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DESERET NEWS' PHONES.

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DESPICABLE TACTICS.

A protest, prepared many months ago
that was circulated in this city and
signed by a number of
people young and old, as such
documents are usually signed, "on
request," has been presented to the
committee of investigation at Wash-
ington just as the proceedings are be-
ing brought to a close. This has been
delayed so as to leave no time for the
respondent to question its authenticity,
examine any of the signatures or alleged
signers or test it on cross-examination.
Observe, too, that it has been admitted
over the protest of the attorneys after
counsel for the protestors announced
the close of testimony on his side. He
reserved the right only to call such
witnesses as had been subpoenaed and
who had not yet appeared if they could
be had. This he announced on Tuesday,
December 26, 1904.

The fairness of occupying many
months in hearing testimony on one
side of the case and then limiting the
other to less than two weeks, will
doubtless appeal to that sense of justice
supposed to inspire the average Ameri-
can citizen. The disposition to give
every possible advantage to the side
that has been called the "prosecution,"
and now to shut off as curiously as pos-
sible the defense must be vividly appar-
ent to all beholders. And the introduc-
tion of subjects and testimony utterly
irrelevant to the question of Senator
Smoot's right to his seat, is so patent
that it has provoked strong comment
even from vehement anti-"Mormon"
sources.

But as to the document with its sig-
natures that has been introduced in
such an improper manner. It was
framed under the pretext that President
Smith in frankly stating his family af-
fairs used the word "condoned" in
describing the general sentiment here
as to the relations of certain "Mor-
mons" to their plural wives, married to
them previous to the manifesto. The
witness simply conveyed the fact that
there was what is known as "a tacit
understanding" of that kind,
and that it was shown in the apathy
as to prosecutions for unlawful cohabitation
unless in such cases as were
made prominent by special circum-
stances and legal complaints.

The idea that non-"Mormons" en-
couraged, or aided, or gave countenance
to, or coincided with these conditions
was not asserted or intended to be un-
derstood. But that was spread abroad
by agitators here and some very good
people, as well as others whose lives
would not bear close scrutiny, signed
the protest under the impression or pre-
tense that they were being misrepresented.

One of the witnesses on Monday ex-
plained that the word "condoned" was
scarcely applicable to the public senti-
ment on this matter, but the word "tol-
erated" expressed it better. That is
correct. "Condone" in one definition means
"to forgive." But it also signifies "to
overlook," "to refrain from punishing."
Consult the Century and other dictio-
naries and see. Now it is well known
that a number of "Mormons" well up
in years were living with their respec-
tive families, plural or otherwise, and
there was a common disposition to let
them alone. It is the sheerest hypoc-
riety to deny this. It is true, perhaps,
that the actual relations of some men
in this respect were not public until
made so by the legislation to which
they submitted, and which brought them
into prominence. But the general situa-
tion was well understood, as hundreds
of as good citizens as any who felt ag-
grieved at the testimony extorted can
possibly be are ready to testify.

That these offenses were "overlook-
ed" and "not punished" is no patent
and well admitted that every fairminded
person here was startled at its deni-
al. We could quote from scores of
newspapers that have frankly acknowl-
edged their acquaintance with the sit-
uation and the announced general de-
sire that these old cases should not be
disturbed, but allowed to die out with
the lapse of time.

The pretended spasms of irritated vir-
tue over this avowed thoroughly dis-
gusted people who knew something of
the lives of the actual agitators. And
the alacrity with which a number of
worthy ladies and gentlemen followed
their lead, and were excited over a
monster of heated imagination caused

a great deal of amusement. The resur-
rection of their old protest as a new
document, foisted upon the committee
to do present and surreptitious duty, is
a fitting feature of the entire protesting
proceedings.

The pretended anger at the testimony
of reliable non-"Mormons" as to well
known facts, and the efforts to intimi-
date others and hold them up to public
scorn, are all in keeping with the policy
that has been pursued in the attack
upon Senator Smoot, who in spite of all
the vilification, religious bigotry, mis-
representation, abuse, distortions of
fact and doctrine, the airing of private
affairs, and perversions of Church dis-
cipline and principles, stands out head
and shoulders above his assailants, per-
sonally, politically, and as the chosen
of his party to the highest place in
the gift of the people of Utah.

