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A VALIANT VETERAN

The Deseret News heartily congratulates President John R. Winder on reaching the eighty-fourth anniversary of his birth into this world. In this we echo the sentiments of many thousands of friends who rejoice over his continued life of usefulness and honor. His step is as brisk, his mind as bright, his memory as acute, his vigor as active as in the years gone by, when he figured in the most stirring scenes of Utah's panorama. He was always alert and forceful and reliable in every position he was called upon to occupy. He never faltered or failed to do his utmost in the public service, civil, military, industrial or ecclesiastical. His word is as good as any bond or guarantee, and his fidelity to his leaders and associates has always been unflinching and steadfast. In the station he now occupies he has the love and confidence of the Latter-day Saints, and the esteem of a host of people of different faiths and parties, who know him for a worthy citizen and an honest man. May he always retain his usefulness and youthfulness while he dwells on earth. May his days be lengthened out for many years to come. And we are sure that when he passes through the veil, it will be to meet with earth's holiest and best, in preparation for a glorious crown in the resurrection of the just. President Winder, "many happy returns of this welcome day!"

THE STRUGGLE IN FRANCE.

The bill for the separation of church and state in France has been passed by the senate, and will, in due time, become effective. Much interest in the long debate centered around the discussion of the financial status of the clergyman now in office. M. Mesieres appealed to his colleagues asking them to provide a pension for these clergymen, but this was in vain. The majority were not in favor of any concessions.

Some prominent Catholics have maintained that the struggle in France is not against "clericalism," as alleged, but against the church itself, by politicians who hope to see atheism enthroned in the government, of the state. They draw their inspiration, it is pointed out, from the revolutionary leaders who closed churches, forbade all outward signs of religion, decreed death to priests, and instituted French massacres.

In this country, the principle of the separation of church and state is as well established as right and profitable to both institutions, that any effort to mix the two would be generally resented, as soon as detected. We are therefore apt to regard the separation act as a step forward, and we can only hope that some similar measure will, before long, be passed in Great Britain, where the dissenters for many years have complained against unjust discrimination in favor of the state church. Other countries would also be better off, were the state and church not interwoven with each other.

But the critics of the French act do not admit that the effect of it will be a "separation" of the church and state, with the former enjoying the liberty accorded to churches in this country, for instance. The meaning of the bill, they say, is simply a repudiation by the French government of its pecuniary obligations to the church, and the confiscation of church property. The church, they fear, will be treated as a dangerous society, to be under the constant surveillance of the police; the purpose is to impoverish, and menace the church, and reduce it to such a state of slavery that it may not prove a serious obstacle to the de-Christianization of the nation. Under the new conditions, the Catholics will, we are told, have less liberty in France than they have in Russia, or Turkey. The church will not be allowed to practise works of beneficence, educate the young, tend the sick, or open asylums for the afflicted. The societies being allowed to exist for the sole purpose of religious worship, the careful scrutiny of their accounts by the civil authorities will detect any outlay for what these will decide are objects not legitimately belonging to the purpose for which they exist. Every utterance of a priest against the views of the age, every warning to his flock to avoid the company of the wicked may be construed by the police as an incitement of one body of citizens against another, and be made a pretext for closing the church and dissolving the local society.

Such are the effects of the separation act, as viewed by some of its critics. We hope these may prove to be mistaken, and that perfect religious liberty may be established instead. We hope this boon may be extended to the members of all religions. Our time is peculiar for the unpopularity it manifests against all restraint and particularly the restraint of religion. But

such sentiments are passing. And the final outcome of the contest between the opposing forces of good and evil is not uncertain.

A UTAH BOY AT BRUSSELS.

It is always pleasant to hear from Utah boys abroad who are an honor to their State, and their people, as most of them are, wherever they go to study the arts or sciences.

Elder B. M. Young, Jr., who is at Brussels, Belgium, studying music, has been there for several years and will have finished his course in about another year. It is learned from private letters that he is doing well, and has found many influential friends.

In a recent letter to his father, he refers to the death of the Count of Flanders, the brother of King Leopold. He describes the ceremony of viewing the remains, and says it was a wonderful sight—the masses of flowers and wreaths, the brilliantly uniformed officers, the burning candles, and the pomp and show which are almost indescribable.

Elder Young is a member of the musical royal society, La Grande Harmonie, and other organizations, and as such he received a printed notice of the demise and the postponement for an indefinite time of a series of social functions that would have been given by the society, but for the fact that the country now is in mourning.

We are glad to hear from Elder Young, and his success in his devotion to the art of music, and hope that he may become another brilliant star in the wonderful galaxy that already now sheds lustre upon Utah and her people.

POVERTY AMONG FILIPINOS.

