

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager

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SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 17, 1909.

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

For years it has been the custom in the wards throughout the Stakes of Zion to commemorate the birthday of the Prophet Joseph, by special services, on the Sunday nearest the date of that anniversary. In accordance with this practice we suggest that Sunday, Dec. 26, this year, be devoted to the memory of the great Prophet of this dispensation, and that appropriate services be held in the Sunday schools, ward houses and other places where the religious services of the Church are held, on that day.

JOSEPH F. SMITH, JOHN R. WINDER, ANTHONY H. LUND, First Presidency, Salt Lake City, Dec. 11, 1909.

TAFT'S PLAIN TALK.

President Taft has spoken plainly in the matter of politics and census taking. To the newly appointed supervisors who called upon him the other day he said:

"Many of you—most of you—have been recommended by congressmen, and it may be that some of those congressmen will come to you and expect because they did recommend you that you owe them something in the way of selecting the men as enumerators who will help them in their congressional elections."

"You have got to select the men who you think will do the work, and if you catch them doing political work, I wish you to remove them, just as I will remove you if I catch you doing political work. It is business."

We hope all engaged in the census taking will understand this. They may have obtained positions as reward for political work, but if they will act on the suggestion of the President they will not use those positions for partisan purposes.

It would be better every way, if public officials could be converted to the doctrine that they are not party, but public servants; that party machinery has no legitimate place in a public office, no matter how necessary it is for election purposes.

But, it may be asked, if partisanship is eliminated from all public offices, upon whom does the responsibility for the performance of the duties of the offices rest? Who can be held responsible? Why the officials themselves. Let them be responsible to the people who elected them. That is the sufficient answer.

THE CUSTOMS FRAUDS.

It is, of course, perfectly right and proper that the large sugar importing companies pay the duty they owe the government, and since the total sums refunded already amount to in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000, it is evident that the fraudulent transactions have been carried out on no small scale.

But is there any way of preventing the same companies from extracting those millions from the pockets of the consumers, by means of an extra cent added to the price of the pound of sugar? The people are innocent in the matter. Can they be protected against vicarious suffering for the sins of the sugar importers?

The attempt, by such interests, to defraud the government is bad enough from a mere economic point of view, but it is worse from the standpoint of ethics. It reveals the prevalent contempt for the law and the government, incites that demand protection to the utmost, by that same government under the law. What must be the influence of such revelations? Thousands of aliens come to our shores every year, and we make a great show of Americanizing them, and making them "fit" for self-government. What must be the influence of such law-defiance upon them? If we teach them such lessons what will the result be?

In this country the people themselves make the laws. They should be all the more determined to keep them. The majesty of democracy should be held a great deal more sacred than the majesty of autocracy. But is it?

It seems that the transgressors in this instance will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. They ought to be. The man who steals a million and rides in an automobile should be treated with no more consideration than the poor fellow who steals a sack of sugar.

THE NEW ANESTHETIC.

The press has reported the recent experiments with Stovaine under the direction of Dr. Jonnesco, the Roumanian surgeon, and the impression has been created that this is a new discovery. But we learn from a recent number of the Philadelphia Inquirer, that Dr. W. Wayne Babcock, surgeon at the Samaritan Hospital, has been practicing spinal anesthesia in his operations, in a manner almost exactly similar to that employed by the Roumanian doctor. We may add that Dr. Babcock is a son of Mr. Babcock at present of this city, and a brother of Miss Maude May Babcock, of the University of Utah.

Dr. Babcock, the article in the Philadelphia Inquirer states, has officiated at more than a thousand operations in which he has used stovaine injections for the purpose of causing the patient to lose his sense of feeling in the part of the body being operated upon, while he retains all the other powers of his mind. In almost every case Dr. Babcock has talked to the patient who was

being operated upon and has found that they always are invariably in their normal minds and not affected mentally by either the operation or the anesthetic. Occasionally after the effect of the anesthetic has worn off the patient has been afflicted with nausea, but by constant experimenting in doses and compounds, this has lately been overcome. We quote the following account:

"Half a dozen of these operations were performed in the Samaritan Hospital yesterday. All the patients who were operated upon were treated to an injection of stovaine compounded with strychnia. The injection was made in the spine below the fourth lumbar vertebra. As soon as the drug had entered the system of the patient he became temporarily paralyzed from the waist down. A towel was thrown over his face in order that he might not see the blood."

