

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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## RESTRICT THE EVILS!

The communication from the Mayor to the City Council, recommending the revocation of the license to a saloon which is said to be a resort where occur "the most disorderly and disgraceful brawls, making the place a menace to the peace, good order and respectability of the city," is to be considered in committee of the whole, next Monday evening. That is quite proper. It would not have been enough to refer it to the license committee. It is a matter for full consideration not only by the council but by the public. It will obtain the publicity that it deserves by being discussed before the whole council.

The place objected to, for the reasons offered by the Mayor, has the reputation of being a gambling house. It was the scene of the shooting affair for which a notorious political wireworker is under accusation. This charge, too, needs thorough ventilation. There appears to be a disposition on the part of certain officials to belittle the affair, and there is an uneasy feeling among reputable citizens, that possibly the offense will be so handled that it will not meet with its just deserts. We hope that this opinion will prove unfounded.

The course commenced by the Mayor in regard to the low resorts in this city, we regard as timely and in consonance with that which was expected of him by his supporters in both parties at the November election. There will perhaps be some difference of opinion as to the method to be pursued, in the increase of fines for the keeping of gambling and "sporting" resorts. Some people will argue that this is in the nature of high license, when such places ought to be suppressed. But is it possible to abolish the evils complained of? Experience in large cities says, emphatically, "no." What can be done then except to restrain them within as limited and decent bounds as is practicable?

The small fines that have been periodically inflicted upon the keepers and resorters to the places referred to, have encouraged the establishment and continuance of low dives and disreputable haunts, where their very cheapness has attracted persons who would not be able to crowd into other places. The cheap gambling halls catch youths with small means and laborers going from their work who have contracted the gambling fever, and they are stripped of their little earnings, thus bringing trouble and distress to families and friends. A big fine—call it license if you choose, will have the effect of closing out these worst places, and confining the evil to narrower bounds.

Such resorts are the cause of the greatest outlay for police service, and if they cannot be entirely put down, should be made to furnish, to the city, the bulk of the means necessary to protect the public from the evils that are caused by their presence and that proceed from their influence. That, we understand, is the position taken by the Mayor. It is shared by experienced officials in most of the cities in both hemispheres.

We are aware that many very good people think such places should be broken up. They regard all such measures as we have mentioned as dallying with and palliating wickedness and corruption. They have no patience with anything but smashing such evils and endeavoring to eradicate them entirely. But they do not take into consideration the fact, that the people whom they desire to be driven forth cannot be "smashed" nor put out of existence. They must go somewhere, and if they are thrust out of certain localities will scatter around in more respectable neighborhoods and become a much greater menace and nuisance than ever.

When officers are brought face to face with these matters, they are compelled to act according to means and possibilities. They become conservative, no matter how earnestly they may desire to do something effectual in the way of suppressing evils that confront them. High license for the manufacture and sale of intoxicants has been found the best manner of regulating and restraining the liquor traffic where prohibition is impracticable.

On the same principle high fines for

keeping the resorts alluded to has been found the wisest method, where they cannot be suppressed, because it keeps them within the bounds of a kind of order, and an outward appearance of decency that is less intolerable than the riot, and brutality, and violence that characterize the low resorts that small fines and the tacit permission of the authorities encourage.

If the police will faithfully carry out the policy of the Mayor, and the City Council will support him in his efforts to preserve the peace and order of this municipality, they will gain the approbation of law-abiding people, and will cleanse the city of some of its worst disorders. Let the ordinances be enforced, firmly but wisely and according to the spirit and meaning thereof!

## ANOTHER MINE HORROR.

To the long list of calamities the past few weeks is now added the mine horror described in the dispatches from Pittsburgh. Nearly 200 persons are supposed to have been sent into eternity by the explosion of fire damp, and hundreds of persons, chiefly women and children, are mourning the dead. It is another of those pitiful occurrences which sink entire communities in gloom.

In the case of the Chicago theater horror, the inquiry has resulted in an endeavor to fasten the responsibility upon a number of men who, it is asserted, neglected their duty. That is a terrible indictment. But on whom can the responsibility for the so often recurring mine disasters be fastened? Very often they occur after all precautions have been taken and every one supposes there is no cause for fear. Sometimes the cause is never clearly ascertained, because there is no survivor to tell the dreadful secret. All is buried in the bosom of the earth.