A contributor to Public Opinion gives a rather discouraging account of the industrial conditions in the Philippine Islands. He refers to the reception accorded the Tait party during their recent visit there. Throughout the round of entertainment that followed, jewels blazed by noon as well as by night upon the necks and arms of the native women, in a splendid sash equalled. Arches of triumph had been erected, bearing eulogizing legends and extending welcomes to the distinguished guests.

But, says the writer referred to, it was quickly discovered that all this was "put on." The islands are face to face with bankruptcy. An industrial crisis stares them in the face. The jewels that blazed so resplendently before the visitors, had mostly been redeemed from the pawn shops after much pinching, and presently would go back to that seclusion. A simple people living largely on rice, one of the simplest and surest products of the soil, there is not raised a sufficient amount to supply the wants of the natives.

In this situation agitators find an excuse for the continuation of their "farious work." The natives, whom they have brought under their influence, remain idle, awaiting that independence which the agitators have taught them will bring all blessings without labor. It is probably true that the Philippine Islands are the richest territory in agricultural and mineral wealth in the world, and yet here, we are told, the lands are largely untitled, the people are idle and in want—in want to so great an extent that in Cebu actual starvation is not averted even by daily contribution of thirty sacks of rice by the Chinese, and the strenuous work of the few Americans who are there.

If these representations are correct, the administration of the Philippine government should be looked after, with a view of ascertaining whether something cannot be done to bring relief. These islands being entrusted to the care of this country should be made to share the prosperity they enjoyed. There is no other way of ending forever the rebellious agitation that is born of selfishness and nourished by discontent.

A LABORERS' FAIR.

The French are talking about holding an international exposition in Paris in 1909. This show, if the suggestions made are carried out, will be unique in this respect that its special feature will be as perfect an illustration of a laborer's life, as possible. It will be not merely a display of the results of labor, under the direction of capital, but of the daily conditions under which laborers now toil and live.

The initiative has been taken by the Chamber of Deputies passing a resolution requesting the government to appoint a commission, to look into the question of finding ways and means to organize such an international exposition. At a recent meeting of this commission, it was pointed out that great advantages would come from a comparison between the conditions of the life of the laborer of today in all countries of the world, and conditions existing in past centuries. It would serve also as a striking illustration of the steps by which the laboring classes have gradually freed themselves from the state of servitude existing in feudal times, until they have arrived at the independence enjoyed today. It would enlighten the public as to legislation enacted for the relief and protection of laborers, through successive centuries, also concerning the work of social organizations occupied with their advancement.

The idea is excellent. An exposition of that nature cannot fail to commend itself to all who are one with the cause of labor throughout the world. The United States should be liberally represented in that fair, for this country is pre-eminently the country of the laboring man, and it should take the leading place in any enterprise intended to benefit laborers. By all means, let the world unite and make a workingmen's exhibition. It should eclipse all former world's fairs.

But, in order to be complete, such a fair ought to illustrate, as part of the conditions under which laborers live, the tremendous cost at which the military establishments of nations are maintained. The tax, direct and indirect, taken from the wages of labor-

ers in order to pay for guns, powder, cannon, rifles, revolvers, swords, bayonets, horses, food, clothing, shelter, tents, schools, colleges and academies to educate and train men for destruction; ships, navies, barracks, arsenals, torpedoes, boats, balloons, complete equipment and pay of men, big pay and pensions for officers; pensions for widows and families, and many other things too numerous to enumerate, should be fully and clearly demonstrated in the most impressive manner. That would make it clear why there still is much poverty and discontent among the wage-slaves in various parts of the world. It might suggest a remedy for this discontent. It would then be a great blessing to the world.

Balfour talks like anything but a resigned man.

The holiday trade in politics is very poor this year.

Mr. Ryan's mouth was firmly closed but his eyes spoke danger.

Oregon now has a chance to do something to redeem its reputation.

Having been cannon-bled a second time the House should be unusually good.

"Economy" is to be the watchword of the present Congress. A good watchword is like charity.

In the beginning the earth was without form, and void. And that very well describes Russia today.

Now that the Sultan has accepted the reforms proposed by the powers, he doesn't know what to do with them.

Ryan thinks it's "real mean" for the Armstrong committee to ask him questions that he doesn't want to answer.

With the game unreformed the cry is, Long live football! With it reformed the cry would be, Long live footballists!

Balfour says Campbell-Bannerman is going to give Ireland home rule on the instant plan. And Balfour is trying to stall his plan.

The verdict in the Meriwether case will shortly be made public. Then we shall see if the mishapman can stand punishment as well as give it.

There is talk of running Governor Douglas for Congress. Should he be elected, the President might listen to what he has to say about free hides.

The death of Senator Mitchell of Oregon puts the Senate in a delicate position regarding the customary eulogy bestowed upon members of that body on their demise. It seems to be a case where the less said the better.

German naval officers invading Brazilian territory, and without any form or process of law, seizing an alleged deserter from the German army, recalls those "fishing" ways of dear old England that led to the war of 1812.