"Then the operation began. At the very instant that the sharp knife was being thrust into the patient's flesh he was allowed to talk. The patient said he felt fine in a calm voice and throughout the operation exhibited an utter unconsciousness of pain, although he could hear and speak."

It seems that Dr. Babcock has pursued his experiments for more than ten years, and that his discoveries have been known to the medical profession through the reports of medical journals, although they have not attracted the attention of the press correspondents.

The account states, however, that it has been discovered that it is impractical to use the injection above the fourth lumbar vertebra. When the stovaine is injected any point along the spine below this, it induces paralysis of all points below it, while the patient still has feeling above. It is feared that if the stovaine were injected further up the spine its action upon the heart would be dangerous.

A TIMELY SUGGESTION.

At the Wasatch County Teachers' Institute held last Saturday at Heber City, Prof. Mosiah Hall, of the State University, recommended a radical change in the present curriculum of the common schools. Most educators agree that the course of study is badly crowded; that children have so many studies to pursue that their minds are kept in a constant whirl and they are unable to center their efforts upon anything. Prof. Hall contends that fewer subjects must be taught and these must be taught more thoroughly and effectively.

Some of us remember the time when the three R's constituted the course of study. When geography was introduced, it was received with much hostility by the older boys, and when grammar was added a small rebellion arose—many refused to study this new subject. Since then, notwithstanding the protest of pupil and often of teacher, there has been forced into the curriculum, from the outside, subject after subject until the whole is so top heavy that it is likely to fall of its own weight. It was believed that children should know something of the history of the country, hence United States history was placed in the curriculum. The W. C. T. U. succeeded in having Congress pass a new law compelling the schools to teach physiology and hygiene. Advocates of culture, at length succeeded in having art and music recognized as essential subjects. The insistent demand to make nature study a part of the curriculum was listened to, and at present there is an earnest effort being made to force the schools to teach manual training, domestic science, domestic art, and agriculture. But this is not all; as a sort of last straw on the camel's back, some enthusiasts are insisting that one or more foreign languages should be taught by the schools—and the very last subject mentioned as being absolutely necessary to a well balanced and nicely rounded curriculum, up to 10:30 o'clock last night, he cried:

The three R's have expanded into seventeen subjects, and the well balanced student is expected to instruct the students in reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, grammar, geography, history, hygiene and physiology, drawing, music, nature study, manual training, domestic science, domestic art, agriculture, a foreign language and civics. It is not uncommon to see a little child staggering to school under an arm full of books, reminding one of State Supt. Ackerman's statement at our State Teachers' association last year: "During the last decade, the text books have been getting thicker and thicker and the children thinner and thinner"—or Johnny's answer to the teacher's question: "Why are you late, Johnny?" "Why, teacher, I had to go back to get the rest of my books."

So far as we know no effective effort has been made to correlate or better to amalgamate these subjects. Prof. Hall is, we believe, the first of our educators to suggest, or rather to offer, a definite way of lessening the subjects required in our common schools. He took a strong decisive stand Saturday in favor of uniting nature study and geography under the head of nature-geography, laying stress on the science side of the subject in the lower grades. These subjects, he contends, can better be taught together than separately.

If the Professor is right, and we believe he is, this should be hailed with joy by both teacher and pupil, as it would do away with one recitation period each day during the eight years of school.

We gather, further, from the Professor's remarks, that all the art necessary could, and should, be correlated with nature-geography. This would do away with one other of the branches of our burdensome curriculum, as a separate subject.

We believe, this suggestion is timely and far reaching and hope to see it carefully and unbiasedly considered by the people and educators of our State. What our schools need is "Less quantity and more quality—smaller scope and greater efficiency."

The early shopper gets the worm.

The real tariff question—Will it ever be settled?

The secret of old age generally is some folly of youth.

