DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEE.

Monday, October 26, 1896.

The Deseret Evening News is issued every Monday morning, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning, from the office of publication, Nos. 74 and 76 West Second South street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Deseret Weekly News is published on Thursday and Friday of each week.

The Semi-Weekly News is published every Tuesday.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Daily—Per Month	$ [illegible]
Daily—3 Months	[illegible]
Daily—6 Months	[illegible]
Daily—Per Year	[illegible]
Daily to the Trade, per copy	[illegible]
Semi-Weekly—3 Months	[illegible]
Semi-Weekly—6 Months	[illegible]
Semi-Weekly—Per Year	[illegible]
Weekly—3 Months	[illegible]
Weekly—6 Months	[illegible]
Weekly—Per Year	[illegible]
Weekly to the Trade, per copy	[illegible]

The paper is delivered to city subscribers every morning except Monday.

Subscribers changing their place of residence should always give further or full notice, stating not only the name of the new post-office, but also the name of the previous one.

The News is on sale at the principal News Stands in the city, and on passenger trains leaving the city after 7 a. m. daily.

Any subscriber not duly supplied with the paper should give immediate notice of the omission to the publishers, and be promptly supplied on the delivery of the next issue.

All communications should be addressed to

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Telephone 505.

PARAMOUNT LOCAL ISSUES.

One week more, and the voters of Utah will be called to perform the important duty of selecting a State Legislature to make laws for the government of this commonwealth and to select a senator to represent the State in the national Congress. Perhaps all realize the responsibility in making this selection; yet from the political discussions that are going on it seems that some vital local issues, paramount so far as their application to the State goes, are being relegated to the background in a way that is not up to the times. This being the case, there is occasion for the voters (some few in no some vigorous thinking for themselves in the few days left before casting their ballots.

Among the candidates for legislators in this State the silver question has been held up prominently, perhaps more so than the occasion justified, so far as the local situation is concerned, but not so to a national policy. It is an important issue—very important nationally, and in respect to the national ticket should be kept at the front. But as matters stand today it is not a paramount issue on the State legislative ticket. The point upon that has been reached and passed, so that now the overwhelming majority of candidates on all tickets—and perhaps all candidates—are what is known as free silver men and would not support an anti-silver policy. The achievement of this condition, therefore, removes the taste of discussion from the silver question as to legislative candidates—they are virtually on one side on that subject. Free coinage is still a paramount issue only on the presidential ticket in this State.

Now as to the issues that really could have foremost place now in choosing between the legislative candidates, and the policies thereof, so far as local matters are concerned. First, we may name the subject of irrigation. The State is very lame in its irrigation laws, and it is a necessity for permanent progress that something should be done promptly in this branch. The matter was solved upon the last Legislature, but that being the first under the new State government, it seemed to have its hands full in other directions. The irrigation laws should be delayed no longer. So far as property interests are concerned, it may be remarked that much of them are now imperiled in juvenile to pay the expense of an irrigation commission for twenty years. Of course the courts will decide right, but the loss of precious time is more important so to be able to avoid hardship meanwhile. Bodies, rights of each irrigation and the consequent expense could be prevented by a State irrigation commission and proper statutory provisions. Again, there are two bodies, through not having a State engineer's office to inspect dams and waterways and see that they were secure, enough to have borne the cost of such office for almost a generation.

Upon this point, then, the would-be legislators should be tested so closely as any of them have been on the silver question. It is as important to some to the State as mining ever can be. The agricultural interests of the State should not be sacrificed up by any other; it is not vital to calamity to those valleys. No man or woman who is opposed to placing the irrigation system in the State upon a Simon-pure basis, and doing it at the earliest possible opportunity, should be given a place in the State Legislature.

Then there are the home industry interests of the State. Matter is an important feature of Utah's industrial position; arbitrate is also. And manufacture stands on an equal footing with the others. The claims are essential to prosperity in the State; and as in the case of agriculture, manufacture is largely associated with local legislative enactments. The home industry interests of this State need our encouragement and support in a way that will be of practical force. The sentiment of the people is strong on this point, and a combined expression in moving its Legislature is a necessary with that sentiment. Those persons, and those only, who uphold the manufacturing as well as the agricultural and mining interests of the State should enter the halls of the Legislature. It is not a question of Democrats versus national issues; it is the practical way of handling those matters which involve the very life of the State as a prosperous commonwealth, able to sustain itself and hold its sacred rights.

Further hints might be named in this same connection, but these will suggest themselves to the thoughtful voter when once his attention is drawn to that direction. Utah needs a Legislature that will strive to labor for the good of the whole State, of all its citizens and all classes of its people, and that will act up upon the broad lines of well-defined principles as they have been proved to be of force and applicability to the settlement and development of this region.

It is for the voters of Utah to provide themselves with such a Legislature. Let no have a hobby that is right upon paramount local issues as well as upon those of a similar nature nationally.

ARMING THE MUSSULMANS.

The imposition by the sultan of Turkey of a personal tax of five piastres upon his Mohammedan subjects may possibly mean that Abdul Hamid contemplates filling his own generally impecunious purse and at the same time legislating himself in his representatives throughout the country, in order hands a considerable part of the taxes always remain. The time is opportune for some such measure, owing to the present trouble. But it may also indicate that the Porte has come in possession of information that prompts the rulers to rally the defenders of Islam to the standard of its prophet.

