DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 5, 1899.

DAY LABOR OR CONTRACT?

The injunction issued by against the City Council, to prevent that body from making proposed improvements in the city water system under the supervision of waterworks, is really aimed at the employment of home labor. It is planned seemingly to compel the city to do the work under the direction of the board of public works. But if the movement should succeed, the improvements would have to be made under contract. It is claimed, if made under contract, the work would be done, this would be the best method. The question of the Council is to how the work performed by day labor.

Why should the job not be let by contract? The answer is, that something stands in the way of entering into such contracts on a home basis, a contractor cannot be legally bound by them. Experience has shown that contractors in most cases will employ such workmen as they choose. If it is an outside firm, outside labor will be brought in. Contractors, too, generally manage to have something done, out of alleged necessity, in addition to the exact terms of the contract, and if it is not paid for the contractor is the sufferer in consequence. The Public's conduct case is an example of this. Many other instances could be cited.

If some public improvement was to be put in charge of the board of public works, nothing could be done in case of emergency, for this have to be advertised for advertisement for at least twenty days. All work under that board must be done by contract, and the rules and regulations connected therewith must be carried out. If that is to be the course pursued, there is no need of a superintendent of waterworks, nor for a waterworks, nor for a street superior.

The superintendent of waterworks in Ogden, one of those places where direct work is not but doubtful upon has been performed in the past. The city engineer is to be associated with him in the oversight of all that is done. As an engineer he will have just as much control of everything happening in connection with the work under his direction, as though it were under the supervision of the board of public works.

The real point of difference in this matter is the question of day labor vs contract work. And in that is involved the employment of home laborers or of imported workmen. Behind the movement to place the improvements under that board, is there not the intention to let a contract, if possible, in such a manner that men can be put on the work who will aid in the scheme which is in process of incubation for further payments of a different character?

Is it reasonable to suppose that a body whose chairman receives $100 a year, and its members but $25 a year, and is expected to take charge of all the work done under the various city departments? What are the heads of those departments for? It may be asked what is the board of public works for? It may be answered, and we give it up. It might as well be abolished, considering the organization now established in this municipality, with a mayor and a Council having some power, and heads of departments authorized to conduct all the works necessary to be performed.

This is no star against the gentlemen who compose that Board. The Chairman is the city engineer, a competent officer, whose efficiency is not helped one iota by the position on the board. The other members are all practical men, and one of them is the superintendent of water works and another the water master and street commissioner, neither of whom is better qualified for his post by being one of that board.

Here is the true position. The City Council claims the right to do its own work under its regularly appointed heads of departments. It can decide whether a given piece of work shall be done by day labor or by contract. If by contract, it must be done under the board of public works, which lets the contract after advertising for twenty days. If by day labor, by employing one or more men as necessary, and the heads of departments who are appointed for that very purpose superintend the work.

The City Council gives out for much work $2.25 a day. Contractors can do the same work, or do it for less than $2.25 a day. Who gets the benefit? Note if the city might come in for a share, very doubtful, while real material would will result. The city wages are too enough for men to live on, and the laborer is worthy of his hire. The money will all be spent here if home labor is employed, and the benefits will go to the public other all.

The work will be done just as efficiently under the proper officers and just as cheaply in the long run, as though done under contract.

The least rights in this dispute will have to be settled by the courts, seeing that a suit has been entered, but the citizens and the good policy in the case are paramount considerations of popular question, and by that reason we have then before the people of the Deseret News.

WHERE IS THE CONFLICT?

The News still engages on Helen J. Grant's assertion that since Mateel Boud was created there has been no change in the manner and habits of polygamous families. That was a bright time, the Apostle says the Elder.

The breaking from the course of most of the disturbers stirring now in the intermediate throughout the country, might perhaps to receive some notice.

In the first place, the gentleman stated a fact, we can such admission as that stated. And in the second place, what "the Apostle" did say was not different in its essence or signification to that uttered by "the Elder." There the change in the "conflict." and consequently the "conflict."

That there may be no excuse for dodging on this matter, we take the report of the Apostle's remarks as printed in that paper:

"I have been out most a week, not one, that I can recollect, being in general, cite to say that the polygamous families that existed there, if there were any, before marriages, ought not to be allowed to live."

"I say that in Salt Lake City the leading prominent Gentiles will stand up and say that existing relations ought to exist as they are today, that we should not, and ought not, to have in an anti-polygamy country, in our country, but that polygamous families should not be allowed in the home of her husband. I say that a husband should be true to his wives and to his children."

