

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sundays excepted).
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose - Editor.
Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager.SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance):One Year \$5.00
Six Months 2.50
Three Months 1.25
One Month25
Saturday Edition, Per Year 2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year 2.00Correspondence and other reading mat-
ter for publication should be addressed to the
EDITOR.Address all business communications
and all remittances to:
THE DESERET NEWS
Salt Lake City, Utah.Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake
City as second class matter on or about
the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 23, 1906.

CONCERNING EVILDOERS.

"Wherefore I say unto you, that ye
ought to forgive one another, for he
that forgiveth not his brother his tres-
passes, standeth condemned before the
Lord, for there remaineth in him the
guilt of sin."If the Lord will forgive whom I will
forgive, but of you it is required to for-
give all men."And ye ought to say in your hearts,
let God judge between ye and me, and
reward thee according to thy deeds.""And he that repenteth not of his
sins, and confesseth them not, then ye
shall bring him before the Church, and
do with him as the scripture saith un-
to you, either by commandment or
revelation.—Doc. and Cov. Sec. 64:
verses 9-12.The foregoing is the law of God to
the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
day Saints in reference to offenders.
The spirit of charity is inculcated in the
Church, and that of compassion toward
the weak and erring. As to individual
offenses between members, the former
part of the instructions referred to is to
govern their course. When the Church
as a body has a case against a mem-
ber, the latter part is to be enforced.This word of the Lord is not always
carried into full effect, for human na-
ture in its fallen condition suggests
either retaliation for injuries received,
or causes animosity to rankle in the
heart to the prevention of that for-
giveness which is required. Also, the
sins of individuals which would justify
their trial and condemnation by the
Church as an organization, are per-
mitted frequently to pass without ac-
tion by the Church courts. In order
that a case may be successfully car-
ried through in those courts, a charge
must be preferred, and sustained by
evidence, and decided according to that
evidence by the Bishop's court. It is
subject to appeal to the High Council
of the Stake in which the accused re-
sides, and the whole proceedings must
be conducted according to the rules of
the Church.It sometimes happens that members
of the Church have the reputation of
wrongdoing of a kind that cannot be
proven by proper witnesses, who must
be members of the Church in order to
have a standing before the courts of the
Church. If the offender is an unrepent-
ant sinner, covering up his iniquities in
order to escape investigation and ex-
clusion from the Church, he is permit-
ted for lack of proof to pursue his evil
ways without a formal trial and its
consequences. But it is the duty of
the Teachers who visit the Saints to
give them home instruction, to labor
with such persons in a general way,
pointing out the evils of the course
they are understood to be pursuing,
with a view to their repentance and
reclamation.There are persons, however, who be-
come so steeped in sin and corruption
that the very leniency extended to-
wards them, instead of softening their
hearts and influencing them to con-
fession and reformation, renders them
defiant and hateful, and they become
the servants of Satan and slaves to
their own lusts and excesses. They
may, at first, when appealed to, shed
copious tears and make promises that
they do not keep and assume a virtue
that their acts belie. They finally fall
into the condition here described.It is the desire of the servants of
God who are in authority in the Church,
to lead transgressors into compliance
with the commandments of the Lord
and into lives of righteousness and
truth. But there comes a time when
repentance and compassion and char-
ity come to be a virtue, and means
have to be employed to execute the
rules of the Church and rid the body
of the utterly corrupt and wicked mem-
ber. Actual sin invariably leads to
neglect of duty and to utter rebellion
against rules which all Christians are
required to observe. Brought before
the proper Church tribunals on such
charges as can be fully substantiated,
the evidence being sufficient to prove
them guilty, they are excommunicated
and left to wallow in the mire of their
chosen iniquity.Once in a while such a sinner will
truly repent, turn from his wrongdoing
and seek forgiveness and a return to
fellowship. If he appears to be sin-
cere, he is welcomed like the prodigal
son. He is encouraged and assisted
in every possible way to regain his lost
status and become worthy of the con-
fidence and esteem of his fellows. In
rare cases this becomes successful, and
the past is measurably forgotten. But
there are cases in which the forgiving
spirit exhibited toward the wretched
creature who loves sin and revels in
iniquity, is ridiculed and he will turn
round upon those who forgive him and
hoped him to reform, hurl at them the
reproach that, after knowing of his
wickedness, they aided him temporarily
as well as spiritually, and will use
their very charity and kindness as a
weapon against them.What can be thought of such a be-
havior as that? Is there any word in
ordinary language strong enough to depict
his character correctly? Is there any
common criminal as vile as he? Is there
any depth of degradation into which
he can sink lower than that in whichhe lies? He has no sense of shame.
He is lost to every proper feeling of
humanity, and becomes a prey to in-
fluences that proceed from and lead to
the lowest hell. Thank God such in-
stances are few and far between. But
they exist and can evoke nothing but
utter contempt and detestation, even
in the breasts of the most
compassionate and forgiving.The Church has reached its full
length of leniency which it can enforce
when it pronounces the edict of excom-
munication. It has no more to do with
the creature of whom it is well deliv-
ered. He may continue his downward
course, and from the mire in which he
wallows, hurl filthy missiles against
the Church and people who bore with
his transgressions and tried to save him
from destruction. But in doing so he
only bespatters himself and renders
himself still more hideous in the sight
of all just, decent and fairminded peo-
ple.The Latter-day Saints should endeavor
to live according to instructions
quoted at the head of this article. They
should forgive one another in their
hearts for personal offenses, whether
the transgressor repents and makes
amends to them or not. But the
Church, as the body of Christ, should
carry out the commandment concerning
evil doers, and after it is evident that
they will not turn from the error of
their ways but are bent on doing wicked-
ly in spite of every effort to reclaim
them, action should be instituted so
far as evidence can be obtained, and
they should be cut off from the Church,
that it may not be truthfully accused
of harboring and encouraging evil do-
ers.Warning, comforting and shielding a
viper is dangerous compassion. When
its strength is revived and the oppor-
tunity opens, it will sting the hand that
fed it and exhibit its real nature as
sure as it is a deadly reptile. The ex-
perience of the Church has demon-
strated this sufficiently to form a warn-
ing for all time to come. Let the word
of the Lord concerning transgressors be
observed according to the spirit and
meaning thereof.