Is it Muriel's skeleton in Chief of Police Barlow's closet?

Speaker Cannon is as stand-pat and dumb as the Sphinx.

Very much of the high class drama

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

THE MAN WHO SOLD HIS BRAINS TO HIMSELF.

By J. E. Edwards.

This daily series of anecdotes and incidents that throw new, interesting and frequently dramatic light on famous events and personalities of the past have been collected by Edwards during nearly forty years of more or less intimate acquaintance with many of the country's leaders since the Civil War. Each anecdote or incident is fresh from Mr. Edwards's notebook, and, either in whole or in part, it constitutes New News of Yesterday, gathered from the men who made the news—the history from equally authoritative sources. As important contributions of the "Human Interest" sort to American history, these articles have a distinctive value all their own.

When the late Judge Stevenson Burke, of Cleveland, Ohio, died in 1904, leaving behind a reputation as a railroad capitalist of prominence in the middle west and a fortune of several million dollars, many interesting stories were told of him, for he was a picturesque figure. But there was no mention of the chance thought on which he built his reputation as a railroad capitalist. That story was told to me by Senator Chauncey M. Depew several years before Judge Stevenson's death and at a time when he was at the height of his career as a railroad capitalist.

The Judge and I both appeared as counsel, representing some very important railroad interests, and the senator, "We were receiving our fees and salaries as regular counsel, but the issue at stake at this particular conference with the men employing us involved a good many millions and the making of large fortunes for some of them."

A day or two after we had outlined a plan of action to our clients, the Judge and I met again.

Depew, he said, "while we were in that conference the other day, a chance thought flashed into my mind, in the midst of the business in hand, that you and I are big fools. Here is a group of railway men who are paying us a few thousand dollars for the advantage that our experience, our legal knowledge, gives them. They rely almost wholly upon what we tell them, and we can be done, and how it can be done, or what cannot be done. Then what do they do? They go ahead, and do as we have advised them to do, and they make millions out of it, while you and I have to beg along as before."

Now, I'm tired of this sort of thing. I am satisfied that we lawyers are not getting our fair share. I have made up my mind that hereafter I am not going to sell my brains and information to anybody except Stevenson Burke. For, if what I know and can advise is good for these railroad fellows to make millions on, it ought to be good for Stevenson Burke also to make some millions on."

"But, Judge," I said, "you must not forget that it requires something besides brains to carry through large railroad enterprises."

"I know that," was the reply. "But I am certain that any man can get capital who knows how to use his credit, and one of the things you and I have been advising men of capital about is the manner in which they can use their credit. And I'll tell you right here that I am going to see whether or not I have not credit enough to support my legal knowledge and any other ability that I may have, so that I can make out of my brains and my credit sufficient capital to start in making millions for myself."

"At first," continued the senator, "I thought that the Judge was simply talking to hear himself talk, and was thinking about a larger fee for the work he had just done or a greater salary as general counsel. But I soon saw that he was in dead earnest, and not long thereafter I learned that he had got enough credit and capital together to enable him to buy his way into authoritative relation with one of the Ohio railroads. From that step he advanced into very profitable association with those who were engaged in the reorganization of the Hocking Valley railroad, becoming its president and remaining in that office for a matter of six years. And from the day that he started in to become a railroad capitalist on the strength of that chance thought of his he has stuck consistently to his purpose of selling Stevenson Burke's brains to no one except Stevenson Burke, and it has made him rich."

Every Central American is the son of some revolution.

The spirit of speculation often finds it hard to embody itself.

Thinking imperially is a poor substitute for thinking correctly.

Those wanting a good thing will buy the Christmas News tomorrow.

Even with an airship some people could not rise to the occasion.

And now the plunger reaps not the golden grain but the golden gain.

Be a hero in the strife but be careful about what kind of a strife it is.

"The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue" is said to have a sinuous walk.

Early to work and early to advertise makes a little boy healthy, wealthy, and wise.

Not being a Yale man of course Chief Barlow has nothing to do with the skull and cross bones.

"Who reads an American book?" once asked Sydney Smith. And who reads the Congressional Record?

Everything is higher these days than it used to be except the moral standard. That doesn't seem to be quite so high.