THEIR DAILY OCCUPATION.

It is necessary to recur to the subject
of religion classes and their being held
in public school buildings. Although the
objection which has been worked up in
certain quarters against the occupation
of district school buildings by these
classes after school hours, was not
anywhere even stated to be that they
were introduced into the schools, yet a
paper that is nothing if not mendacious
and malevolent, still endeavors to con-
vey the impression that the protest has
been against "the use of the public
schools in which to teach religion
classes." The attempt is in keeping
with the whole course of that paper
and is most shameful and contemptible.

It is utterly false and vicious to
state, as it does, that the circular is-
sued by the First Presidency of the
Church declares that "the position of
the Church on this matter has been
found untenable;" and also that it di-
rects that "the teaching of religion
classes in the public schools be discon-
tinued." Reference to the circular
shows that it announces "there has
been no intention to introduce religious
teaching in the public schools, nor has
it been so introduced." Also that the
Church authorities are "emphatically
opposed to denominational teaching in
the public schools."

The use of school buildings after
school hours in some cases for religion
classes, is not declared "untenable," but
in accord with the law as defined by
the Attorney-General of the State.
They were utilized merely "for conveni-
ence and to facilitate the as-
sembling of the classes," and
as a matter of fact they in-
terfered in no way with the conduct
of the public schools. It is only a
deliberate attempt to deceive people
not acquainted with the matter, that
prompts the daily libellers to misrep-
resent it in this way.

Simply for the sake of peace, and
that there shall not be anything that
can give color of objection to the re-
ligion classes, the First Presidency has
advised that those classes shall not in
any case be held in public school
buildings. They never have been held
in the public schools. That is as well
known to the writers of the falsehoods
about them as to anyone, and if they
are not ashamed of their craven and
crawling falsehoods, it is because they
have sunk too low in journalistic cor-
ruption to sense their own depravity.
They are to be as much pitied as de-
spised.

THREATENING CHINA.

The complaint of Russia to the effect
that China has violated its pledges of
neutrality, is almost puerile. The note
to the powers states, that the island of
Miao-tao, in the straits of Pechili, op-
posite Port Arthur, have been con-
stantly used by the Japanese, without
Chinese interference, as a strategic
base and a harbor for Japanese tor-
pedo boats. That the Chinese army
upon the border has accepted the com-
mand of Japanese officers, and that
Chinese firms have been constantly
working in behalf of the Japanese,
supplying them with provisions, mili-
tary accoutrements and general war
stores. For these reasons, the powers
are told, Russia intends to use "com-
plete liberty of action" in regard to fu-
ture "abuse" of neutrality.

The latter announcement is the only
important part of the note. It evidently
means that, in case the war is to be
continued, Russia will no longer re-
spect the neutrality of China, but ex-
tend its military operations wherever
its strategists please. It means also,
that in case of ultimate Russian suc-
cess, China may be held accountable
and made to pay, in territory probably,
heavy damages. Russian diplomacy
shows itself as far-sighted as ever in
this. But its effect may be to drive
China still closer to Japan. The note
is furthermore, perhaps, an indirect
intimation to this country that the war
in Asia is no concern of the United
States. It was through the action
of our government that the agree-
ment was made to respect China's neu-
trality. The announcement that Rus-
sia resumes "liberty of action," means
that that agreement is now null and
void. The note is ominous enough. It
places the peace of the world in jeop-
ardy for the time being.

But otherwise the specified grounds
of complaint are not worthy of con-
sideration. If Japan has used a Chinese
island outside of Port Arthur for an-
chorage, etc., Russia has used a number
of neutral ports for her Baltic squad-
ron. If Japanese officers are drilling
Chinese soldiers, who has a right to
complain as long as China is not at war
with any nation? Has China not a right
to invite instructors for her soldiers
from any country on the globe? Tur-
key, it is well known, employed Ger-
man officers during her late war with
Greece, and nobody protested. If Chi-
nese firms have been selling supplies to
Japan, English and German firms have,
undoubtedly, done the same thing.
There is no more cause of complaint in
one instance than another.

The real trouble in Asia may come
when one of the belligerents is exhaust-
ed and must sue for peace. For then
the neutral governments will be inter-
ested. The power that can give sincere
evidence of moderation in its demands,
when peace terms are to be discussed,
will secure and hold the sympathy of
the world.