The Elder referred to above is the present editor of the "News," who on Sept. 4, 1895, replied, through this paper, to the falsehoods of the Presbyterian ministers held in Hall August 25, 26. In reference to the same subject, the Elder touched upon by "the Apostle." These remarks were made by "the Elder":

"And now a word about the conditions of family affairs among those who, in good faith, were joined in the celebration of plural marriages under Church regulations and sanctioned by the Church. Nothing can be, as they contemptuously believe, left to time and eternity. When Utah was admitted as a State in the Union, it was with the understanding, not in any contract, except by the State Constitution, that polygamous marriages in Utah would cease."

"At the same time there was a tacit understanding, not to say contract, that the wives and wives should be buried; that family obligations already entered into, and sanctioned by the Church, should be discharged; that men should be permitted without legal jeopardy to care for, support and protect their plural families, educate their children, and perform a manly and honorable duty to those who had trusted in them."

Now where is the "conflict," where is the "line," and where the "stagger"? A few or ten can a sentence from the Mail! mentions, one from the reply and one from the Apostle's discourse, was consecutively parodied, in sequence, in the organ of slander and malice, for the purpose of creating an apparent conflict between the two letters, and questions. There was no contest, no conflict, no difference between them. They were cited like two quotations from Scriptures were man made in support of suicide, thus:

"And Judas went out and hanged himself."

"Go thou and do likewise."

Now, observe, the Apostle has not said that "there has been no change in the customs and habits of polygamous families;" nor has the Deseret News contradicted the Apostle's remarks; nor have the Apostle and "the Elder" taken a different position on this subject. But the organ of deceit, and false witness, and impudent libel, has deliberately and intentionally misrepresented both, as demonstrated by the sub-columns. If it would serve any good purpose, we could still further prove its perfidy, leaving the public to judge it out of its own mouth, but this will suffice for the present.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?

The projected "exposition" of the highbrow convention on the part of the anti-"Mormon" organ which was held up in public estimation in the Deseret Evening News on Tuesday, does not in the least explain. Whether the article which appeared simultaneously in the San Francisco Bulletin and in the New York Herald, with a letter dated Ogden at the same time in the anti-"Mormon" sheet, was concocted in the latter's office or not, does not affect the delicacy falsehood which so closely resembles the headings complained of as placed at the head of the dispatch were these.

GRANT'S DEFI.
APOSTLE'S DISAPTFUL DECLARATION TO THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA.
"I'M A LAW-BREAKER."
DECLARED BRIGHAM. "I DON'T CARE WHO KNOWS IT."

These falsehoods were put in big black display type, bill board style, to give them extra emphasis. There was nothing in the Bulletin article to justify them. There was nothing in the dispatch which followed them to excuse the Apostle which they contained. Neither the article which appeared at the same time in the San Francisco Bulletin and in the New York Herald, contained any assertion that the polygamous Apostle had declared to the people of California or that or any other subject.

The headlines were made up for the purpose of maligning a man who has for years of being hated by the authors of the falsehoods, and of misleading the public as to the facts, and the heads of departments who are appointed for that very purpose superintend the work.

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STILL FIGHTING.

If Aguinaldo wanted an obituary, he is certainly in some sufficient time to secure it. The Filipinos have been at it for a long time, and it seems to be comparatively by this time, so it appears in the latest dispatches from the seat of war, that our troops are advancing. Hitting the insurgents further back. The Filipinos have been taken by surprise. Mr. Arthur's report, and General Lawton is moving towards the whole and the mountain range protecting street to the bills.

The Gaul another notice to have been a national fight. The Filipinos made stubborn resistance, which is certain upon which the arrangements of our troops was made exceedingly difficult. As usual our soldiers displayed much bravery, and the Gaul boys had their share of the hard work and glory. The class in Imperial Manchester's dispatches, which, comparatively speaking, has it is turned with regret that among the wounded is Colonel Funston, whose name deals the country has said so much of late. General Lawton's combined scene to have suffered a loss, over a hundred dead and wounded being left on the battle-field, the absence being in many cases due to the excellent heat now prevalent.

What the condition are on the other side, is not reported. It will probably never be fully known how many natives have died, or how many have fled, or a relapsed people against their best friends. But that the number is many times that on our side is certain.