Once again the last of the Mohicans is dead. The last of the Mohicans probably has died more often than any man that ever lived.

In determining who discovered the north pole, the National Geographic society employed what is known in logic as the method of exclusion.

The locomotive engineer is the only man in the world who can go on a "foot" and remain sober. He does it by whistling to keep up his courage.

The switchmen's strike has become an endurance test. The roads and the men will endure to the end, but which to the big end and which to the little end time alone can tell.

The best service that Zelaya ever did his country and mankind was to resign. He claims that his motives were patriotic. Let him be given the benefit of the doubt, since whatever they were they prompted an action meritorious in itself.

The National Geographic society has publicly acclaimed Commander Peary the discoverer of the north pole and in recognition of the fact has presented him with a gold medal. Knowing of Dr. Cook's prior claim, the society refused to take judicial notice of it. The north pole controversy practically remains in statu quo ante.

THE NEWSPAPER "STORY."

Atholton Globe.

We hate the word "story," as newspaper reporters use it. It always means great exaggeration; very often it means a falsehood. Here is a "story" from Chicago: "You've come to a poor place for money, Mr. Burglar. I'm just a poor fellow and it's all I can do to scrape together enough to keep up my wife and kids." So said A. Huder, of Rogers Park, to a masked man who stood over his bedside early one morning. "How much money have you got?" asked the man behind the gun. "Only \$3.40 left from my pay Saturday night," replied Huder, reaching for his trousers and showing his cash. "I only make \$10 a week." "Let me see the kids," commanded the burglar. Huder led him into the next room where his two daughters and a son, all under six years, slept peacefully. The robber looked down at the children a moment, sighed, went quietly for a time, and then he said: "I guess you need the money more than I do, old man. Good-night." The intent of this

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AERIAL NAVIES.

San Francisco Chronicle.

It is not so clear that the age is to realize the dream of Tennyson of "airy navies," competent, at any rate to go

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MATINEE TODAY

TWO SHOWS TONIGHT.

Prices—Night, 10c, 25c, 50c. Matinees, 10c, 20c.

"grappling in the central blue," that no nation is warranted in lagging behind with its aerial experiments. Germany at present is far ahead. But it is by no means certain that Zeppelin has spoken the last word in aeronautic science. There may be, lying latent

in the mind of some inventor, better craft than his, airships capable of greater speed, carrying more guns and better ones; and to make these materialize, nations which may be forced to war should spare no pecuniary incentive. Not only France, but Great

Britain, the United States, Japan and Russia, ought not to wait upon events any longer. The principle of the dirigible and aeroplane has been solved; the power which applies it in the most perfect way will need fear nothing in the realm of international policies.



Christmas

Tomorrow will be a strenuous day at Z. C. M. I.

Glove Gifts Are Always Welcome

Here is an opportunity to buy splendid values at exceptional reductions:

- Waldorf, Coronet and Maduro, Pique Kid Gloves, all colors and sizes, Good \$1.50 values; special . . . \$1.25
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Fine Handkerchief Values

Embroidered and Hemstitched Linen Handkerchiefs, 20c, 35c, 60c, 75c up. Women's Initial Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, 12 1-2c, 16 2-3c, 25c, 35c, 60c, 75c. Plain Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 50c.

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A really splendid assortment of Leather Hand Bags, the newest styles, extraordinary values from \$1.50 up. "WAY" KNIT MUFFLERS, REGULAR 50c VALUES, EACH . . . 35c

Useful Gifts for Either Sex

At the west end of our north aisle you will find large tables loaded with a beautiful array of useful and ornamental Christmas presents, suitable for either sex. Toilet sets, manicure sets, beveled mirrors, shaving sets, jewel cases, handkerchief boxes, glove and handkerchief sets, ink wells, military brushes, collar and cuff boxes, powder boxes, jewel boxes, and many other gift articles too numerous to mention.

Z. C. M. I. Sale of Men's

Suits and Overcoats Third Off

Our entire line of heavyweight Overcoats, ranging in price from \$7.50 to \$35.00, reduced to—

One-Third Off

One