POVERTY IN THIS COUNTRY.

The statement that there is in this
country about ten million persons who
are suffering from a state of acute pov-
erty, is startling. It is made by Mr.
Robert Hunter, a student of social con-
ditions. It would mean that about
one-eighth of the entire population is
"poor." That is to say, as he defines
poverty, one-eighth of the American
population are either dependent on
charity, or are barely able to obtain
enough to sustain life, but not enough
to maintain physical efficiency. That
is a startling revelation concerning one
of the most wealthy nations on earth.

Mr. Hunter points out that a very
large proportion of the working class
are propertyless; a very large mass of
people, not only in our largest cities,
but in all industrial communities as
well, live in most insanitary condi-
tions; there is a high death-rate from
tuberculosis in most of our States; a
large proportion of the unskilled work-
ers receive, even when employed, wages
insufficient to obtain the necessities
for maintaining physical efficiency;
from all indications, the number in-
jured and killed in dangerous trades
is enormous; and, lastly, there is un-
certainty of employment for all classes
of workers. About 30 per cent of the
workers in the industrial States are
employed only a part of each year, and,
in consequence, suffer a serious de-
crease in their yearly wages, which, in
the case of the unskilled at least, means
to suffer poverty.

It is not contended that poverty is
in this country as widely felt as in
some other countries. But it should
not be, with the immense opportunities
here offered. And God forbid that the
day should ever come when poverty is
the common lot of the American work-
man! For, that would be the be-
ginning of anarchy. Agitators would
find the desired material for revolu-
tions in such conditions, and in a free
country it would be comparatively
easy to start the flames.

Hon. George Sutherland is now
among the truly elect.

This bounty business was a skin
game of the first order.

At present Colorado appears to be
the quietest and calmest state in the
Union.

The bounty fraud expose proves
some of the officials to be very thin
skinned.

Under the bounty law the wild ani-
mals of the State have flourished like
a green bay tree.

Uncle Sam reminds China that she
must maintain her neutrality. Even
at home John is an Ah Sin.

Thomas K. Niedringhaus got his vin-
dication all right enough and it will
be good for the next six years.

Several officials here and in Ogden
are well equipped to write a book about
"Wild Animals I Have Known."

The Russian ship of state is going
through some experiences not wholly
unlike those of the Port Arthur fleet.

General Stoessel has left Nagasaki
for Odessa. Thus all hope of Port
Arthur being his grave is abandoned.

Marie Corelli has been attacking Mr.
Carnegie again. It pleases her and
doesn't hurt him, so what's the dif-
ference?

The Kaiser having decorated Gen-
erals Stoessel and Nogi, the trustees
of the Carnegie hero fund might give
them recognition.

There is a rumor in England that
the two titled Letterson-in-law hate
each other like poison. Sort of a case
of base and antedote.

It is said that King Edward may pay
a visit to Our Lady of Snow. If he
does he may be sure that he will not
be given a cold reception.

Twenty thousand heroes are regis-
tered with the secretary of the Car-
negie hero fund. How he must long
for the sight of a regular!

Governor Folk of Missouri thinks that
railroad passes as well as money are
a means of political corruption. What
a queer mental cast that man has.

When a man is in the custody of the
officers, no matter what his offense,
they have no right whatever to
"sweat" him. It should be stopped.

Otogenarian Millionaire John R.
Platt is suing Hannah Elias for nearly
a million dollars. Whether or not he
recovers from her the suit shows that
he has recovered his senses.

A wealthy resident of Tarrytown on-
the-Hudson has just paid twenty-
thousand dollars for a variegated ear-
nment. It is to be hoped that he got
his money's worth; the florist certainly
did.

HUSBANDS ON TRIAL.

El Paso News.

Won't the marriage bureau do a
rushing business if the ten-year mar-
riage bill, proposed by Senator Fred-
rick Dumont Smith of Kansas goes
through? "Are you thinking of changing
husbands. We have a fine lot on hand
we can recommend. Try one of our
XXX brand for ten years. If he doesn't
suit it doesn't cost you a cent. Letters
from thousands of delighted custom-
ers." The beauties of the proposed
law are manifold. Firstly, there would
be a pronounced decrease in the num-
ber of popular novels. The hero seeing
his beloved wed millions would never
think of going to a far country to dream
his life away. He would be himself to
a neighbor's house, sign a ten years
contract with some other girl and wait.

