

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

LEONARD SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (EXCEPT SUNDAY).

Office: 100 East Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.

One Year	\$4.00
Six Months	\$2.50
Three Months	\$1.50
One Month	.50
One Week	.15
Advance edition, per year	\$5.00
Time-Week	2.00

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE.

J. A. Craig, 11 Times Building.

CHICAGO REPRESENTATIVE.

F. A. Craig, 11 Washington St.

SAN FRANCISCO REPRESENTATIVE.

C. S. King-Sheridan & Co., 409 Examiner Bldg.

Correspondence and other reading matter should be addressed to the EDITOR.

Address all business communications to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, - OCT. 19, 1900.

BOTH SIDES PRESENTED.

In furnishing the taxpayers of Salt Lake City with figures in reference to the financial condition of the municipality, the Deseret News had nothing in view but the public welfare. Politics, partisanship or anything in connection therewith, had no influence whatever in the matter. If a city election were now pending, extreme partisans might find in what we published on Thursday, a peg on which to hang an objection. But it will be more than a year before a municipal election occurs, and this is a purely financial and business question.

The air has been full of rumors. The alarm has been raised that the city is bankrupt. Its credit might be impaired by the prevalence of the report. The "News," therefore, desired to inquire into the facts for the information of the citizens, with the purpose of dispelling any false alarm that may have been raised, and at the same time of placing the true situation before them, fairly and fully.

It was for this reason that the "News" gave the figures obtained from the records in the auditor's office, and also those to be obtained in the treasurer's office. According to the former, the city will have a balance to its credit at the end of the year of \$43,806.56. In the light of the latter there will be a hole in the special funds.

The difference is easily explainable. The auditor's figures take in all the funds in the city's control as available for general purposes. The treasurer takes into account the amounts set apart for special purposes, which he holds cannot, under the law, be diverted to any other purpose, and which in the aggregate amount to \$78,836.86, and thus not only swallows up the auditor's balance on hand of \$43,806.56, but makes a hole in the special funds to the tune of \$35,030.30.

We have presented both sides. We leave our readers to form their own conclusions as to the situation. If we had presented only one side of the contention—for we are sorry to say there appears to be a contention between the two departments—we might justly be accused of unfairness. But having given both, where is there just room for any such charge, or a suspicion of improper motives on our part?

In the hurry of proof-reading, there were some trifling errors in a figure or two and a couple of lines were transposed, but the general result was correct, so far as the totals stood. The dispute resolves itself simply into the question between the auditor and the treasurer. They are both, and equally, city officers. Each has been elected by popular vote. Each has defined duties to perform. They are marked down in separate chapters of the Revised Statutes. Each has to give bonds to be approved by the Mayor. The Treasurer's bond is made heavier than those of other city officers. He is not an attaché of the auditor's office in any sense. He has to pay money on the auditor's warrants, but has specific instructions as to holding special funds, by direct legislation to him.

It was therefore perfectly proper to give the treasurer's statement as well as that of the auditor on the important question of the condition of city finances. To paint them in roseate hue might please a certain class, but that would not be right to the masses. To cloud them in darkness or in doubt would be equally unfair and misleading. The complaint as to our summary of statistics appears to be that we published both sides of the contention; if that is to be condemned it must be solely on partisan ground and even then the grumbling appears to be absurd.

We supposed we were doing the city authorities good service in giving the facts and figures, with a hint as to the means by which the treasury could be replenished, and every fund be preserved to its separate and proper use. If any of them are so blinded by partisan influences as to interpret our intentions unfavorably, we are sorry for their defective vision. The "News" has no other desire than the public welfare, perfectly regardless of party, and the figures we have printed were obtained from public records, and so far stand unimpeached and we believe they are unimpeachable.

THE POY VERDICT.

Although the killing of Charles J. Holmes by the Chinaman, Chin Poy, was a most deplorable affair, the verdict by which the Mongolian was acquitted will, we believe, meet with approval, under the circumstances. The evidence made it clear that Poy was rudely awakened early in the morning by an assault upon the house in which he lived, by a band of ruffians, who made night hideous with rowdiness. He may not have been justified in leaping to his feet and discharging a gun at the disturbers of the peace, unless he was actually threatened with bodily injury,

but the recent assaults upon Chinamen in this city probably made him fear the worst, and the result was the but too well aimed shot that ended the career of the unfortunate young man.

