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THE IDAHO CASE.
After a wait of nearly a year, the action contesting the eligibility of Judge Alfred Budge, of the Fifth Idaho district, has been carried to the supreme court of the state. The appeal was filed Dec. 6. When the case will come up for hearing has not been announced, but the probability is that a date will be fixed for the near future.

The outcome of the case will be watched with intense interest, not only by the people of the Great State, but throughout the entire country. An ultimate decision against the defendant would mean more than might seem to be involved in the controversy. It would mean that in Idaho no "Mormon" would be permitted to hold office, or even to vote.

Judge Budge is a man of unimpeachable character. For thirteen years he has been before the gaze of the people of southeastern Idaho in official capacities, and his worst enemy has not been able to pick a flaw in his character. And, speaking of enemies, Judge Budge has none, excepting among rabid anti-Mormons, for only because of his religion is he made the victim of arraignances and spleen. Four years he was attorney of Bear Lake County, of which his home town, Paris, is the seat. So satisfactorily did he fill the position that he was chosen district attorney, serving for another four years in a manner no less an honor to himself than his constituents. In the first of these campaigns he electioneered throughout southeastern Idaho in company with the man who is now the arch mover in the despicable attempt to rob him of the rights and privileges of American citizenship—Fred T. Dubois. When Mr. Budge was elected district attorney, this same Dubois sent him a telegram of congratulation. At the close of the district attorneyship came the election of Mr. Budge to the judgeship of the Fifth district, comprising the counties of Bear Lake, Bannock and Oneida. That was five years ago, and four years later he was re-elected, without opposition, and this because his record on the bench had been beyond adverse criticism.

Scarcely had Judge Budge assumed the duties of his second term before a movement was set on foot to deprive him of his seat. What was his offense? The Constitution of Idaho, as we understand it, embodies a provision to the effect that no person belonging to or contributing means to a religious organization that teaches "polygamous, patriarchal, plural or celestial marriage," shall have the right to vote or hold office in the state. In the minds of the framers of the Constitution the four words were strictly synonymous in meaning, and the inhibition was designed to break up the practice of polygamy. The members of the Constitutional Convention were not cognizant of the fact that a marriage might be celestial and at the same time have none of the elements of plurality connected with it. The opinion that the word celestial was synonymous with the word polygamous for a time suited the purposes of the anti-Mormons of Idaho. Then came the issuance of the Manifesto of President Wilford Woodruff, prohibiting the consummation of any further polygamous or plural marriages. The proclamation made no mention of celestial marriage, as it was well understood by Church members that the words had a meaning apart from polygamy.

The attitude of the Idaho agitators has changed, and they now maintain that the word celestial means celestial and nothing else, and that although the Church no longer sanctions the practice of polygamy, yet its members are to be disfranchised because they believe in and practice "celestial" marriage, which in truth is nothing more nor less than marriage for eternity.

For another reason that he has contracted a marriage with the woman of his choice, and believes that this contract is valid both for time and eternity, endeavors were made to drive Judge Budge from the bench and disfranchise him. We hope the country will understand this case thoroughly. If the plan succeeds, all citizens of the state of Idaho who believe a marriage contract is eternally binding, may suffer the same treatment.

They may believe in "free love," or in "tandem polygamy" and plurality of wives, but if they contract to love and cherish the mothers of their children for both time and eternity, they may be rendered outcasts.

It was first planned to file the contest in the supreme court, where, in fact, it belonged. But there was some phase connected with that tribunal not to the liking of the contestants, and the cause was filed in Judge Budge's own district.

A situation between opposing counsel called Judge Stevens of the Sixth district into the case. On January 22, 1907, Judge Stevens rendered a decision to the effect that a district judge had no jurisdiction in the premises, and it is from that opinion that an appeal is being taken to the supreme court, the judges of which are Chief Justice Ainslie and Justices J. N. Sullivan and George Stewart. If they decide that the district court has jurisdiction, the case will be remanded. If the decision be contrary, that will end the matter, as it is too late to bring the case directly before the supreme court.

TO LIVE IN AMERICA.
The Greek who thanked the gods for three things—that he was a Greek and not a barbarian, that he was an Athenian and not a Spartan, and that he was a man and not a woman—had

at least two things to be thankful for, while opinions will differ as to the third.

