DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

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THE CHURCH AND POLITICS.

To All Whom It May Concern:

Inasmuch as there has been so much written and said concerning the proceedings of a Priesthood meeting held in the Assembly hall, on Monday, the 7th day of October, I feel it my duty to make a statement concerning it.

I consider it the right of every man, woman and child on earth to enjoy their religion, let that religion be what it may, for that is between themselves and their Creator. So I say with regard to politics. Every man has a right to enjoy his political belief unmolested, let this be what it may. There is not a Democrat in Utah Territory who can truthfully say that I ever asked him to vote a Republican ticket, or join the Republican party. Neither can any Republican say that I ever asked him to vote a Democratic ticket or join the Democrats.

A part of my own family are Republicans and part are Democrats. I have never counseled one of them to change his politics. They are, all of them, strong, independent men, and they enjoy their freedom without any interference of their father.

Now, concerning that meeting referred to, there was not, according to my recollection, one word said about Democrats, Republicans or politics. Joseph F. Smith's remarks were upon the same subject that the Apostles had taught through the Conference to ten thousand people. When the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized, it was with the holy Priesthood in its various orders and quorums. And when a man was appointed to the Apostleship, or Presidency, or in any office, as a teacher of the people, it placed on him a very grave responsibility; and no man was counted at liberty, from the organization of the Church, to engage in any branch of business, politics, or anything else to take him entirely away from his calling, business, duty or responsibility for a length of time, without first counseling with the Presidency of the Church, or with his quorum, on the propriety, and getting permission to do so. This order has rested upon us all alike. This has been my position for sixty years of my life, and that, too, without interfering with my manhood. And this course does not require a man to give up his position in the Democratic party or in the Republican.

Every man has his own free agency. He has the right to withdraw from his quorum, or the Church, if he wishes. But while he remains in his quorum, or in the Church, we think he should be subject to the same rules that we are ourselves. But that duty does not require any man to withdraw from the Democratic or Republican party, or give up his political principles.

WILFORD WOODRUFF.

To the foregoing card from President Wilford Woodruff, the News needs but to add a word of explanation. Since the general Priesthood meeting in the Assembly Hall on Monday, October 7, political circles have been disturbed to an extraordinary extent by the report of certain remarks alleged to have been made there as to the duty of the men who hold high ecclesiastical positions consulting with those who preside over them before accepting calls of a public or even a private nature which would interfere with the performance of their other duties. The reports circulated as to what was said have been in many instances greatly distorted, as is always the case; and even where they were correctly given, they have been raised upon by politicians on both sides and improperly construed. The injury to a political cause has been twofold: it has caused hot-tempered Democrats to assume that the Church was opposed to the election of some of their candidates, when as a matter of fact neither candidates nor parties were mentioned nor intended; on the other hand it has caused impetuous and unwise Republicans to assume that their party and candidates had unexpectedly received a strong endorsement, and that the First Presidency had manifested its desire for their success.

Now, the News is in a position once more to say, in all conscientiousness and truth, that there was no intention to influence any man present or elsewhere in the exercise of his suffrage. The speakers whose remarks have been so extensively referred to had no desire to favor either side or candidate, or to convey any impression of preference for or opposition to any man or party. To Church members and officials in their relationship to the Church and the duties of their calling, the Presidency claim the right to give counsel and advice. This right implies the authority to criticise or approve. And this right, and this only, was intended to be exercised on the occasion spoken of. It is accordingly unfair and unfair to accuse the Church of interfering in politics, or desiring to defeat any one or two candidates or to elect any others. The Church desires now as ever that each voter shall use his ballot in freedom and intelligence—it would not, if it could, restrain any one in the exercise of the utmost independence in all political affairs. Whoever improperly construes anything said or done at the meeting referred to—no matter which side said improper construction comes from—is therefore not only unjust to the Church and its leaders, but to the candidates themselves, the parties, the people, and the whole State in all its hopes and prospects. President Woodruff's own words appear above; no man who reads them and knows him, will for a moment doubt the absolute truth of the statements he makes and the entire sincerity of his position. We commend them to the attention of the people of Utah, to the end that unwise and intemperate conduct and utterances may cease, and that the activity of the parties and their candidates may not be further disturbed by an alleged menace for which there is no foundation in fact.

THE CASE OF LYONS.