The occurrence should be a lesson to those that compose the element in the community of which much complaint has been made lately. If it serves to check hoodlumism, some good will come of the evil. If young disturbers of the peace will consider that their course is not so safe as they may have been led to believe from the forbearance of kind neighbors, they will have a wholesome lesson.

That the verdict was given without prejudice on account of the nationality of the slayer of Holmes is a matter of congratulation. During the Chinese excitement and the clamor for justice on the murders in China, it is important that impartiality should be shown. By no other course can it be made clear that the demands made are anything but pretexts under which are hidden sinister motives.

PROSPERITY DANGEROUS.

Physical Culture says it is well known to some medical men that many cases of insanity are due to overeating and the consequent absorption into the blood of toxic substances from the alimentary canal. Melancholia also is said to be often due to the same cause. And violent paroxysms of temper, both in children and adults is believed to spring from a bad state of the blood caused by eating too much.

To avoid this cause of many troubles, it is recommended that the quality of the food should be considered in preference to the quantity. The body should be properly nourished, but not over-fed. The more exercise we take, and the more we are exposed to cold, the more we can eat. Only those who live active lives and avoid too much clothing can enjoy the pleasures of the table. But the general rule laid down is, not to eat unless hunger is felt. To eat without an appetite affords no pleasure, and it is a fruitful source of disease.

It is well once in a while to be reminded of some such simple truths as to the proper care of the body. The mechanic knows the value of proper care of his tools. He may perhaps do his work with neglected tools, but neither so quickly, nor so satisfactorily, as if his instruments are well sharpened and properly kept. It is the same with human beings. Unless their complex and finely adjusted engines that are both the tents in which they live and the instruments of their thoughts and actions, are kept in full accordance with the laws of nature, they will be hampered and rendered useless.

The inspiration of the Law of Moses anciently, and of the Word of Wisdom in modern times, is clearly seen by the impartial observer. Both were given at a time when science was far less advanced than it is supposed to be at this time, but the provisions made show that they originated from One to whom the human frame was well known. From whom could such knowledge be obtained in the age of Moses, or by an "illiterate" young man, except from Him in whose image man was created?

THE TROUBLE IN BALKAN.

Very little is heard about the trouble between Bulgaria and Roumania, which a few weeks ago seemed to threaten to kindle a much dreaded war on the Balkan peninsula, but the sparks are not yet extinct.

The Rumanian king caused a judicial investigation of the murder of Professor Michailaev, one of his prominent subjects, and it is now stated that the responsibility for the assassination has been traced to the revolutionary committee which has its headquarters in the Bulgarian capital.

And this is not all. It is claimed that proofs have been found that this committee has planned a movement for an invasion of the Turkish province of Macedonia, to follow the proposed assassination of two kings, Alexander of Serbia and Charles of Rumania. The leader of the revolutionary committee is said to be implicated in this vile plot.

Should there be any truth in these statements, the King of Roumania certainly has a strong case against his cousin on the Bulgarian throne, unless the latter take prompt steps for the breaking up of the revolutionary committee and the punishment of the guilty parties. If a war is not wanted in eastern Europe just now, Russia and Austria will undoubtedly keep the two kings from actual hostilities, but unless the matter is settled satisfactorily, the danger of an outbreak will remain, and it may come at any moment.

THE RIGHT OF INTERFERENCE.

The question what right the powers have to intervene in Chinese affairs is answered by the Vossische Zeitung, a German liberal journal, by the statement that no people owns any part of the earth so exclusively that it can exclude from that part everybody else.

This may possibly be true, but if it is, western nations do not practice it. Even the German authorities reserve to themselves the power of excluding from German domain persons who are non grata. Can it be that China has not the same right to exclusion? If America is for Americans and Germany for Germans by what principle of logic does it follow that China is not for the Chinese, but for foreigners?

Of course, it will not be denied that the time must come before long for the opening up of the vast domain of Asia to the enterprise of the rest of the world, and in all probability that time is at hand, for great events like those of recent occurrence in China must leave behind some great results. But when the question of the rights of interference is considered, that right is really what Mr. C. H. Spurgeon used to call "the right of gunpowder." It is power that speaks. If China had an army and navy comparable to those of

Germany, or Russia, there would be no thought of meddling with her internal affairs, except after a regular declaration of war. No armies would be sent to the rescue of "Christian" missionaries, were China's fighting power equal to her population. The powers interfere in China because they are strong and China is weak, and because they believe that there is an indemnity to be collected large enough to cover all expenses.

