

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(SUNDAY EXCEPTED.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets,
Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose, Editor
Morace G. Whitney, Business ManagerSUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
One Year, in advance, \$3.00
Six Months, " " 1.80
Three Months, " " 1.00
One Month, " " .30
Sundays only, per year, 2.00
Semi-weekly, " " 2.00NEW YORK OFFICE:
In charge of R. F. Cummings, Manager Foreign
Advertising, from our Home Office, 1171 Park Row
Building, New York.SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
In charge of E. J. Cooper, 36 Geary St.Correspondence and other reading matter for
publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.
Address all business communications to:
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.Entered at the Post Office of Salt Lake City as
second class matter according to the Act of Con-
gress March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 4, 1903.

THE KINDERGARTEN BILL.

The Kindergarten bill, now before the House having been passed by the Senate, has a most excellent purpose. The establishment of schools or classes for children below the regular district school age, has become a public necessity. The Kindergarten is no longer an experiment. It affords a splendid preparation for the studies to follow in the regular school course. It also awakens thought and arouses interest in the tender juvenile mind, and amuses and interests while it educates.

To teach successfully in the Kindergarten, special training is necessary. It is out of the beaten track of the ordinary system. That young ladies with talents of the proper kind may be induced to take the needful lessons to fit them for this important work, there must be a prospect of their securing employment. If Kindergartens will become a feature of our district school system in four years from the present time, as proposed in the bill under discussion, the incentive for the training of teachers will be provided.

No extra expense is to be incurred by the State. It will not increase the State school-tax. The cost will be paid in the district where the Kindergarten is in operation. It has been proposed to change the limit of population so as to require school boards in districts having a population of two thousand, instead of one thousand, to establish a Kindergarten. This would be much better than none, but the first proposition we think would be preferable. However, we hope the bill will pass, whatever may be the decision as to the requisite population.

A FALSE ALARM.

In the furor occasioned among certain very religious people, at the mere possibility of a "Mormon" ecclesiastical obtaining a seat in the Congress of the United States, one is led to inquire, what terrible danger to that body or to the nation would be threatened by such an alleged catastrophe?

When the Roberts case was under discussion, the people who made the most noise about it, conveyed the impression that they thought his presence in the House of Representatives would change the drift of legislation, so as to comport with his opinions on the marriage question, and that the majority of the members would be converted, or perverted, whichever you please, by his oratorical "Mormon" influence.

Just the same now, when a "Mormon" monogamist has been elected by his party to the United States Senate, to hear his opponents, it might be supposed that if he is permitted to occupy that position, the potent, grave and reverend signors, who form that august body, would be imbued with the spirit of "Mormonism," and that he would shape the destinies of the country, in such a way that "the home" would be destroyed, Christianity in its multifarious forms would be abrogated, and the republic would be transformed into a "hierarchy."

What terrible fellows these "Mormon" Elders must be! Even when they are not acting in an ecclesiastical capacity, but simply as citizens, discharging a political duty placed upon them by their countrymen at the polls, they are looked upon as "a menace to the institutions of the land," and one of them in the midst of hundreds of legislators, is to be dreaded as though he could out-vote them all.

The ardent humming of this pretended alarm is as amusing as it is astonishing. Hon. George Q. Cannon, religiously an Apostle of the "Mormon" Church, served Utah politically in Congress for a number of successive terms. Did he ever introduce or support any measure subversive of American institutions or inimical to the public welfare? Did he not gain the esteem and respect of his associates in that body? Did John T. Caine, a prominent Elder in the Church at home, ever say or do anything objectionable to the House of Representatives while he officiated in that body? The same question may be asked concerning every "Mormon" who has represented Utah in either House of Congress, and the answer would be the same. All of them have exhibited talents and qualities that fitted them to shine among their compatriots, and no one can point out any official act of theirs, or of either of them, that was out of harmony with the principles of the national government.

Is it not clear to reflecting minds that all this hullabaloo raised by sectarian preachers, and echoed by hysterical and audibly excited women, is in the extreme degree absurd? The present object of their pretended alarm is admitted, even by them, to be an upright, honest, business man, a model husband and father, a promoter of "the home," a strong member of his political party, fully elected to the position of which they seek to deprive him. What harm can he possibly do in Congress, even

if all they have trumped up about him is true?