Is crime a disease? The question has been asked a thousand times, but there has been no unanimity in the answer. From scientists, moralists and specialists come arguments pro and con, according to the point of view; and one of the greatest developments of modern times for the cure of crime is rather in the line of prevention and the improvement of the environment of the individual.

A case of great importance as an illustration is dwelt upon in recent Chicago papers. Henry Lyons ("Hatch" Lyons was his better known name) was hanged by the neck until dead last Friday at high noon. He had mauled a companion to death, and when he came up for sentence, neither the judge who presided at the trial nor his own attorney could find anything to warrant an appeal for mercy in his behalf; the prosecutor declared that he was a criminal from birth. That this statement was no exaggeration is shown by his record. At the age of nine he was sent to the Bridewell. He served terms repeatedly for minor offenses between 1877 and 1885, when he was committed to the house of correction for the serious crime of robbery. In 1888 he was arrested for rape. In 1889 he was sent to the Bridewell for burglary. In 1891 he was again arrested for burglary. Within six months he was again arrested for a criminal assault. When he killed his companion he had served one term in the penitentiary and twenty-one in the Bridewell; and he had been arrested over 200 times.

Such has been the life of a youth who at the age of 27 closes his career on the gallows. His father was a drunkard, his mother a poverty-stricken and heart-broken working woman. By birth he was alcoholic, by surroundings an enemy to law and order, by instinct a wolf-child among men. There was hardly one chance in a hundred that he should have turned out much better than he did. And while specialists go on discussing whether or not crime is a disease and the result of environment, and while philanthropists go on donating millions in money for the conversion of the heathen, some importance is demanded for the question whether men like "Hatch" Lyons have had a fair chance, and whether our civilization is all that it is represented to be.

IS IT THE FRAM?

Some time ago a dispatch to the News stated that a vessel had been seen in the month of July somewhere off the coast of Greenland, imbedded in ice, and that the supposition was that the vessel possibly was the Fram, Nansen's ship, which long ago was given up for lost.

Official investigations now tend to strengthen this supposition rather than otherwise. In a report to the government, Mr. J. Hansen, captain of the sealer Magdalene, it is stated that only Norwegian vessels this year were employed in the seal catching business in these regions, while formerly also English vessels were seen there. This year there were in all sixteen Norwegian vessels. All these left about the middle of July except two, one of which was too far from the coast to be seen by the Expedition, and the other has returned home in safety.

That the vessel reported seen in the ice, consequently, was some ship not belonging to the whaling fleet is considered tolerably certain. The opinion that it may be Nansen's Fram is further supported by the fact that the unknown vessel is said to have its foremast broken, the rigging of the Fram being such as to give her this appearance when seen from a distance. As communication with these parts of the world is limited to a few months in the year, the probability is that full particulars cannot be obtained before next spring. Nansen was, however, well equipped for four years. Investigations concerning the reported ship are still going on.

HOW LONG will you live? In reply to this question, an exchange gives the information that the probable duration of a man's life may be known if the ages at death of his parents and grandparents are known. If these be added together and then divided by six the quotient will be his approximate term of life. If the quotient exceeds sixty, one year may be added for every five; if it falls below sixty one year should be subtracted for every five. The presumption in this proportion is that with good fortune a man may equal, but he may not hope to exceed, the average of his parents' and his grandparents' lives.

MISS KATE FIELD, who wrote that she would rather wander about Cripple Creek at any hour of the day or night than to walk about the streets of Chicago, must have been somewhat staggered by the prompt unanimity with which a number of Chicago journalists reported that they would much rather she did.

THE RECENT divorce of Amelia Rives-Chanler furnishes another instance that impulsive women authors seldom find happiness in matrimony, and that after entering the wedded state they seldom keep up their literary reputation.

JOHN L. SULLIVAN thinks the future of pugilism is brighter than ever before. This is probably because it is becoming harder and harder to "pull off" a prize fight.

NOTWITHSTANDING the modifications to the rules of foot-ball, the prevailing colors this year will still be black and blue.

A COMMON order for lunch in places where the microbe and bacillus fear prevails, is for soft boiled eggs and hard-boiled water.

What a Prominent Insurance Man Says.

