be seen in this Terri-

tory the painful sight of a child who, perhaps, has taken only one wrong step, and might be easily reclaimed, caged with criminals whose very presence is contamination to imitative childhood, all who behold the scene should know on whom the responsibility for it rests. No blame for such a distressing condition attaches to the people, nor to their law-making representatives; it belongs to the wielder of the one-man power.

With a view to conforming to the demands of the times by adopting a policy looking to the development of resources of the Territory, particularly in regard to agriculture, and for the purpose of securing the Congressional appropriation of \$15,000 for the benefit of the Agricultural interests of the Territory, the Assembly passed a bill establishing an agricultural college, and appropriated \$25,000 for that purpose. But again the one-man power is exercised for the purpose of blighting the hopes and interests of taxpayers. For the sole reason that provision is not made for the Governor to name the trustees of the college, he vetoes the bill creating it, and with a stroke of his pen virtually robs the Territory of \$15,000, which the beneficent policy of the general government would have given to it but for the autocratic exercise of the veto prerogative.

Hopes were entertained that Utah had seen the last of such struggles on the part of one man to deprive the people of sacred rights, which their representatives have sought to maintain in their behalf. But such hopes did not take into account the determined purpose with which men often become inspired when, after attaining to a degree of power, they think they see a way by which it may be increased.

DEATH OF EMPEROR WILLIAM.

INTELLIGENCE reached us this afternoon, by telegraph, that Emperor William of Germany was dead. Had he lived till the 22nd of this month he would have reached the age of 91 years. There is therefore nothing in his departure from mortality to excite wonder. If there is any astonishment, it should run in the other direction. Very few monarchs have had so long a career on earth, and not many ordinary people, compared with the great bulk, for the matter of that. The death of the sturdy Emperor of Fatherland is a very notable event, notwithstanding.

The career of the deceased monarch has been eventful and brilliant. There is neither time nor space now to sketch its more striking features. His reign has been characterized by great developments and achievements, and it was a striking dispensation of Providence that brought two such giant spirits as he and Bismarck to trudge the thorny path of statesmanship together.

The character of William was such as to attract admiration and respect. His ability as a statesman and soldier must remain unquestioned, because comparatively unblemished, as the ways of the world go. He was as conspicuous for honesty as he was prominent for courage. He was intensely human, sympathetic as a woman when the tender chords of his heart were touched, fierce to the verge of the terrible when aroused by opposition. He was an exile at one time, and at another an object of the assault of the cowardly assassin, but he lived in the hearts of his subjects, as a whole, and his memory will continue to have a lodgement there while Fatherland shall last.

That the death of the Emperor will seriously affect the fate of Germany nobody doubts. That it will consequently, in course of time, have a disturbing, not to say revolutionary bearing upon European affairs generally is scarcely more open to question. Just how such results will flow from the incident now considered requires a good deal of analytical observation of the signs of the times, and even then inferences drawn from apparent probabilities would have to be mostly conjectural.

DEATH OF THOMAS J. POTTER.

A NOTE elsewhere in this issue states that a telegram was received today by Mr. J. V. Parker, agent of the U. P. Railway company in this city, that vice President and General manager Thomas J. Potter died at 11:15 o'clock this morning. The announcement of a fact so unexpected as this will occasion much surprise. It is not long since the gentleman visited this city, and appeared then to be in good health. We understand, however, that he has been a sufferer lately from a pulmonary complaint.

The deceased was a man of marked character and ability and his having attained to the prominent position he occupied at the time of his death renders him a conspicuous example of what may be accomplished by application, perseverance, courage and other qualities which he possessed in a high degree.

Mr. Potter was born in Carroll County, Ohio, on the 16th of August 1840. He came west and located in

Iowa, first entering railway service in July, 1862, as a fireman in the engineering corps then surveying the line of the Burlington & Missouri River railroad in Iowa. Six months later, or early in 1863, he enlisted in the Seventh Regiment of Iowa cavalry. He enlisted with the expectation of entering service in the war of the rebellion, but about that time the Indians in Nebraska, then the western frontier, were becoming troublesome and as the construction of the Union Pacific Railway was being hampered by them, the regiment to which Mr. Potter belonged was ordered to Fort Kearney and from that post the troops were detailed to guard the road constructors and chase the marauding Indians. When his regiment was mustered in 1866 he had risen to a captaincy. He then entered the service of the road he had helped to survey, as station agent at Albia, Iowa. In 1868 he was made special claim and fuel agent of the road with headquarters at Burlington, and remained in that capacity until the Burlington and Missouri River, in Iowa, was absorbed by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, when he became a general agent of that corporation, with headquarters at Creston, Iowa. In August, 1873, he was again promoted to the assistant superintendency of the Iowa division, and in February, 1875, was further elevated to the position of superintendent. In December, 1879, he was made assistant general manager with headquarters at Chicago, one year later becoming the general manager of that great corporation. In 1884 he also became first vice-president, and thus remained at the practical head of the company's affairs until May 15, 1887, when he accepted an offer from the Union Pacific Railway, becoming its first vice-president and general manager at a salary said to be the largest ever paid to a working railroad official. Since that date he has been a resident of Omaha, closely devoting himself to the tangled affairs of the great railroad of which he took charge, and a splendid showing he was making, the earnings being largely increased and the operating expenses greatly curtailed. Mr. Potter was a thorough railroad man. He began at the lower round and rose by merit and practical knowledge to be recognized as foremost as a railroad manager.

A PREMATURE ANNOUNCEMENT.