Still, the fact must not be lost sight of that the all-ruling Providence guides the affairs of nations, and what may at present look as an infringement of a weaker nation's prerogative, will in the end prove beneficial to mankind at large. The "open door" policy must prevail all over the world, for the benefit of all.

FRANCE AND KRUGER.

It is possible that the sentiment in France, as evinced from Paris to the New York Times, is in favor of encouraging the Transvaal Boers to further resistance against British authority. Both France and Russia would be benefited by the serious embarrassment of Great Britain, at a time when they apparently have designs of their own in Asia. But, for the sake of the Boers, it is to be hoped that Mr. Kruger is too wise to accept for good any vague intimations of future interference in behalf of his cause, and to continue a struggle that now must be considered hopeless. Undoubtedly hands of burghers may yet inflict losses on the British forces, and destroy property, but only to sacrifice life without changing the general current of events.

That the British consider the war over—and they are in a position to know—is evident from the fact that the volunteers are being dismissed. Those from Canada, Australia and London are, we believe, already on their way home. The Indian troops are about to be sent back and the Natal and Cape Colony contingent, about 20,000 men, is about to be disbanded.

But there are other facts which prove that peaceful conditions are being established. Among these is mentioned that a Chicago firm which has had mining machinery on its hands since before the African war, has received an order to send it along. The mine owners feel that operations can again be resumed. The military rule is about to be superseded by civil authority, and the work of conciliation is going on with gratifying results.

Under these circumstances it would be no act of friendship to the Boers to encourage them to further resistance, by the false hope of European aid. They should rather be counseled to submission and moderation. The calamity that has befallen them is not so great, when it is considered that their lot has been cast with one of the most liberal and enlightened governments of the world. It is not as if their country had been overrun by barbarous hordes. To be sure, some of them, particularly among the older Boers, will not be reconciled to the new arrangement. These should be encouraged to emigrate to a more congenial climate, rather than to take up the life of outlaws.

In all probability Mr. Kruger, when he becomes better acquainted with the European cabinets, will realize that his cause is lost, if the re-establishment of the republics is aimed at.

Kruger has no cause to feel ashamed of his fight for independence. The war just fought on Africa's soil, when every circumstance is taken into consideration, deserves to be placed on record as the most remarkable of the century. And the aged Boer president himself will be accorded a place among its prominent figures. The victory did not go his way. But deeds of valor in the interest of liberty are never entirely lost. Like seeds cast upon the water, after many days, when the water has receded and the soil been properly prepared, they will take root and grow and yield an abundant harvest.

After all, Tammany is New York's greatest hall of fame.

When taxpayers are exercised they are usually made to sweat.

In politics there is much less demand for the plain, unvarnished truth than for partisan advantage.

And now the politicians have begun to pump campaign speeches into the Sioux. Lo the poor Indian!

Much is heard these days of General Apathy, and General Prosperity, while all too little attention is paid to General Misstatement.

Fortunately the great anthracite coal miners' strike did not go to the point of heaping coals of fire on each other's heads.

A high Russian official close to the czar says Russia wants no more territory. It would be quite impossible for her to unless she wanted the earth.

"Is it not quite possible to be a very mild-mannered, non-dynamite, happy-go-lucky style of a fellow, and still an out-and-out anarchist?" asks the Boston Herald. It may be. Russia branded Prince Kropotkin as an anarchist, and the late William Morris, the writer of poems and maker of the famous Kelpcott books, was an out-and-out socialist, yet no more harmless, non-dynamite man than he ever lived.

The days of Hon. John Sherman appear to be fast drawing to a close. For two score years he was a most prominent figure in national politics, that prominence beginning in the days of the Kansas-Nebraska bill trouble. Ever since then he has been making his mark upon the country's history, few men of his day having made more. Not many men have had such long and successful careers as he.

In some parts of New England there is to be a revival of the old lecture system, so famous twenty-five or thirty years ago. In those days it was a great institution and it brought before the people, in the capacity of teachers, some great men. Finally the great names in the lecture list became fewer and the small ones more numerous and the system declined to the vanishing point. As originally carried on it was a good thing and its revival is to be

welcomed. It was a peculiarly American growth and found its greatest development in New England.

The English press has ceased to criticize the United States for its policy in withdrawing its troops from China. This criticism has ceased because the press better appreciates that policy now. The retaining of legation guards at Peking is wise and proper, but the retaining there of very large bodies of troops can scarcely fail to retard if not stop negotiations, while it is by no means impossible that their retention may eventually win.