The truth is that the pursuit of wealth is a steady battle in which lives are daily risked, and lost. In the manufacture of the thousand and one articles that are thought to be needed for man's happiness, lives are sacrificed continually. The same is true in the business of transporting the goods from one place to another. Complicated, heavy, effective machinery means danger, for no human work can be perfect. The very imperfection in making and handling means danger. It is not different in the pursuit of the wealth that is hidden in the bowels of the earth. Were it possible to reach perfection in human work, there would be shafts and tunnels in which every possible danger of explosion and cave-in, and fire, were no more present, but as long as human work is imperfect, danger cannot be entirely removed, by human aid alone. The imperfection of everything human is plainly in evidence in the many accidents and horrors of the present time.

## MRS. MAYBRICK'S CASE.

A rumor has been circulated recently that Mrs. Maybrick was to be released in April, but it is now said that she will not be set free before July. It will then be fifteen years since she was imprisoned, and in all probability the British authorities will conclude that the ends of justice have been fully met.

The Maybrick case was one that attracted attention on both sides of the ocean. In an American court she would almost certainly have been pronounced "not guilty." In Great Britain she was sentenced to death, though the sentence was changed to life imprisonment. It took the British jury just 33 minutes to agree on a verdict of murder in the first degree.

Mrs. Maybrick is the daughter of a banker of Mobile, Ala. As a girl she met Mr. Maybrick on an ocean steamer. He lived in Liverpool. She was only seventeen years old. They got married and lived in a fine residence in one of the suburbs of Liverpool. They lived apparently happy together for several years. Two children were born to them.

The misfortune came to the household when the lady commenced keeping company with another man. Maybrick became jealous. There was a violent scene between him and his wife over the fact that Mrs. Maybrick had accompanied her new friend to a race track. Maybrick blackened his wife's eyes as an incident to this altercation and ordered her out of the house, but when the cab came to take her away, refused to let her go. Mrs. Maybrick is said to have threatened him for his performance on this occasion. Shortly after Maybrick became ill and died, the doctors describing the cause of death as gastro-enteritis, or inflammation and irritation of the stomach and bowels.

Mrs. Maybrick was arrested and charged with having poisoned her husband with arsenic. In the house eighty-five grains of arsenic were found, and an autopsy and chemical analysis of Maybrick's organs revealed the presence of one-tenth of a grain of arsenic. But there was also evidence to show that arsenic was one of the drugs that Maybrick was addicted to taking, and that a short time before he became sick he had purchased 450 grains of that poison.

The legal battle was fought strenuously. The presiding judge, Sir Fitz-James Stephen, is said to have become insane not long after the trial and to have died in an asylum. He has been vehemently denounced for having made up his mind before the hearing as to the guilt of the accused woman. An International "Maybrick Association" of American and English women was at once formed, and such strong pressure was brought to bear that the death sentence was commuted to one of imprisonment for life. The movements to secure Mrs. Maybrick's release have been persistent, but heretofore clemency has been steadily refused by the English authorities.

Mrs. Maybrick's mother, the Baroness de Roques, lives in Rouen, France, and has visited her daughter as often as the prison rules would permit. It is believed that after her release Mrs. Maybrick will come to this country and will make her home in Louisiana.

## CONDITIONS IN SERVIA.

King Peter of Servia seems to be in a most difficult dilemma, being too weak to cope with the assassins who placed him on the throne, and too poor to abdicate. If he had a fortune, he could withdraw and live in peace and comfort as becomes an ex-king. But he is poor, and cannot afford to leave the throne until he is forced to do so. Now has he enough strength of character to break the bonds, punish the murderers, and redeem, as far as can be done, the situation. Reports have it that the unfortunate monarch sleeps with a revolver under his pillow and a ladder hanging out of his bedroom window; that he always goes armed, that he suspects everybody who comes near him, and that he puts no trust in the guards at the palace. The powers urged him to show his disgust at the murder of Alexander and Draga by bringing the guilty parties to justice. But this was clearly impossible, and as a consequence he has been socially ostracized. Anarchy is said to be spreading in the country, and Russia and Austria are both anxious of seeing a real king on Servia's throne, not a weak tool of regicides.