FOGS AND THE ENGLISH COM-
PLEXION.

Pearson's Weekly.
Very few people like fog, and yet an
eminent physician tells us that the
beautiful complexion of the English-
woman is to be attributed to the mists
and fogs which are so often with us.
It is probable that the English com-
plexion has other causes than this, but

there is one distinct advantage in a fog
for the beauty seeker—namely, the ab-
sence of dust. The care of the complex-
ion consists, to a large extent, in keep-
ing the skin clear, and it is quite com-
prehensible that a foggy atmosphere, with
no dust to lodge in the pores and clog
them, might be a preserver of beauty.

THE RESIGNATION OF MIRSKY.

New York Evening Post.

To detect political meaning, primarily,
in the resignation of Prince Mirsky,
whose portfolio of the Interior M. Witte
is about to assume, is difficult. Both
are Liberals. Witte presumably is of a
more prudent and calculating mind, as
befits an ex-minister of finance. Prince
Mirsky, according to varying accounts,
is either offended at the reprimand to
zemstvo agitation with which the Czar's
rescript was accompanied, or frightened
by the spectre of constitutionalism
which he himself has evoked. It is
pretty well established that the general
and guarded form which the reform
ukase finally received was due to M.
Witte. Prince Mirsky's desiring conces-
sions in the direction of an imperial
parliament. It seems likely, then, that
Mirsky goes for having manifested trop
de zele—thus for reasons very largely
personal—and that the projected re-
forms will come about gradually under
the cautious direction of Witte, whose
allegiance to progressive ideas is un-
questioned.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

St. Louis Republic.

Ten years it will take for Russia to
build its billion-dollar navy. How much
fighting, then, can Russia make with
its doubtfully efficient Baltic squadron
minus an eastern base and its de-
pressed troops now in the field against
the triumphant eager courage and
strength of Japan? And what is it pos-
sible for Japan to do immediately?

ARCTIC EXPLORATIONS.

Pittsburgh Gazette.

Whether it is the failure of Com-
mander Peary to win support or a dis-
trust of the enterprise, Arctic explora-
tions do not seem to tempt rich men
who are generally ready to waste a lit-
tle in the hope that some fact may be
added to human intelligence.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The 1905 edition of The World Alma-
nack and Encyclopedia, as it is called,
has arrived. It is a publication that
is invaluable as a work of reference. It
contains information on thousands of
questions. In fact, it claims to present
no less than 100,000 facts and figures,
and its authenticity is hardly ever dis-
puted.—The World Almanack Dept., 49
Pulitzer Building, New York.

TEA

There is wholesome tea
and bad; there is bad in a
dozen ways.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like
Schlitz's teas.

SALT LAKE THEATRE.

GEO. D. PYPER, Manager.

Friday and Saturday.

SATURDAY MATINEE.

J. R. STIRLING

Presents

The Artistic Comedienne,

ROSE MELVILLE

In the Characteristic Play

"SIS HOPKINS."

A Play of Purpose. A Plot of Sense.

FULL OF LAUGHS! LAUGHS!

LAST TIME! LAST CHANCE!

To See the Famous

"SNAKENTINE DANCE"

Prices—25c to \$1.00.

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J. H. STODDART,

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Notable Associate Players with

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Sale of seats at Clayton Music Co. today.

"THE GREATEST OF ALL SINGERS."

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QUEEN OF SONG.

"In the full maturity of her unequalled

power,"

"A voice of incomparable Beauty and

glendor."

AND COMPLETE CONCERT CO.

Mr. Ellison Van Hoose Tenor

Mr. S. S. Gilbert Baritone

Mr. Ada Sessolt Harpist

Mr. C. K. North Flute

Mr. L. Davis Pianist

Prices, reserved—\$2.50, \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00.

GRAND THEATRE

JONES & HAMMER, Mgrs.

PRICES: Night, 25c, 50c, 75c.

Matinee, 25c.

Tonight! LAST

MARIE HEATH and Excellent Company

in the charming Rural drama

"FOR MOTHER'S SAKE."