SIGNS OF EARLY SPRING.

A gentleman, the other day, observed
in a little company of friends, that
he felt sure we were going to have an
early spring this year. He is observant,
and he had noticed that some spar-
rows had already commenced building
their nests, and from this fact he drew
his conclusion with a great deal of con-
fidence.There are many "signs" by which
prognostications are made, but whether
any of them is infallible is doubtful.
The most common is the weather on
"groundhog" day. But, as everyone
knows, the sign as often fails as it
comes true. An early spring comes after
a bright and sunny 2nd of February,
as often as after one that is cloudy
and stormy.There are many other "signs" of an
early spring. Some observers of na-
ture have come to the conclusion that
the interior heat of the earth advances
toward the surface, at the close of the
winter, in obedience to some natural
law not perfectly understood. To them
the rising of the sap in the trees, and
the swelling of the buds is a notice
of the rising heat in the interior of
the earth, and therefore of the rapid ap-
proach of spring. The roots and sap of
trees, they think, are more to be re-
lied on as giving an inkling of the
real advance of the seasons than are
things directly influenced by prevalent
winds and frosts. Springs of water are
supposed to be especially susceptible
to the action of the approaching heat.Some animals are relied on as true
weather prophets. When, for instance,
a red squirrel is seen lying on a slender
branch, with his nose close to the
bark, it is supposed that he has made
a cut into the sapwood of the tree,
and that he is sucking out the sweet
sap which has sprung from the roots.
The same little animals may be trusted
to detect the symptoms of the swelling
of the terminal buds before anyone
else, and the fragments scattered by
them on the snow, as they seek out
the embryonic vegetable life just develop-
ing, are joyfully noted by the men
who are anxious to see the last of
winter.There are many similar "signs," but
none is, as everyone knows, infallible.
But, perhaps they are as much so as
the strictly scientific deductions, which
also sometimes fail.

