

and clothing to supply their wants, it is a most dangerous and disagreeable element to deal with. Such a contingency suggests that it would be appropriate for the taxpayers of Salt Lake to make their voices heard and fully understood in this matter. There is no occasion for noisy demonstration or denunciatory talk. Citizens, especially those who have large property interests, can give to individual councilmen their views on the subject, and the Council will then realize just what public sentiment is behind it in any move it may make. The success of the reform ticket last November was a declaration that the property owners were averse to taxation and municipal debt without limit. The only way to prevent their being further imposed upon the people is for courageous and determined retrenchment and economy on the part of the City Council, and even then it is doubtful if the whole ground can be covered. But whatever action the Council takes in this direction should be supported and commended by the people in whose interest it is, so that their representatives will not be overslaughed by adverse criticism from those who do not have to pay the municipal fiddler.

In it all there is no need or demand for ceasing public improvements or delaying them to the extent of working hardship. But there is need of cutting off expenses where no direct and immediate benefits accrue to the citizens. There are some things which the City Council cannot help to any great extent, and it should not be blamed therefor. One of these is the procedure on the city and county building. Some of the matters thereto pertaining are tied up by a contract on which some light should be shed for the benefit of the public. The Council is further handicapped in being legally compelled—in the view of some advisers—to take a course not always and altogether in harmony with its own desires and views. But there is responsibility on the part of the present members for future action in all these concerns; and an understanding of that responsibility and steps in satisfactorily discharging it will be materially aided if the taxpayers take a sufficient interest to back their representatives up in every legitimate, honorable and consistently economical measure.

INDUSTRIALS NOT PEACEFUL.

It has been claimed all the time by the sympathizers of the so-called industrial armies that they consist of peaceful, law-abiding citizens marching to the seat of our national government in order to present petitions bearing on the financial depression under which the laboring classes are said to be suffering. All such pretensions now appear utterly foolish, in the light of the events of the past week. All over the West the "armies" have shown a disposition to transgress the laws of the country and defy the power of the government—in fact to go as far in this direction as the safety of their own precious lives would permit. They have not hesitated in appropriating the property of the railroads, interfering occasionally with the speedy transmission of the mails, on which so many

interests of the country depend; nor have they neglected to assume all sorts of threatening attitudes, booting and jeering the lawfully constituted authorities. A case in point is the conflict at Provo on Saturday. The militia proceeded to the scene of disturbance with unloaded rifles. The Carterites defied the Governor to attempt the arrest of the ringleaders, declaring that they would rather die than submit. They armed themselves with clubs and other weapons, apparently determined to fight, and submitted only when the command was given to the militia to load their guns, and this was done in full view of the defiant crowd. If this is the conduct of peaceful, law-abiding citizens, then most of the fellows now languishing in the country's jails may claim those virtues, for very few of them would refuse to surrender to the authorities when the demand is emphasized by the muzzle of a loaded gun.

The fact of the matter is that the victims of the Coxey craze all over the country may not in the first instance have planned any design against the laws or the government. But by their mad undertaking some of them have placed themselves in a position where conflicts with law are unavoidable. They were from the first warned by their true friends to desist from a scheme disastrous to themselves, but they chose to close their ears to sound, conservative advice and listen to the declamations of demagogues. Their experience ought by this time to have taught them that they cannot execute their Quixotic enterprise without breaking the law, and as this fact dawns upon them they ought to disband and look for constitutional means of making themselves heard, provided they have something to say. Certainly those who at heart are loyal citizens, although carried away in a moment of enthusiasm to join the marching ranks, will return home after having seen the consequences of their first steps. It is not cowardly to do so. It is more cowardly to persist in a wrong course after its error is apparent. Those who continue in their effort to steal trains and defy the authorities should forever cease pretending to be peaceful citizens; they chill to the center any feelings of sympathy that may exist for them and will henceforth be regarded and treated simply as enemies of society by all who place the country's welfare above the interests of a political party.

The danger to the country lurking in the conditions on which the Coxey movement depends has been often referred to, and it has not been much exaggerated. If the "general" succeeds in keeping his band around Washington until Kelly's contingent arrives, there will be a considerable body of idle men gathered in one place. Should other "generals" be able to join, the crowd will be still greater. Browne thinks 5,000 men will be in camp within a short time. Suppose these men get hungry and desperate. Lawlessness will certainly follow and crimes be committed. What will the result be, if the mighty labor organizations represented by Sovereign and Debs, the latter of whom at least has declared himself in sympathy with Coxey, take a de-

cided stand in the matter? This question only the future can solve, but it would be a good deal better to prevent the necessity of solving that problem. If ever superior statesmanship and union of action for the good of the country were needed, this is the time. Whatever just, constitutional measures may be decided upon by those whose duty it is to deal with the problem for its prompt solution, will be cordially endorsed by loyal citizens of all parties.

THE "ARMY'S" CHAMPION.

A correspondent writes to the News from Provo:

The army here are peaceable and do not steal nor commit any depredations. This is true up to this writing, and knowing your regard for truth it is but just to say so through the columns of the News.

We are very glad, though somewhat amused, to hear this; but we beg to say that the same "regard for truth" forbids the publication of the remaining parts of our correspondent's lengthy letter. The News has no personal quarrel with the "army" or any of its members; but an outfit that steals trains, riotously insults the law and its sworn representatives, and when not engaged in more serious business, sits down in idleness and impudently expects food and supplies to be brought freely by those who have to work for their own support—it must look elsewhere than to the News for tributes to its good order, its peacefulness, its law-abiding character, and its claim to sympathy and respectability. Incidentally, too, it must have different leadership and listen to more worthy advisers than this man Carter and all of that ilk.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK.

A condensed review, by the New York Mail and Express, of an article that lately appeared in the *Presbyterian and Reformed Review* from the pen of Rev. E. T. Bloomfield, presents some interesting facts regarding the recent growth of Protestant Sunday schools throughout the world. These schools, Dr. Bloomfield says, have now a membership of more than twenty-two million persons, counting teachers and pupils. Nearly half of these are in the United States, while 86 per cent speak the English language or live in English-speaking countries. It is remarkable that while Europe and the United States each has a Protestant population of about 50,000,000 the former has only about 8 per cent of the Protestant Sunday school membership of the world, while the latter has 49 per cent. It is also noticeable that in Roman Catholic countries the Sunday school which is essentially an institution of English-speaking countries, is gaining in Europe, Germany, although Protestant, has not been favorable heretofore to Sunday school work, but in 1874 there were in that country 1,218 Sunday schools, with 86,418 teachers and scholars, while in 1893 there were 5,900 schools and 784,769 members. The increase in population was 12 per cent, and in Sunday school membership 81.9 per cent. Hence, while the membership is not very large, the tendency in the direction of