H. M. Blossom, senior member of H. M. Blossom & Co., 217 N. 3d St., St. Louis, writes: I had been left with a very distressing cough, the result of influenza, which nothing seemed to relieve, until I took *Ballard's Horehound Syrup*. One bottle completely cured me. I sent one bottle to my sister, who had a severe cough, and she experienced immediate relief. I always recommend this syrup to my friends.

John Cranston, 908 Hampshire street, Quincy, Ills., writes: I have used *Ballard's Horehound Syrup* superior to any other cough medicine I have ever known. It never disappoints. Price 50c.

Ballard's Snow Liniment.

This liniment is different in composition from any other liniment on the market. It is a scientific discovery whose results in it being the most penetrating Liniment ever known. There are numerous so-called imitations, which may be recommended because they pay the seller a greater profit. Beware of cheap and dangerous *Ballard Snow Liniment*. It positively cures Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sprains, Bruises, Wounds, Corns, Bunions and Inflammatory Rheumatism, Burns, Scalds, Sore Feet, Contracted Muscles, Stiff Joints, Old Sores, Pain in Back, Barb Wire Cuts, Sore Chest or Throat, and is especially beneficial in Pain pain.

A Sound Liver Makes a Well Man.

Are you Bilious, Constipated or troubled with Jaundice, Sick Headache, Bad Taste in Mouth, Foul Breath, Coated Tongue, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Hot Dry Skin, Pain in Back and between the Shoulders, Chills and Fever, etc. If you have any of these symptoms, your Liver is out of order, and your blood is slowly being poisoned, because your Liver does not act properly. Hostetter's Bitters will cure any disorder of the Liver, Stomach or Bowels. It has no equal as a Liver Medicine. Price 75 cents. Free trial bottles at Z. C. M. I. drug store.

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A Wonderful Conqueror.

No disease is more common among the people than scrofula. Handed down from generation to generation, it is found in nearly every family, in some form. It may make its appearance in dreadful running sores, in swelling in the neck or goitre, or in eruptions of varied forms. Attacking the mucous membrane it may be known as catarrh, or developing in the lungs it may be, and often is, the prime cause of consumption.

In whatever form scrofula may manifest itself, Hood's Sarsaparilla is its invincible foe and conqueror. This medicine has such powerful alterative and vitalizing effects upon the blood that every trace of impurity is expelled, and the blood is made rich, pure and healthy.

Dr. Meck has returned from San Francisco and has taken elegant dental offices on 4th floor Atlas block.

Beecham's pills are for biliousness, bilious headache, dyspepsia, heartburn, torpid liver, dizziness, sick headache, bad taste in the mouth, coated tongue, loss of appetite, sallow skin, etc., when caused by constipation; and constipation is the most frequent cause of all of them.

Go by the book. Pills 10c and 25c a box. Book *free* at your druggist's or write B. F. Allen Co., 365 Canal Street, New York.

Parks' Tea clears the skin. For sale by F. J. Hill & Co., and Nelden Judson Drug Co. 1

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"The Old Church Mine," in Grass Creek furnishes the best Weber coal known.

The mine is now in shape to supply all teams from a distance cheap.

Lump $1.75. Slack 75 cents per ton.

The Calico Mine, being nearer this city, the rates will be as follows:

Lump $2.00. Slack (large and clean) $1.00 per ton. Nut (screened) 25 cents per ton.

Slack containing Nut and Fine, is equal to any Weber lump.

The Grass Creek Coal is worth twenty-five per cent more than any other Weber Coal.

To those who come a long distance, stabling is provided at the Calico mine free. W. W. CLEGG, Agent.

Spear's makes the largest assortment of candies in the city.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became a Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Mrs. W. J. Faber, of Le Roy, N. Y., says: "Have tried fifty cough cures. Parks' Cough Syrup is the only one that helps me. I know it is the best Cough remedy." For sale by F. J. Hill & Co., and Nelden Judson Drug Co. 1

Troubled With Periodical Dysentery

John Peterson, of Pacoletville, Ia., suffered with dysentery for eighteen years and tried three of the best doctors in New Orleans; also half a dozen or more patent medicines. Very little relief followed, until he began using Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy; three doses of which effected a permanent cure.

A cup of Parks' Tea at night moves the bowels in the morning. For sale by F. J. Hill & Co., and Nelden Judson Drug Co. 1

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A tale of life and love in the great metropolis. "A perfect Play, a Perfect Cast. Prices 50c, 35c, 25c. Matinee Saturday 25c.

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