Those who have studied the Servian situation closely suggest that a successful war is about the only salvation for the king. Should he determine to champion the national cause in Macedonia, he may possibly heal the breach among his officers and unite all in common devotion to the throne and a common enthusiasm for the "Great Servian Idea." Even the politicians might be induced to forget their squabbles in the face of such a crisis. The possibility of an entente with Bulgaria for common action in the spring has been much discussed at Sofia. The cautious and suspicious Bulgarians dread the Servians as well as the Greeks—even when bring gifts. It is therefore thought that if complications should arise in the spring, Servia will in all probability play for her own hand; the more excitable character of her people may prompt them to take a step in advance of their more circumspect neighbors, and the spark which lights the Balkan powder magazine will perhaps be kindled at Belgrade.

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## THE POWER OF TRUTH.

It has been stated that the experiments made with radium point to the possibility of the transmutation of metals. The contemplation of this is not reassuring to those who can see wealth in nothing but money. If a time should come when man knows how to make gold of lead, or copper, the wealth that consists in gold would be swept away. The London Spectator directs the public attention to this fact. "If," says that paper, "it became possible simply and expeditiously to transmute lead and iron into gold or silver, the basis of our civilization would disappear. Wealth in kind would become the only form of riches. The stores of bullion at the banks would become simply heaps of scrap-iron. The great financial centers of the world, which owe their importance to their gold reserves, would lose the basis of their pre-eminence. Banking would come to an end; reserves of capital would cease to have any practical meaning; all forms of investment would cease; the gold-producing countries, like the Transvaal and West Australia, would be bankrupted; and the elaborate system of commerce which mankind has built up during a thousand years would crumble about our ears, for there would be no standard, no little rod, by which to measure prices." So that is another of the wonders of radium. It will direct scientific thought into entirely new channels, and remove the "basis of our civilization," causing it to crumble as the temple of Dagon when Samson overthrew the pillars. It will cause the rearing of a new civilization upon the ruins of the old. How little it takes to upset a world! The discovery of one single truth is sometimes enough to inaugurate an era, at the threshold of which the old things are passing away and everything becomes new.

## DESTRUCTION BY FIRE.

The destruction by flames of the little Norwegian city Alesund is one of the calamities that, at intervals, befall the cities of the Old World, which are built chiefly of wood. When flames burst out and a fierce gale is raging, particularly in the wintertime, when snow and ice make the duties of the fire department difficult to attend to, it is not possible to confine the fire to a few houses. With irresistible force the fiery tongues leap from square to square, and in an incredibly short time, all that can burn is being swept by flames. It was so when, some years ago, the city of Levanger, in Norway, was almost totally destroyed. Fortunately, on such occasions the benevolence of the Scandinavian people will not permit anyone to suffer. In a very short time provisions, tents, money, clothing, etc., will be distributed so abundantly that many will become better off, after the calamity than they were before. And the city will rapidly rise out of the ashes, new and beautiful. There will be more regular streets, and more consideration for sanitary rules. The purification by fire is only a temporary calamity.

## Major McCawley's real offense was contempt of court.

Why not call the Iroquois Memorial society the Iroquois League?

It seems as though the eastern cold wave has begun to roll over Utah.

"Bryan has got the stage," says Mr. Cleveland. But who has the audience?

The cruel war in Carbon county is over and Johnny has come marching home.

It is very cold down east, but it is not cold enough to solidify some of the political factions.

The government has practically closed its side in the Machen case. That means a nail in some one's political coffin.

Mr. Schwab is worth twenty millions

In steel common, at par. Well may he say: "He who steals my steel steals trash."

Last year Germany produced more pig iron than Great Britain did. This causes the iron to enter the soul of the Briton.

Evidently those German bullets in German Southwest Africa are not doing their full duty, according to latest accounts.

"Mr. Bryan continues to live in the past," says the San Francisco Chronicle. Wrong. Mr. Bryan continues to live in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The killing of a Korean in Seoul by an electric car nearly caused a serious riot. No doubt the company was trying to economize and had no fender on the car.

David Kaphokohokimokewonah has been appointed a postmaster in Hawaii. In addressing official communications to him the name should be spelled out in full.