The New York Evening Sun calls attention to the fact that between Feb. 4 and April 25, the killed and wounded on our side amounted to 1,203, of which number 199 were slain. By way of comparison it is noted that in the campaign of Sherman, where General Shafter had a large armed and disciplined force to deal with, the casualties reached, of those of the Lower campaign, only by 200, and probably this figure will be considerably reduced when all the facts are received. This will give an idea of the magnitude of the war in Luzon.

In connection with this, it is not without interest to note that in the opinion of those acquainted with the character of the insurgent leaders, the idea prevailing, in the anti-expansionist harangues in this country, that the United States would be unable to maintain an army in the Philippine large enough to cope with the natives. If this is true, it is clear that the war now being waged would not have occurred, but this country exhibited as much unity and patriotism as it did when confronted by the question of "Remember the Maine." Discord at home has made trouble abroad.

THE IRRIGATION PROBLEM.

The irrigation problem is to be the subject of inquiry by Secretary Wilson, in the near future. An effort is made, it will be remembered, by members of the last Congress, to secure an appropriation for the building of reservoirs along Piney Creek, Wyoming, to ascertain the practicability of storing the surplus water for use in the dry season, but the measure was knocked out. It is probable, though, that the matter will come up again, and the secretary of agriculture intends to study the question, so as to be in a position to answer it intelligently.

It has been said that there is enough moisture in the arid region to render the 600,000,000 acres of land in the West, now practically useless, of great value for farming purposes. The question is how to save the water that runs to waste before it is needed, so as to have it on hand at the right time of the year.

There is some objection to the State taking the matter in hand, but it has become apparent that unless the work is left to private enterprise, the farmers will finally be at the mercy of corporations, a condition that is by no means desirable. The State is building dams and $ties for the protection of citizens from floods, and undoubtedly has the same power to construct reservoirs for the protection of farmers from drought.

The irrigation problem is of more magnitude and more complex than generally stated. Senator Warren points out that the amount of money expended upon the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, in the course of the last twenty years, would be sufficient to build reservoir systems at the headwaters of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, which would not only distribute water enough to cultivate 100,000,000 acres of land, but would permanently prevent the overflow of those rivers, and add more to the wealth, prosperity and prosperity in one year than will result in all security from the Fox and Wisconsin improvements. He declares, also, that if ninetieth of the money that has been spent in protecting the plantations along the lower Mississippi had been expended in reservoirs nearer the source of that river, there would be no more damage or danger to overflowed lands.

The nation is gradually waking up to the fact that within the limits of the United States is an undeveloped source of wealth, in the arid belt, which is available with well directed effort, and against the "annexation" of which no anti-expansion sentiment can be advanced. But indeed labor is needed for this peaceful conquest of the soil.

A WORD ABOUT FALSEHOODS.

A paper in the May number of Self Culture, on "The Art of Solid Lying" treats on a subject particularly appropriate at the present time, when the time by many is beginning to be looked upon as a great evil, rather than otherwise.

There are all sorts of "lies." People circulate false reports to injure those who happen to be their companions; they resort to false and sometimes to secret social duties in business enterprises misstatements are made with little compunction, and even in courts, where the contending parties are under oath to speak the truth, falsehoods are thick as the Egyptian darkness, as the contradicting testimonies and legal arguments clearly prove.

All this is serious, because it cannot and be successful; shown that falsehood has a very short lease of life, and is a failure in the end. For a time it may seem a safe bridge on which to cross a yawning gulf, but it will soon be found out to be a rickety structure which has to be repaired constantly with the addition of new "lies," and finally it will tumble, leaving those who trusted to it exposed to disgrace and contempt. Even the "white" falsehoods that may have mastered the difficulties of his act to appear perfectly, will finally fail.

It should not be forgotten that half truths are often the most injurious in their effects, because more difficult to detect; for the falsehood can be separated from the truth and exposed, nor should it be overlooked that in Holy Writ there is pronounced a terrible sentence upon both those that love and those who are the authors of "lies."

AN IMPORTANT GATHERING.

The Transmissouri congress, which will convene at Wichita, Kansas, from the 31st of this month to June 3d, will be a notable gathering. The States represented in the subjects to be considered—and Utah among the rest—should move in time to get the most able representatives possible. It is a matter in which all, without regard to party or other affiliations, are interested. If they desire to see the western country the homes of prosperous, contented and happy citizens.