AFTER THE CUP.

New York Mail and Express.

There will be another Shamrock and another royal struggle off the Hook between great yachts for the possession of the America's Cup, the young Queen's trophy, which ten feet English boats have crossed the ocean to bring back to her, but which still remains with us when her years are many. Sir Thomas Lipton is again the challenger, and doubtless the Irish baronet was moved alike by a gallant and a romantic sentiment when he fixed upon the half-century anniversary of the capture of the cup for his crowning effort to restore it to his country. His challenge is most welcome here, for it assures the presence of one who has proved himself a genuine sportsman and a courteous gentleman and a good fellow.

Boston Herald.

Who'll be the yachtsman on this side of the water who will undertake the defense of the cup against Shamrock? The list of those who are reckoned eligible for the task is lengthened by inclusion of Messrs. Duryea and Whitney, joint owners of the Yankee, as well as several others who have achieved distinction either as owners or managers of fast yachts the past season. It is safe to anticipate that there's to be no lack of first-class talent to stand by the wheel when the time comes to select it.

Omaha World-Herald.

If the cup is ever to cross to British waters we hope Sir Thomas will be the man to lug it over, but we hold to the opinion that title to the cup will rest permanently with American yachtsmen. But the next race for the America cup will be doubly interesting. They will be run on the square between sportsmen who are in love with the game and race for pleasure and not for money. It will be a supreme test of skill, and no matter which wins, the sporting world will feel gay and prepare for another bout.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

The London Yachtsman is disgruntled at Cornelius Vanderbilt's refusal to take the Lipton cup and other prizes because his English skipper had changed his yacht's ballast, contrary to the rules. It says: "If Parker (the skipper) had been an American citizen we might not have heard so much about the matter." Americans can understand why Mr. Vanderbilt's honest repudiation of an English skipper's blindness to those who only a few years ago were standing with Dunraven in charging American yachtsmen with that kind of trickery.

STRIKE AND ARBITRATION.

Kansas City Star.

The question of wages was the miners' chief grievance. The company stores and company doctors, of which they justly complain, are found only at a few collieries. It is doubtful whether the miners will get more than they can hope to gain by holding out for larger concessions. The continued loss of wages of more than 100,000 men is a serious matter. At the same time the cost of coal to the public is to be considered. If the miners should resume work with the 10 per cent raise it would seem as if the other questions might be settled by negotiations while the mines are in operation.

New York Evening Post.

The public is sufficiently interested in affairs of mine to follow the latest occasioned by these industrial conflicts to warrant the appointment of boards to investigate the causes of every outbreak, and as far as possible, to fix the responsibility for its occurrence. More than this, public boards, falling empy, can hardly expect to accomplish. The Illinois State board is acting wisely in requesting the legislature to confer upon it such powers of initiative.

Sacramento Bee.

President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of Pennsylvania has shown that he is the right man in the right place. He is cool, conservative, judicial, and judicious—just the kind of a level-headed leader for a vast array of wronged men who might permit their wrongs to drive them to acts of lawlessness if they were led by unthinking hot-heads. President Mitchell's speech to the miners at the convention at Scranton was remarkably temperate and yet determined. Every sensible man will agree with him in the following: "Labor organizations have no greater enemies than the thoughtless strikers who violate the law or permit themselves to be provoked into the commission of crime."

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Among the notable articles in the current number of Collier's Weekly is one on "Democracy vs. Imperialism," by ex-Governor Stone of Missouri. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt writes on "Woman's Place in Politics," from her point of view, and other contributors deal with current topics in an interesting manner.—New York.

Pearson's for November is already at hand with its wealth of illustrated reading on a great variety of topics. The frontispiece is a reproduction of "The Egyptian Camel Corps," a painting by Lady Butler. "Underwater Photography" is the title of the first article. Then come several high class stories, "The World's Parrot Poets" are described by J. Henniker Heaton, and illustrated by G. A. Pearson. "Observing Three Deluges," by Rev. J. M. Bacon, is a subject treated interestingly, and the remainder of the list of contents is made up of contributions on both facts and fiction. Pearson's belongs to the younger members of the family of American magazines, but it has forged ahead very rapidly in the matter of circulation, a sure indication of the appreciation of the reading public of its contents.—Pearson Publishing Co., New York.

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