The American, however, may truly be thankful for several things; among them, that he does not live in any portion of the ancient and honorable kingdom of dismembered Poland.

Prussia, though one of the most enlightened of nations, thoroughly modern and progressive, is yet making still another, and this time very determined, effort to destroy the last vestiges of the nationality of a once great race, the Poles.

Chancellor von Bismarck has introduced a bill into the Prussian Diet authorizing the state to acquire land in Poland by condemnation proceedings for colonies of Germans. "If the state has a right," says Von Bismarck, "to expropriate land for the building of a railroad, why can it not claim this right for a much higher purpose?"

According to English and American jurisprudence, there is a difference between the two cases stated by the Prussian Chancellor. A railroad is for the benefit of the whole people irrespective of race, color, or previous condition; while the displacing of Poles from their homes and lands in order to "sell" them to Germans supposed to be more loyal, is for the benefit of one class of individuals at the expense of another class.

Condemnation of lands for railroads and similar purposes is merely the advancement of a form of public service to which private notions must yield. And we know of no case in which land taken for such uses has not been fully valued and satisfactorily paid for. We also believe that history records no case in which lands and tenements have been taken from one class of people and "sold" to another class, wherein the elements of injustice, robbery, and oppression have not amounted to a most cruel and exasperating tyranny that has served to embitter the minds of succeeding generations against the government, weak and cowardly enough to resort to such methods of making "loyal" any class of subjects suspected of disaffection.

Disremembered a century ago, Poland still remains in thought and feeling, in language and religion, a separate land; and the Prussian government now proposes to ingrain into the very fiber and brain of every self-respecting Pole the conviction that the ancient aggressor continues through the succeeding ages to be a nation to be feared, hated, and if possible injured by every one in whose veins flows the Polish blood.

The Poles, it is said, are among the brightest and bravest on earth. They excel in art, music, literature and invention. In Prussia they have hitherto held their own as well as the German settlers often turn Polish in sympathy. In Russia they have never ceased to conspire against autocracy. An exchange explains the situation of Poland by this comparison:

"If President Roosevelt and Congress believed that Massachusetts people were more loyal to the government than Connecticut people, if they went into Connecticut and bought by condemnation the old homes where families have lived for generations, and if they colonized Massachusetts families upon them, selling the land cheap, with long term mortgages at low interest, we should have a home parallel to this amazing policy, so coolly announced, so shamelessly defended."

"But even this parallel fails to express the whole situation. If the poor Connecticut proscriptions, besides the danger of being driven from their homes and their children dragged to schools where they must recite in an alien tongue and worship by an abhorrent rite or be cruelly punished, the unthinkable situation of Prussian Poland would be further matched."

At this time of rejoicing in our Christmas holiday, let us be duly thankful for another great blessing—that we live in a land where such things are not.

EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL.

Prof. James of Harvard in a recent article has said that a "spree" may be beneficial to some people.

He said many of us find that an eccentric activity—a "spree," say—relieves. There is no doubt that to some men sprees and excesses of almost any kind are medicinal, temporarily at any rate, in spite of what the moralists and doctors say.

This was a comment upon an observed psychological fact to the effect that "Men always work at a lower degree of tension, a lower level of energy, than they are capable of. They are under restraint. They may be raised to higher levels in various ways."

Another professor in commenting upon the statement, says that the psychology of the matter is that the spree may serve to break the man's mental monotony as an evening at a theater or a fishing trip would. It may get him out of a rut, and put him on a higher level of thought and energy. It releases him temporarily, at least from the restraint he normally is subjected to.

While we are biased towards admitting the probability of the existence of the psychological law referred to, we are also certain that the two professors have pushed the general law into a special situation in which it falls altogether.

Wine is a mocker, and strong drink is raging. Whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Dr. Hughes, an eminent nerve specialist, makes the following comment in refutation of this curious misapplication of a psychological law:

Alcohol destroys the neurones—the nerve cells—in the brain; it never is anything but harmful.