At the congress will be discussed the possibilities of more extended trade with Mexico, Cuba, and Eastern Asia; also matters relating to irrigation, agriculture, mining and kindred subjects. The intention is to consider what legislation may be desirable for the furtherance of these interests.

Although it is sometimes regarded as "patriotism" to talk of legislation for the benefit of private interests, it is generally conceded that such "patriotism" is sometimes absolutely necessary. In securing foreign markets, providing transportation facilities, and making it possible to redeem arid regions, no private individual enterprise is fully equal to the task. There must be united effort, and the government may as well take the measures needed to make such effort effective.

THE DOCTRINE OF MURDER.

For many centuries a civilization has grown and flourished, of which it has been said, it is tender care for the aged and infirm, to provide education and enlightenment for all, that they may become useful members of society, to guard the rights and liberties of the people, to protect the helpless, and making it possible to redeem arid regions, no private individual enterprise is fully equal to the task. There must be united effort, and the government may as well take the measures needed to make such effort effective.

Union men throughout the United States should learn that the liberty which they claim, to combine for their own benefit, should and must be accorded to others to stay out of labor organizations. To deny the right to work of any man, because he does not belong to some Order or Society, is tyranny of the most violent character. It must be stopped or suppressed, by force of arms if no other power is effective.

A Denver clergyman speaking of the race problem in the South, asked the following pointed question: "How do you suppose the balance would stand, if we could read the whole record of the violation of women in the South?" He then replied: "I believe it would be against the white man," and this testimony is corroborated by those familiar with the conditions in many localities. Where, then, is the exceedness of American honor, of which so much is said?

DEWEY DAY.

Chicago Times-Herald.

When Dewey sailed into Manila Bay he revealed the caption of Farragut at Mobile and perhaps surpassed it in some respects because of his absolute isolation in a distant enemy's country and the lack of the means of communication with home. Farragut knew that neither he nor the government realized the full consequence of his action, and it is their recognition which forms the second feature in the observance of Dewey day. There is no doubt that the victory of Manila inaugurated what is known as the expansion policy, and that it brought us face to face with an entirely new set of international obligations.

Chicago Record.

What place has Dewey beside the great naval commanders of the past in the hierarchy, individual quality which everybody recognizes, but which no one can explain. He has the fighting man's instinct and power with certain qualities of coolness and sanity which make him attractive personally as well as formidable professionally. He never relaxed an opportunity. He left nothing to chance. His dispatches showed that he knew his ground, because he had planned every step based upon ability, experience and absolute certainty of execution. But he had omitted nothing that forethought could provide.

Chicago News.

Men have become famous by a single stroke of erratic genius, but that is not what Dewey exhibited at Manila. It was the courage of an able commander who dared to take the risks. As a diplomat Admiral Dewey has superseded our countrymen as much as he did by his abilities as a naval officer and for those he is being honored today from one end of the country to the other. Or one thing the American people are confident and that is that no need of praise is too great to be bestowed upon the silent, brave man, who, for the greater part of a year, maintained alone among the hosts of his foe and the power of his government, beset by dangers of which he can have only a faint comprehension.

Cleveland Plaindealer.

The effect of that victory will never be lost. Not since did it create a prestige of invincibility upon the American people, but it created a new and powerful impression only upon the people of other nations. In the course of a single day the United States had become a world power. Reason for its process was immeasurably.

Sacramento Bee.

The celebration of Dewey Day throughout the United States on yesterday was more general and enthusiastic than was expected. It proved a fitting tribute to those who with Spain has done into history, the American people more than ever before appreciate the fact that it was the man behind the guns who won the victories. No one knew this better than Dewey, and his announcement of that fact in his report of the destruction of Montojo's fleet endeared him to the people more than ever.

Los Angeles Express.

But what we celebrate is "Dewey Day." We who the praises of the Admiral George Dewey, seaman, soldier, fighter, statesman and diplomat; the man who has been at a most difficult and trying position for a whole year without making a mistake. The American people are sorry they have to end with them today, but perhaps the Admiral is safer in Manila than he would be here, on this occasion!

San Francisco Chronicle.

There was no lack of enthusiasm throughout the state over Dewey day. For a brand-new holiday this made a record that has never been equaled and showed that it will rank right up alongside the Fourth of July among our patriotic holidays.

Z. C. M. I.

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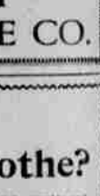
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