A complete scenic production.

Next Attraction:

"RUDOLPH AND ADOLPH."

Newspaper

For Sale!

The Raymond Chronicle, published in

Raymond, Alberta, Canada, the center

of the Taylor Stake, and the headquar-

ters of the Knight Sugar company, is

for sale. Good circulation. Establish-

ment is to be attributed to the mists

and fogs which are so often with us.

It is probable that the English com-

plexion has other causes than this, but

HALF PRICE!

Fancy Silk Petticoats, Children's Dresses, Gash-
mere and Henrietta Tea Gowns, entire line Ladies'
Suits, Rain Coats, one lot Fancy Silk Waists, one
lot Flannel Waists.

Fleeced House Waists, 60c Each.

ONE THIRD OFF!

All Men's, Boys' and Children's

WINTER SUITS AND OVERCOATS

Finest Clothing in the city and a genuine reduction of One Third
from regular selling Prices.

KNIT UNDERWEAR SALE CONTINUES ALL WEEK!
Everything for Ladies and Children in Knit Underwear, Outing Flannel Gowns,
Flannelette Skirts, Drawers, etc., at greatly reduced prices.

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Are You Tired

Of the old fashioned foun-
tain pen which must be
used with a dropper, which
has a screw joint and
twists the rubber, and
which you can never use
without soiling your fin-
gers?

THE STANDARD FOUN-
TAIN PEN

Is perfect, with none of
these inconveniences. No
extra parts and no extra
price, selling for \$2.50, \$3.00
and \$4.00. Its greatest ad-
vantage lies in the fact
that it cleans and fills it-
self. If you don't know
how, ask at

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Where The Cars Stop.
The Great Prescription
Drug Store.

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Bank and Sugar Stocks,
Commercial Stocks, and Bonds.
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to PAY OUT the
Bulk of Our Profits**

In advertising. Our clients are the
best advertising medium we have
found. They all continue to give us
their business and RECOMMEND
US TO THEIR FRIENDS. ASK
ANY OF THEM.

**AMERICAN MERCANTILE
& REPORTING AGENCY**

W. Benj. Putnam, Mgr.
Top Floor, Atlas Block.
Both Phones 212.
Let "Put" Collect It.

**Plenty
of
Snow**

for water next summer.
Plenty of coal for heating
this winter. It's "That
Good Coal," too.

BAMBERGER,
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All
Leathers

BANISTER
ESTABLISHED 1845

THE MOORE SHOE CO.,
258 South Main Street.,
SOLE AGENTS.

**Traverbach
& Bro.**

ONE PRICE TO ALL - NEVER UNDERSOLD

CLOSING OUT SALE PRICES ON ALL

**Children's
Dresses!**

Still greater reductions on the lowest of low prices
on all Children's Winter Dresses. If you've a need
in this line, now is the time to fill it and save a great
part of the regular price on your purchase. Not
enough of any one style to enumerate, but there are
plenty of every style from 1 to 14 years in some style
or other. Values from 50c to \$6.50. The Sale Prices
range from **25c to \$3.75**

**MISS MOORE WILL BE AT OUR STORE AGAIN FOR ABOUT
A WEEK, GIVING FREE LESSONS IN THE NEW
KIRA LEATHER EMBROIDERY.**

\$3992.70 Cash

Is what we paid for advertising in
the year of 1904 to tell you of our
ability to Collect Bad Debts. If
we did not know we could collect
your bills we certainly would not
be paying out all this good money.
We did the largest business last
year since the merchants estab-
lished this association 12 years
ago.

We are collecting thousands of
dollars for our clients each month
from claims they considered
worthless. This ad will bring
hundreds of claims to our office for
collection, and we are just as sure
to make lots of commissions there-
on. Send in your claims. Do it
now. We collected \$225 for the Salt
Lake Equitable Co-op, last month
from three claims, each of which was 12 years old.

**THE
Merchants' Protective Association,**
SCIENTIFIC COLLECTORS OF BAD DEBTS FOR EVERYBODY,
EVERYWHERE.
Publishers of Credit Rating Books.
TOP FLOOR COMMERCIAL BLOCK, SALT LAKE CITY.
FRANCIS G. LUKE, General Manager.
SOME PEOPLE DON'T LIKE US.