TO ATTRACT TOURISTS.

The San Francisco Chronicle does
not believe that much will be accom-
plished in the interest of seeing America
first, by depicting our wonderful scenery,
or, dwelling on the patriotic duty
of studying our country. The Chronicle
holds that what we have to show
in the way of great and odd human do-
ings will prove more attractive. Our
contemporary, speaking of the con-
gress here this week, says:"Doubtless many excellent reasons
will be presented in favor of this sec-
tion of the Union as the proper place
for Americans to take their outings.
We have scenery west of the Rocky
mountains that beats anything out-
doors, but it is a mistake to suppose
that any considerable number of per-
sons who visit Europe will be in-
fluenced by information of that charac-
ter. Only a modest proportion of the
world's tourists make their pilgrimages
in search of natural beauties; the
bulk of them are seeking something
else. The human interest side appeals
to them most strongly. They wish to
see what their fellow man has done or
is doing in other lands. They are seek-
ing novelty; something different from
what they see at home."It will do no harm to bear this in
mind. But many Eastern tourists cross
the Atlantic, because they can take a
trip to Europe cheaper and more com-
fortably than they can to our west
coast. They have but a limited sum
to spend on their vacation trip, and
they naturally seek to obtain the most
for it. Many just follow the crowds.
They go to the places that are best
advertised and therefore most gener-
ally known. Extensive advertising and
cheap excursion rates will make the
movement a grand success. There is
no lack of desire among the American
people to see their country, and to be-
come familiar with it in every nook
and corner, as far as possible. Whenthe American places of interest are as
well advertised as European tourist
resorts, and as easily reached, compar-
atively speaking, there will be no lack
of tourist travel in this country.

DOWIE'S TROUBLES.

As near as can be judged from the
telegraphic accounts of the affairs in
Dr. Dowie's community near Chicago
his followers are in difficulties of both
a financial and religious character. The
"overseer," who claimed to be an in-
carnation, or perhaps a successor, of
Elijah, has been sick for some time.
He appointed a committee to have
charge during his absence, and now,
it appears, if the dispatches are not
mistaken, that this committee has con-
cluded to continue in control, though
Dowie has ordered them to step out.
One of the "rebels" is quoted as hav-
ing said that a brand new system of
business management had been adopt-
ed.We do not know just what the condi-
tions are in the community founded by
Dowie, beyond the statements made by
the Chicago reports. But there is lit-
tle doubt in our minds that a relig-
ious system contrived for no other pur-
pose than the financial benefit of the
founder, must soon fail, as a wall of
sand on the tide-swept beach.If converts could be made by spec-
tacular displays, Dowie would have
converted most of New York in Oc-
tober, 1903, when he invaded that city
with a numerous host. There were
thousands of them, well organized and
diligent in their work. They went from
house to house and were kindly treated,
for New York was curious to learn
something about Dowieism. But the at-
tempt at gaining converts in New York
was a complete failure. Dowie was con-
demned out of his own mouth, and his
own actions. From his first appear-
ance in Madison Square Garden, he was
set down for what he is, by the public,
and soon his meetings were attended
more as a sort of variety show than
religious gatherings. He left New York
a disappointed man, and since then he
seems to have met with many reverses.Dowie, no doubt, has many good
qualities. His followers are described
as earnest and conscientious. Their
"Zion" is said to be a model city in
many respects. If, as stated, there are
serious differences between Dowie and
those in present control of affairs, in-
teresting developments may be expect-
ed, provided the "overseer" has re-
tained his old-time fighting ability.The dry-dock Dewey is making haste
slowly."Contraband arms and the man we
sing," say the Moroccans.Paradoxical as it may seem, Secre-
tary Taft's loss of weight is his gain.The observance of Red Sunday in
Russia was as quiet as a Quaker Sun-
day.New York is having spring weather
and Wall street is enjoying spring
"lamb."The power to fix railway rates, like
the power to tax, is the power to de-
stroy.Nicholas is the Czar of all the Rus-
sians, but who is the czar of all the
Russian revolutionists?The electoral slaughter of the Eng-
lish Unionists proceeds apace. But it
isn't the slaughter of the innocents.The playwright who wants to make
a drama out of John D. Rockefeller's
life probably wants to make an "angel"
out of him.Camille Flammarion says that life
on Mars is extremely pleasant. Is it
possible that it can be so pleasant as in
Paris?And now, it is said, Persia is to have
a constitutional government. Shades
of Xerxes and Chosroes! what's the
world coming to?"There is no political office in the
United States for which I would resign
the presidency of the United Mine
Workers of America to accept," says
John Mitchell. What office does he as-
pire to?The President realizes that of the
making of books there is no end, but
he is determined that, so far as in his
power lies, the government printing
office shall not unnecessarily add to
the output.To the labor problem on the Isth-
mus Chairman Shonts would apply
economic laws and not political ones.
That should be the practice not only
on the canal but elsewhere."It is an established fact that cor-
porations are the chief corrupters of
public life. The creatures of the state
have thus become the most dangerous
enemies of the state," said Governor
Folk in his address before the Mer-
chants' association of Boston. In other
words, he hints that corporations are
to the state what Frankenstein's mon-
ster was to him.