OUR article on the death of Emperor William in yesterday's issue was premature. The reason of this is apparent, and the fact pardonable so far as the News is concerned. The source upon which we rely for information concerning events of great pith and moment as they transpire abroad—the telegraph—is responsible. That means of communication asserted distinctly that the venerable monarch passed to the beyond yesterday. We could not do otherwise than believe the statement. The error on the part of the News is still more pardonable when it is considered that a great many German papers were equally premature in their announcement of the great man's demise. A statement comes to the effect that the journals who did so are to be prosecuted. Although our disposition for caution has been awakened, we presume it may be safely stated now that the Emperor is no more. Unless a counter dispatch should arrive shortly, it may be taken for granted that Kaiser Wilhelm entered upon his last sleep at half past eight o'clock this morning. The incident is the absorbing topic in Fatherland, which now palpitates with intense feeling. Much anxiety is entertained regarding probable developments of the future growing out of the changing of the head of the government.

ONE-SIDED RESTRAINT.

ACCORDING to an Omaha dispatch, Judge Pundy, of the United States Court, has issued a restraining order of a character probably unparalleled in the later history of jurisprudence in this country. Our readers should peruse it attentively, as it is a curiosity in its line. It was issued on the application of a general attorney of a railroad corporation (Burlington & Missouri), and enjoins the U. P. officials, agents and especially its engineers from refusing to perform their duties under the inter-state commerce law. It is to be inferred that the alleged particular duties referred to are the receiving, handling and carrying to their destination, freight cars of the road or roads now involved in the great strike.

How far this could be made compulsory upon the corporation under the law referred to is not at present clear. It would be absurd to assume that a compulsory process would lie in regard to the officers and agents beyond their ability to comply, as the law never contemplates compelling a person to perform an impossible act. The Brotherhood having resolved to quit work on those lines that give aid to the C. B. & Q., if the officers and agents of the U. P. conclude to disregard the alternative and their engineers and firemen strike, then the feat imposed on them by the re-

straining order would be impossible. The order has not, however, been made to place the U. P. or any other corporation at a disadvantage. The brunt of it falls upon the engineers, whom it enjoins from striking. It will be in every way advantageous for the corporation in question to carry the C. B. & Q. cars to their destination, consequently the order is aimed exclusively at the engineers. Should the U. P. agree to take the freight from the lines involved in the strike, if their engineers go out as a consequence, it is relieved of responsibility in the premises; consequently it is "particularly engineers" who are enjoined.

Much as one may deprecate strikes and favor arbitration, this sort of judicial method of suppressing them has nothing to commend it. It reduces the workman to but little above the position of a serf. By compelling him to work against his will it practically makes a prisoner of him. The idea that he cannot use his individual choice in combination with any fraternity with which he may elect to identify himself is a manifest absurdity as well as a flimsy subterfuge. In doing so he only exercises an individual right. To deprive him of it in such a shape is a plain deprivation of the liberty of the citizen. To make an order of that kind permanent would be to fire those to whom it applied with unappealable resentment. We do not believe they would submit to any such curtailment of their liberty. The only conditions under which compulsory labor lies are in case of a contract between the two parties immediately interested, and the execution of the law after trial and judgment. The restraining order, in the absence of a contract, is decidedly punitive. We have no idea that it will be made permanent, unless there exists a good deal more judicial insanity than there is any need for.

A DISCOVERY.

It has been in the past predicted by a certain class that, could the Liberals but succeed in electing a working representation to the Legislature, sensational discoveries would result. The intimation has been that a connection between "church and state," of a financial character and otherwise, more intimate than is contemplated under American law and institutions, would be disclosed. So strongly inclined was a certain class of citizens to expect developments of this character, that the statement read by Mr. Marshall in the Council, early in the session, relative to an alleged discrepancy of large size in the reports of the Auditor and Treasurer, found ready credence among the class referred to, and it was thought that at last crookedness was about to be uncovered. Some foolish or malicious person had handed the statement to Mr. Marshall, and he had deemed it his duty to lay it before the Council. A brief investigation of the matter by a legislative committee showed the utterly groundless character of the charge that any discrepancy existed in the accounts of either the Auditor or Treasurer.

As the session progressed toward its close, the expectancy of sensational developments gradually died out. As the Liberal delegation in the Assembly became more and more thoroughly familiar with the fiscal condition and affairs of the Territory, they were more and more convinced of the impossibility of discovering any evidence, or signs even, that anything "crooked" existed in connection therewith. The speech by Mr. Marshall, on the occasion of the presentation of a picture to President Smith of the Council, made in behalf of the members of that body, and of Mr. Allen last night, when a cane was presented to Speaker Hittler, in behalf of members of the House, indicated that the Liberal members had conceived a high respect and strong friendship for their co-legislators of the People's party, on the ground that they had labored for the good of the Territory. Mr. Marshall was particularly explicit in expressing this sentiment, and during the entire session a feeling of cordiality prevailed between the representatives in the Assembly of the two political parties.

It may, then, be said with truth, that a discovery has been made and pretty well authenticated by the Liberal members of the Legislature—that that body has been honest in the administration of the financial affairs of the Territory. This disclosure may not be of the kind expected by at least a portion of the constituents of the Liberal members, but it is nevertheless one which ought to afford satisfaction to all classes of citizens.

DISCUSSING A COMPROMISE.

THIS afternoon a concerted attempt at effecting a compromise was made, with a view to having the reform school, agricultural college and bonding bills signed. The plan is this: Let the reform school bill provide that the Governor, Secretary of the Territory and the prosecuting attorneys of five counties, to be named in the bill, be constituted the board of directors. It is proposed to adopt some similar plan relative to the agricultural college.