Appropos of the question we find the following editorial in the Boston Herald, which we think touches a vital point in the "danger" alarm:

"The clergy and their allies out in Utah, who have begun the crusade against senator-elect Smoot are putting out a charge against him, to the effect that he practices polygamy. It is tempting to them to present an accusation, because Congress has already decided to seat a 'Mormon' on account of his having a plurality of wives. This was in the House of Representatives, however, it will be remembered, and Senate is likely to prove a law unto itself in acting on the matter—certainly it is not to be expected to take its cue from the House. If we understand his position correctly, Smoot denies that he is a polygamist. The ministers expect, apparently, to prove that he is false in his denials, and thus make him more objectionable upon moral as well as on legal grounds. We never thought that Roberts, in the other instance, was enough of a polygamist to produce demoralization in society, and we seriously doubt if Smoot will be found so, either. There are worse evils than polygamy to be apprehended in this country, and this is said not as an apology for the institution, but from a gratifying doubt of its being the danger that some people appear to believe."

TREATMENT OF CRIMINALS.

From various penal and reformatory institutions of the country, reports come of a state of affairs that calls for improvement. But unless such institutions are given over to specially trained experts, there will be no real reform.

The time was when "reformers" and educators knew no other method than brute force, in dealing with the class of people entrusted to their care. They were totally ignorant of the moral and mental makeup of a human being. They reasoned that if they could inspire fear enough, the culprit would arise and walk firmly on the path of virtue. Their only expedient was severe punishment. Beat, torture, burn, kill! That they thought would certainly have effect. They forgot that the fallen ones are mental and moral cripples. A great many of them can no more turn away from vice and practice virtue than could the paralytic arise and walk, before he had been touched by the hand of the Master. It is quite certain that moral depravity is a disease; the individual is responsible for the disease, if he has placed himself in a position to "catch" it, and has neglected to seek the remedy for it, but it is nevertheless a disease, and the subject is powerless in its grasp, especially if it has continued for some time. Just think of the terrible power exerted upon individuals, by tobacco, intoxicants, or even coffee and tea! How almost impossible it appears to many to break a chain of habit! How much more so to change the very trend of nature, as sometimes must be done in the interest of morality!

All these facts are being recognized now, and there are experts who are endeavoring to solve as far as possible the problems of criminology. Public sentiment is no longer in favor of brutality, though its methods still prevail where ignorance rules. It has been found that other methods must be resorted to, if it is desired to prevent crime and reform criminals. And this should be the aim, especially with all juvenile offenders. They should be entrusted to the care of only the most patient and skillful experts.

IMMIGRATION FIGURES.

The influx of immigrants for the last six months of the past year and the first month of this year is unusually large. The total for the last half year of 1902 is given as 372,533, an increase of 27,551 over the number in the corresponding period of 1901, and during January this year, the number amounted to 35,037, which is 8,658 more than came in during the first month of 1902. This looks like the beginning of a very heavy immigration this year. And in all probability it will be considerably in excess of preceding years. Famine and hard times are felt in many parts of the world. And those who can escape to more congenial regions will surely do so. Political oppression and strife have their effects too. Many will seek a refuge in this country against tyranny and threatened outbursts of warlike.

With regard to the nationalities that were represented in the immigration of the last six months of the past year it appears that 203,991 came from Europe, while Asia sent us about 16,296, of which number 10,000 came from Japan. Africa and Asia supplied only a few immigrants, the West Indies leading with 2,585, Canada gave us but 515 immigrants. Of the European immigrants Italy sent us 37,845, an increase of 22,894, Austria-Hungary sent 13,275, or 12,670 more than in the last half of 1901. Russia, with Finland, contributed 57,189, an increase of 16,535. The United Kingdom supplied but 24,452, of which number Ireland furnished 14,258. Germany sent but 16,449, against 12,008 in 1901, a small increase than was to be expected in view of the hard times in the empire during the past year. Sweden and Norway together sent us 27,904 of their citizens.

A GOOD PEACE SUGGESTION.