"If nineteen deaths or a fraction of nineteen deaths were ascribed to boxing in the course of a season, how long would our colleges keep such a sport in the curriculum?" Football, of course, is another matter. Say the Springfield Republican, sarcastic, but striking anyhow.

Pensions for the lonely are provided for in a petition laid before the Senate the other by Vice President Fairbanks. The petition is signed by Miss Sarah Miranda Clymer of Bridgeton, N. J., who asks that a bill be passed instructing the United States treasurer to make monthly payments of not less than \$20 nor more than \$50 to all persons "alone in the world when they cannot maintain themselves." The lady certainly deserves a pension as a reward for her originality, if not for her loneliness.

Elegance In Ebony.

foreign interests in these republics will be lost.

Chicago Record-Herald.
Foreign and colonial affairs are treated in the usual Rooseveltian vein. We would call special attention to the story based upon the statement, which gives an interesting review of the facts; also to the insistence on the need of appropriations by Congress for the Panama canal, and to the liberal policy that is urged for the Philippines in the matter of the tariff and the extension of our coastline laws to the islands.

San Francisco Call.
The President's message deals almost entirely with the domestic and internal problems and affairs of the country. Its focus is the railroad rate question. It somewhat clears the atmosphere on that issue. Heretofore all of the opposition to his supposed views has been based upon the statement, not anywhere made by him, that it was his intention to empower the Interstate Commerce Commission to make all of the interstate railroad rates. Against this many valid arguments have been made. The main strength of the opposition was found in the fact that it would be given to a purely political body absolute power over transportation, and that the advantage of this would finally swing to the section of the country that had the greatest political influence.

SALT LAKE THEATRE GEO. D. PYLE, MGR.

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Matinees, Wednesday at 3, Saturday at 2:15.
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Elaborated by Joseph R. Gishmer.
Written by Louie Blair Parker.

THE PLAY THAT NEVER DE-TERIORATES.

PRICES—Night, 2c to \$1.50; Matinee—2c to \$1.00.

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OTTO FLOTO PRESENTS THE MOVING PICTURES OF

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Thursday (EXCLUSIVE) JOSH SPRUCEBY.

PRICES—Night, 2c, 5c, 7c; Matinee—2c.

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MATINEE WEDNESDAY.

The Parisian Belles

A SHOW THAT PLEASES ALL.
Gold Watch and Cash Prize given to best amateur performer Friday night.

Commencing Saturday matinee, "LONDON GAIETY GIRLS."

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new store a line of drawings from the

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Please call opposite and south Salt Lake Theater.

The recently accepted designs for Buttons and Labels for the Manufacturers and Merchants' Association come from this studio.

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A CHRISTMAS CATASTROPHE

may sadden an otherwise happy holiday—fire may sweep away your savings of years. Contemplation, though, if your property is insured in the

Home Fire Insurance Co. of Utah one of the most conservative insurance companies extant. Good plan if you would sleep soundly Christmas Eve to see us today about insurance on real or personal property.

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26 RICHARDS STREET.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

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Every hat, those imported and those made up by our own skillful force, all Trimmings, Plumes, Wings, Agrettes, Pom Poms, etc., in fact everything in our Millinery Department is now offered

AT JUST HALF PRICE.

A Hat will make a most appropriate Christmas Present, affording its recipient something beautiful, and at the same time useful. We urge you to come early to make selections.

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A Lot of Ladies' Tailored Suits at Half Price.

Children's Dresses and Coats, Underskirts, Dressing Gowns, Silk Kimonos, Wrappers, Mererized Petticoats, entire line of street and dress skirts, Evening Coats and Novelty Street Coats, All Plaid and Silk Waists, at

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A Discount of 20 Per Cent

Good Furs make ideal gifts—gifts that can be put to practical use, year after year. We have a splendid stock of them in Collarettes, Bosse Scarfs, Ties and Collars. A choice line of Fur Lined and Fur Trimmings Coats.

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Our Entire Line of Flannelette Gowns and Skirts, for ladies and misses, in white, plain pink and blue, and all fancy mixed stripes. Nothing reserved. The Bargains are:

40c grade for 40c \$1.25 grade for 50c
50c grade for 50c \$1.50 grade for 60c
\$5.00 grade for 65c \$2.00 grade for \$1.25

An Elegant Line of Toys, Dolls, Manicure Sets, Toilette Sets, Novelty Boxes, Holiday Stationery, Fancy Baskets in Willow, Rush, Canvas, Batten, Chip and Seaweed. Ever so many Beautiful Gifts in our Jewelry Dept. The Finest Line of Ladies' Handkerchiefs and Gloves ever offered in this City.

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But do your Christmas shopping early, while assortments are complete and while you can have our best attention. All stocks are in good shape in the morning; in the afternoon they are likely to be disordered.

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DENVER THEATRE CO. Proprietors, A. C. SMILEY, Manager.

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