On the brain alcohol acts as a toxin, and its effect ultimately is depressing. It never is a cerebral stimulant. It stimulates only the motor nerves and even while a person is under its influence he cannot derive benefit from it.

Put the albumen or "white" of an egg in alcohol and watch it disintegrate, and you will get an excellent idea of what it does to the brain, which is an albuminous substance.

Alcohol destroys the brain. Indiscretely it is a form of degeneracy. Instead of developing the will, drink destroys it. Many cases of unstable will are first brought to light through indulgence in it, and the will is utterly destroyed by continuance of the habit.

From the pathological standpoint, there can be no benefit from alcohol.

Common experience, everyday observation, the wisdom of the ages, the laws of all nations, and the teachings of nearly all science, both physiologic and mental, clearly demonstrate that if some excitement is necessary in order to induce some men to do their

best, that excitement should never be sought in alcoholic stimulation.

The evil record of alcohol is too well authenticated to be relieved or brightened by the citation of a supposed fact of psychology, and then by an extension of it into an entirely different field from that in which it may have some practical value.

King Carlos of Portugal has put the lid on tight.

It is the thermometer not the price of coal that drops.

Santa Claus is up a tree but never up a stump.

It is perfectly natural that crooks should hang around corners.

"Why not Senator Watterson?" asks the Atlanta Constitution. Just causes.

Hoarding is saving through fear. Saving is hoarding through foresight.

Whatever kind of law Goldfield may have it should not be the "unwritten law."

Harry Orchard's evidence in the Pettibone case is a kind of twice-told tale.

Thaw wants a quick trial. That's right. It is a case of the quick or the dead.

Gold lace is much higher than formerly. This bears unusually hard upon militia officers.

"Pumpkin pie forever," exclaims the Washington Herald. Pumpkin pie for supper, rather.

Nevada has no militia but just at present she has something equally good. If not a little better.

The cheerfulness of the men entombed in the Groux Consolidated mine would put Mark Tapley to shame.

Senator Gore of Oklahoma is blind, yet it is to be feared there are some in the senate who have eyes but see not.

The open door in China is a good thing, but the open door is a bad thing in the house at this season of the year.

The senate committee on finance will frame a currency bill. Most of the currency bills should be framed as curiosities.

Mr. Carnegie has just added two million dollars to the Carnegie institute foundation fund of ten million dollars.

New York is having "blue Sundays" and those deprived of their regular Sunday recreations are protesting like blue blazes.

Naturalists had better get their specimens of cashier's checks and clearing house certificates. They are going out of fashion and will soon be retired altogether.

Pittsburg boasts a citizen eighty years of age who hasn't missed a single day from Sunday school in over two years. There are no "blue Sundays" for that kind of citizen.

A presidential candidate's "coming out," like a young lady's, is one of the most interesting events of his life. But there is only one coming out, and each successive season makes the candidate, like the young lady, less and less interesting.

THE NEED OF CITIES.

Boston Transcript.

Mayor Barney of Lynn is strongly in favor of a commission form of municipal government because it better defines the responsibility of administration. In his own experience, municipal affairs he has found that city councils make the appropriations and are absolutely unable to tell where the money is spent. Responsibility is shifted from one branch of the city council to the other and from one department head to another, and never rests anywhere. The experience of the Lynn mayor is a common one. Many cities in Massachusetts are creating annual deficits by maintaining expenses beyond their possible income. To complaints of taxpayers the only answer obtainable is that the various departments require such appropriations, and the sum total is more than the amount which can be raised by taxation. The mayor and city council plead that they are not responsible, and therefore that they are powerless to effect reform. The commission form of government, which will simplify the administrative body and will concentrate and define responsibility, as well as power, will go a long way toward remedying some of the most glaring evils of present municipal administration.

UNBOUNDED PROMISE.

Chicago Tribune.

When the \$7,500,000,000 yielded by agriculture is added to the \$14,800,000,000 representing the value of the output of the manufacturing production in this country for the last fiscal year the vastness of the wealth of the people of the United States is apparent. With each year adding improvements to farming methods and opening up new territory for agricultural purposes as reclamation projects are being pushed, the prospect for the future seems one of unbounded promise as long as the sun shines and the rain falls.