A very practical suggestion is made by the London Truth. That paper asks why this country does not go a step further than the Monroe doctrine admits, and found an American court of arbitration, to which all American republics can refer their troubles and differences. The United States, it is further suggested, might insist upon the reference to that court of all cases of disputes, in which European countries and American republics are interested. The idea is good, and it should be practical, for no European country would make war in earnest upon an American country, against the emphatic protest of the United States. It is an excellent suggestion. For the arbitration idea is distinctly American. Europe has consented to it, but hesitatingly, and the European governments seem to use every possible excuse for refusing to carry it out in practice, although they have agreed to the principle. If the world is going to have the benefit of the peace era, that was made possible through the Hague convention,

this country must undertake to demonstrate the workings of the plan. And this could best be done through an American court of arbitration, charged with the duty of dealing with the numerous disputes on this continent. That would be an object lesson to Europe, and has been, since its beginning.

With such an international court at work, the necessity of an international parliament would soon be felt, and then the unification of the human family in a vast brotherhood would follow naturally in due time.

The cigarette bill has gone up in smoke.

It's a red letter day that knows no railroad wreck.

Wise old man is the Sultan. He agrees to everything and does nothing.

Wishard, Schroeder, Leifell. What strange bedfellows politics make.

Since noon today there have been a good many statements out of a job.

After tomorrow the President will only have half of Congress on his hands.

With each advancing day of spring the coal question becomes less and less vital.

Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma have been hoodwinked on the statehood question.

The predicted great storm did not come. Like the trains, it may have been soon blocked.

Because Representative Stewart would like to see this traffic in liquor stamped out, it is no sign that he is a kisser.

Tennis C. Claffin Cook made it plain to Lord Chief Justice Alverstone that a woman's tongue can be sharper than a serpent's tooth.

Mr. Carnegie has given Princeton University a million dollars. The university can do no less than give him three cheers and a Tiger.

Governor Peabody has called out the troops to protect life and property at Colorado City. The strikers want "called back," which is rather novel.

Rev. Dr. MacArthur thinks that Washington was more of a Britisher than an American. The British never thought so. It may be that the good doctor is though.

They are doing heroic work in St. Louis to clean out the municipal rottenness before the exposition begins. It is a delicate tribute to the olfactory organs of the people.

The island of Guam is eight inches higher above the water line than it was before the last earthquake. Simply another proof of how American control elevates everything.

If the Monroe doctrine is merely a pretension and there is no power behind it, why are the learned German professors so wrought up over it? Is it worthy of them to be so exercised over nothing?

If a distinguished man has no desire to have a doctor of laws degree attached to his name, let him studiously avoid a visit to the University of Chicago. It is to the Chicago university what typhoid fever is to Cornell—epidemic.

Representative Condon's bills, 141 and 142, appear to be among the measures requiring immediate attention. They are for the protection of the public health, and aim to prevent the spread of disease. Laws for the purpose that inspire those bills are an absolute necessity. Don't let them sleep in committee.

One Rev. Thomas Dixon is raging a good deal about the negro question. He is telling people that there is to be a race war, "the most terrible the world has ever seen," and the result of it is to be that "the Anglo-Saxon people will sweep the negroes off the face of this continent." The trouble is going to start in the North. According to this, the race problem is not yet finally settled in this country.

The shelving of the initiative and referendum bill was a good thing. The senators who voted against it were wise in their generation. Great numbers of the people did not vote on the amendment to the State Constitution making the scheme possible, and many who did, had but a limited comprehension of its probabilities. It is not needed, now at any rate, and the action taken on the bill does not set aside anything that the people voted for. It remains where they put it, that's all.

In the state reform school are found twenty-four inmates sent there for truancy. That means that these most unfortunate children are there because they would not go to school. It is a most barbarous system that sends them to such a place for so small an offense. In other states where the science of penology has reached a higher plane than in Utah the remedy for truancy, is the truant school. Cannot Utah remedy the evil she now permits? She can if she will. The Legislature could at least repeal that part of the statute which makes truancy a reform school offense.

The idea that alcohol or other stimulants have a strengthening effect upon the human system is denied by a contributor to The Hospital. He admits that a stimulant has a certain effect on the circulation, and this may enable the person who takes it to exert more strength temporarily; but the energy that he uses comes, he says, not from the stimulant, but from his own blood and tissue. A similar mistake is made in the administration of a stimulant to relieve a feeling of depression or sinking. An injurious reaction always follows. Alcohol, he further says, is harmful in diseases of the kidneys or of the liver, but it seems to be good for diseases of the lungs, and its effect on appetite and digestion may be good when properly employed.