THE ENGLISH ELECTIONS.

National Review.

With the advent to power of Sir H.
Campbell-Bannerman, the control of the
United Kingdom and its limited
extent the fortunes of the empire pass
into the hands of a man whose intellect
is not remarkable, whose political
achievements will not bear examina-
tion, and who has associated with him-
self in office, apart from a handful of
Liberal Imperialists, the most extraor-
inary collection of enemies of their
country ever assembled in a Cabinet.
Well may the pro-Boers, pro-Lamas,
pro-Germans and anti-Britons to whom
the political system of this country has
made over the destinies of England for
five or perhaps ten years "walk with
a more elastic step." The chance for
which they have been longings has come
at last; they now have free scope to
wreck that empire which they so de-
test.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The home rule issue, as all remember,
caused Chamberlain to abandon Glad-
stone and liberalism. He entered the
tory-minister cabinet and became
colonial minister. He proposed
universal old-age pensions, with the ap-proval of Salisbury. Two years ago
he declared that he regarded fiscal re-
form as a means to an end—the end
being, aside from imperial unity, the
comfort and prosperity of labor. High
wages and old age pensions. His great
victory in his own city shows that his
neighbors believe in him and admire
his courage, independence and aggres-
siveness. His part is not over yet,
apparently.

New York American.

To be put in power is not always a
great advantage. It means also that
every party in power is put on trial. But
every party which has the courage of its
convictions should be willing to be put
on trial. If the English Liberals are
not able to conduct the government,
they should be turned out, and they will
be. That is one of the points in which
England has the better of us.

Pittsburg Times.

The defeat of Balfour and the return
of Chamberlain carry with them a
plain lesson in politics. The latter
never hesitated to define his position
or to stand by it. The former was
eventually overthrown because he did
not. The very natural consequence was
that he inspired uncertainty and doubt
where the other inspired confidence
and loyal support. Had the one been
more certain of the other, or had their po-
sitions been reversed, England might not
now be witnessing a sweep of Liberal-
ism. In the critical times that are
coming for the other, and can hardly
be that this will not become even more
strikingly apparent, for Chamberlain
is a bigger man than ever before.

Boston Herald.

Mr. Balfour's resignation came rather
sooner than was expected. He had a
safe working majority in the house of
commons so long as he held the
tariff question, and the legal limit of
duration of the other, or had their po-
sitions been reversed, England might not
now be witnessing a sweep of Liberal-
ism. In the critical times that are
coming for the other, and can hardly
be that this will not become even more
strikingly apparent, for Chamberlain
is a bigger man than ever before.

New York World.

May we not hope that a better era is
now dawning, and that in England the
care of unemployment, in Germany
wider self-government for the people,
in Russia the downfall of absolutism
and in America the reformation of high
finance and the cleansing of home po-
lice may seem objects better worth
while than dreaming dreams of "glo-
ry" won by senseless wars abroad and
exhausting the very life of the nations
with military preparations?

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