NO SUNDAY SHOWS.

Troy Press.

No Sunday shows in the Metropolis. Their omission in conformity with law and the old-time customs of the country will not be a public calamity. Something aside from frivolity should occupy the minds of the masses on the Sabbath day. They should be taught to realize that life is a serious proposition, to be treated thoughtfully.

TWO REPORTS CONTRASTED.

Ohio State Journal.

Take the two annual reports, that of the Secretary of the Navy and that of the Secretary of Agriculture, and what a difference of feelings do they awaken! There is the latter, beaming with hope, full of the increase of good things, crops overabundant, trade all our year, all the omens of a glorious, happy, prosperous country. And then take the Naval Secretary's report, with its recommendations of the expenditure of millions of dollars for the purchase of new battleships, and the recommendation of a new navy! How can we ever expect a nation to make ourselves solid with an overrunning Providence if we propose to use its good gifts in this way?

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS.

(For the "News" by H. J. Haggood.)

One slap on the back is worth three kicks in the shins. Remember that the men in your employ are as conscientious about their work as you are about the business in general. They have their set-backs and discouragements and one cheerful word from headquarters is often better than a hundred call-downs.

The advertising manager of one of the big monthly magazines in the east makes it a point always to find something good in the daily reports of every one of his solicitors. He looks for something commendable in the day's work and never lets his man feel that he has failed entirely.

If an employe fails down on his job dismiss him without hesitation; but as long as he remains in your employ make him feel that his best efforts are appreciated. There are enough people to find fault and the whole world wears a big boot that is always ready to kick.

Make every employe in your concern feel that the boss is back of him. Remember that every word of encouragement is worth dollars and cents to you. Flap your man on the back and don't send him on the job feeling like a spanked child.

JUST FOR FUN.

The Question of the Hour.

The man sat on one side of the big lamp, the woman on the other. A thoughtful look clouded both faces. They had been silent for a long time. Finally the man stirred uneasily. "Jane," he said, "what in Tophet am I to give Aunt Martha for Christmas?" The woman looked up. "And what in Tophet am I to give Aunt Mary?" Then they both relaxed into silence.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Lord Brampton.

As Sir Henry Hawkins, Lord Brampton presided at a trial in which one of the counsel wearied everyone in court by his long-winded speech. After court he quietly for some time, the hearing it quietly for some time, the judge jotted down a note in pencil and sent it by an attendant to the counsel in question. When that gentleman had read it, he made an abrupt ending to his oration, for Sir Henry's note was as follows: "Patience, competition—Gold medal, Sir Henry Hawkins! honorable mention, Job." A very self-confident young barrister was once introduced to Sir Henry, and throughout his conversation continually boasted of a certain "lady" he had met in the future. "Ah," said his lordship at last, "so you hope to be famous one day, eh?" "Yes," replied the barrister, "one day I hope to have the world at my feet." "Why, what have you been doing all this time?" inquired Sir Henry, "walking on your hands?"—Belman.

Money Stringency.

It should, however, be perhaps added that on the occasion of the Kaiser's visit to London there will be more coppers than sovereigns about.—The Tatler.

A Reason.

They were returning home from the theater one evening. "I wonder why it is," said his wife, "that so few actresses travel under the management of their husbands?" "My dear," replied her husband, "have you ever reflected how difficult it is for most men to manage their wives?" And for fifty-seven consecutive seconds she was silent.—Chicago News.

The Creature.

Teacher—Children, what creature is that in ornithology which has a very long neck, has something to do with trimming big hats, does its fighting by scratching and kicking, and often gives cause to men to be afraid?

Eager Pupil—I know, teacher. Teacher—Well, Sammy, what is it? Sammy—An old maid!—Baltimore American.

"Well, Bobbie, do you like your new Sunday school?" "I can tell better when I find out what they give you for being good."—Life.

Little Clarence—"Poppy, what is a millennium?" Mr. Slewfoot—"It's deess about de some as a centennial, muh son, on'y it's got mo' lega."—Puck.

"So you are hungry, eh?" said the woman to the tramp. "How would a few chops suit you?" "Lamb or wood?" asked the tramp cautiously.—Philadelphia Record.

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