"Last year there was exhibited at the South Kensington museum the art treasures which J. Pierpont Morgan bought of Manheim, the collector. There were thirteen cases full of these magnificent pieces of silver, enamel and faience. At the same time one could

see at the Guildhall other works of art for the Morgan palace, while at Chertbury and at Havre priceless pictures were being transported to America. And for these treasures what does America bring us? 'The cakewalk,' says a Berlin paper. It is a terrible indictment of America. Still there is consolation in the knowledge of the fact that those Berlin and other artistic people who have such a high appreciation of the art treasures had a still higher appreciation of the American acid that was paid for them. The price was not all cakewalk.

NO NEW STATES.

Mail and Express.

The statehood proposition seems to be pursuing the downward road to the dump-heap of undesired and undesirable legislation. It loses some of its luster every day. It was lost, as a concrete proposition, when Mr. Quay gave up the hope of getting it through the Senate in the form in which it came from the House. If it were to go back to the House today it would find that public sentiment on the proposition has affected the views of members, and it is doubtful if it could pass again. It was an arduous task to get it out of proper discussion. It has fortunately had the discussion in the Senate and this has evidently proved fatal to it.

Boston Herald.

It is suggested fifty, as we are impressed, that Montezuma is a better name for a state of the Union than New Mexico. There is something inappropriate in our calling one of our states after one of our neighboring nationalities with the prefix New. The name was fit enough while the territory it covers was taken only as an appanage, its purpose being to remind us whence it came, but its Mexican connection is now fifty years in the past, and its Mexican association may better depart as it takes its place in statehood in our country. Lincoln is proposed as a fit name for a new state, and also Jefferson, the latter particularly applying to territory acquired under Jefferson's administration.

New York World.

The withdrawal of the "omnibus" statehood bill from its anomalous position as a "rider" upon the postoffice appropriation renders it certain that no addition to the list of states will be made at this session. Some regret may be felt for Oklahoma, whose appeal for admission is justified by precedent and progress, but if the three territories must be together considered they and the nation can afford to wait.

FOR THE EXPOSITION.

Chicago Record-Herald.

King Edward's promise to former Governor Francis, the president of the exposition, in a personal interview at Buckingham Palace, that he would send Queen Victoria's jubilee presents as a mark of his personal interest in the latest bit of good news. The courtesy is a very notable one, especially as it was due to the king's expressed appreciation of the affection and respect felt by the American people for his mother. At the same time it is announced that Belgium will appropriate \$100,000 for its exhibit and that King Leopold will produce and send a special display of the products of the Congo State.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

King Edward has concluded, as a mark of his personal interest, to forward to the St. Louis exposition all the jubilee gifts presented to the queen on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of her sovereignty over Great Britain and all its vast dependencies. Ex-Gov. Francis of Missouri, now in London, has obtained this concession from the king, as a special illustration of the hospitality he has shown to his American guests, so numerous and so valuable, will be regarded as a special show at the great St. Louis exposition.

AGAINST MILITARISM.

New York Evening Sun.

The movement against the national guard is spreading. All the labor organizations of Virginia have ordered workmen to keep out of the state service, while those who are in are to be kept from recruiting while in the terms of service are up. The strange thing about this propaganda is that those who are behind it don't see that if they are to be logical they must declare that all governments are their enemies, seeing that any head of a commonwealth may find it necessary to support the courts with force. Muddled-headed anarchy is no less the result than that which comes out flouted against all persons in authority. Recent Pubs

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The March Success is a good home magazine. The opening article, "The Romance of the C. P.," is by Edwin Markham, and describes the work accomplished by the builders of the great railroad that connected the east with the west. There are also stories by David Graham Phillips, Samuel Merwin, William Hamilton Osborne, and a serial story entitled "Hiram Bonnet's Gold Mine," by Henry Wallace Phillips. A masterly article, by Senator George Frisbie Hoar, of Massachusetts, on "The Art of Eloquence," will prove valuable. In the "Land of the Sam's Talk," Josiah Strong gives a comprehensive idea of the underground wealth of our country. Two full pages are devoted to the portraits of "The World's Greatest Men of Today," and Edward E. Higgins gives some valuable advice in an article entitled "How to Invest Money Safely and Profitably." Mrs. Christine Terhune Herrick describes how "Betty" prepared some delicious dainties for an "engagement luncheon," to a friend, and tells just how to conduct an affair of that kind. There is also a special department filled with attractive subjects for boys and girls—University Building, New York.

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