The University of Missouri students have petitioned the faculty to cut down the meals furnished by their alma mater to two a day. Hog and hominy three times a day is bound to become monotonous.

Students of the Yale Law school have just tried Hamlet for the murder of Polonius. There was no verdict, there being a hung jury. The Yale law students should try something easier than "Hamlet."

Here is one of the worst puns ever perpetrated: "The senate committee on elections and privileges will decide the propriety of allowing a member of the Mormon hierarchy to sit in the upper house, by trying him in what may be called a Smoot court," says the Boston Transcript.

In the death of Professor Herman von Holst the world loses a great scholar. His "Constitutional History of the United States" is his greatest work and upon it his fame will rest. Some years ago, at the time of the Venezuelan controversy, he made himself very unpopular because of his construction of the Monroe doctrine. It was not the popular construction and he was most roundly abused for it, much of it coming from academic quarters, displaying a bigotry unworthy of any one professing true culture and learning.

## GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.

Pueblo Chieftain.

One of the most peculiar men this country has ever known was George Francis Train, who was a conspicuous illustration of the saying, "Great will to madness is most near allied." He was one of the great cranks of the past century, but his insanity was that of a genius.

## Portland Oregonian.

The death of George Francis Train calls attention once more and for the first time to the harmless eccentricities of this most eccentric man. For a number of the seventy-five years allotted to him Citizen Train was before the public with his "dilettante" upon matters of public policy and private right. Little that he said will live after him. Yet he was an energetic man, and whatever his hands found to do he did with his might. That his effort was largely misdirected was his misfortune rather than his fault; and even the most extravagant vagaries that marked his conduct and gave index to his character are remembered in charity. A world full of such beings as was Citizen Train would be a sort of madhouse peopled by mild-mannered lunatics, but one such man in a world makes little difference one way or another.

George Francis Train, who died at the Mills hotel in New York last night, did many things which the world will call brilliant. He did many things which the world will call foolish. The line between wisdom and folly is not always so sharply drawn as to be plain even to men and women of keen discernment. The career of George Francis Train was, in truth, meteoric. He organized great enterprises and made liberal fortunes in brief periods of time. His money went as it came. He formerly maintained an establishment at a cost of \$2,000 a week. He died in a hotel where his living cost him \$3 a week. His last years were passed almost wholly with the children who gathered daily in Madison square. He knew 15,000 of them by name and they all knew and loved him.

## San Francisco Chronicle.

The lesson of his life is that no man, however able, can afford to greatly differ from the generation in which he lives. He was an extremist in all things, and destitute of the faculty which we call judgment. Fully realizing the brightness of his own mind, his egotism passed the point where it was offensive and became simply amusing. Active as he was in the suggestion and promotion of great enterprises, it was not at all in that connection that he was known to the public. It was rather as the brilliant opponent of nearly all social and political ideas which were approved by his generation. He was the ancestor of the bizarre. While he retained his strength—and he retained it far longer than most men—he lived in a whirl of excitement of his own creating. He was known in all continents, and wherever he was men were talking about him. But he did nothing that stuck in men's minds.

## New York Mail and Express.

Mr. Train claimed that he had organized the commune in Marsella, and for 23 years had used as a fitting title the name of "Citizen." For some years his eccentricity took the form of refusing to speak to adults; and in a white duck suit, bareheaded, with a large boutonniere, the Citizen was a familiar sight in the parks of this city, holding a pad of paper, on which he wrote answers to questions addressed to him by any person who chose to do so. He was a fond of children and of animals, and youngsters and squirrels marked his slow progress through the parks. He enjoyed life, so that one cannot regret that he lived to be seventy-five years of age; but it has been far better for his fame that he died thirty-five years ago. With him goes a picturesque character of the city, possessed of picturesque career, more useful to the public, however, than that of many a more sober-minded man.

## Oklahoma Enquirer.

George Francis Train narrowly escaped being a great man. He had within him the elements of greatness, but his character was too uneven. Many a man of far less ability will gain greater fame and will be known in the future when the name of George Francis Train shall have been forgotten.

First Nighter—The man who writes the comic columns for your paper does not know a good play from a bad one.  
Editor—I know it, but what can we do? Ah, the only man on the staff who is tall enough to see over the bonnets. —New York Weekly.

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