The sultan probably knows that no sooner his war command would stop the progress of any western army, yet many of his ignorant subjects have a great contempt for anything Christian. And they besides firmly believe that Allah would fight for them, if necessary. Abdul Hamid would therefore be forced to war with nominal Europe, or be deposed or perhaps assassinated as a traitor. Taking the situation, there seems to be no other alternative for him than to raise money as best he can, buy arms and ammunition and array his hordes to battle lines, should Europe take an attitude more than simply threatening.

In well informed circles some development in the Turkish question is expected before long. The opinion gains ground that concerted action has been agreed on by the leading powers. In that case arms and ammunition will be needed.

HOW IT IS.

Bluffdale, Salt Lake county, October 20, 1896.

Editor Deseret News:

There being two names on the list of Representatives to the Legislature from this county, if a person votes for less than two he does by law the vote for all those marked, because he does not cancel the full number? The Australian ballot has been explained in public here to give an affirmative answer to the question.

An affirmative answer to the question is wrong. If a voter casts his ballot in this county for one, two, eight or ten Representatives in the Legislature, it is counted for just that number. If he casts it for eleven candidates in that section then his vote is all is lost. In voting for less or less than is no conflict, hence the ballot is counted. Voting for more than the proper number makes a conflict as to who should be counted, and since the judges cannot decide that, the whole section must be thrown out. Each elector has the right to name his Representatives, and should exercise his full privilege.

SINGING A RECOMMENDATION.

A very general impression among people is that the man who has the happy faculty of being able to sing well has a strong point in recommendation of his worthiness; and the impression is correct. This fact ought to move the young men of this community to accept the suggestions made in the Mutual Improvement Association meetings in this city on Sunday evening, and avail themselves to a much greater extent than they now do of the opportunities for cultivating their musical talent, for the good they can effect thereby to others as well as to themselves. The value of an accomplishment in the way of being able to sing well the songs of Zion cannot come especially to those young men who are called on missions, and who go abroad to preach the Gospel. Their musical ability attracts attention, and even where there is much prejudice against the Mormons, unprejudiced people outside their young men who sing hymns so beautifully as many of the Elders do can not be so very bad, and they are generally accorded a measure of manliness. Then, as the people become better acquainted with the missionaries they learn that the latter are truly servants of the Lord, working for the salvation of mankind. The ability to sing, and the cultivation of that faculty, are thus a means of our multiplying much good.

The statement regarding missionary experience is only one suggestion of very many that could be made as to the advantage of young men cultivating their talents for vocal and instrumental music. Such a course is a desire for them at home as well as in their own habitations and among their everyday associations as well as in the mission field. Not all people have the best of voices for singing; but there are few who could not be made better by being taught to sing, or, if their vocal organs are not specially suited for that, at least to learn enough of music to take some part therein and appreciate and enjoy it. Those who have made it their study have proved singing a joy to others if they are self-ish enough for such efforts themselves. On the other hand, there is much of truth in the great poet's words, as applied to those who display a contempt for singing or other music, when he says:

The man that has no music in himself
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils;
Let no such man be trusted.

Already the people in these valleys have acquired high reputation for their love for and patronage of music, and the market among they have developed that it must be conceded that the women and girls hold the advanced position in this respect. It is time the young men and boys were taught to realize this fact, and that they come forward in the front position which is their privilege and duty to occupy.

SHE IS A LEGACY.

Writing from Spring Glen, Carbon county, under date of October 24, Wm. Slater says:

Please inform me whether a woman born in the United States, who marries an alien, can vote?

Certainly, if she is of age and registers. She is a native-born citizen, and her marriage does not change her relationship to this government. Marriage to a citizen mother an alien-born woman citizen; but marriage to an alien does not deprive a woman of her citizenship.

POLITICS AND DEATH.

The Chicago Times-Herald thinks that the price paid by the nation for a campaign like the present one can be estimated only if it were possible to ascertain how it effects life and health among those actually engaged in its thrilling scenes. The health commissioners of Chicago contribute some figures of interest in this connection. Deaths as a result of disarrangement of the nervous system or heart issues for the week ending October 17, increased sixty per cent over the previous week.

That this is not accidental would seem to be proven by statistics covering the last thirty-two years. Generally speaking there has been an alarming increase of deaths as a result of diseases affecting the heart, owing, it is presumed, to the excitement and excessive incidence to life in a great city, but the years of presidential elections are said to show an increase out of all proportion. Thus in 1868 there were 46 Chicago 52 deaths of heart disease; 1864 was election year and the deaths in the same mentioned were 82. In 1867 the number was 64; the following year (election year) 104. In 1871 it was 119; in 1872 (election year) 103. In 1876 the number was 201; in 1880 (election year) 321. In 1887 it was 340; in 1888 (election year) 618. In 1891 it was 509; in 1892 (election year) 1,008. The years 1876 and 1884 were exceptions from the rule, being plain pandemics.

According to this and if the figures hold good throughout the country, it appears that a presidential election in the United States results in more fatalities than many a great battle has done. There is certainly need of some strong and mighty influence to pour oil on the troubled waves, to calm the passions and end the turning better heat.

RULES FOR VOTERS.

With the registration disposed of, the balloting comes next, and we again present those general rules for the guidance of voters:

1—If you wish to cast a straight party ballot, put a cross in ink in the black square to the right of your party emblem, and make no other mark.

2—If you wish to make any change whatever from a straight party ballot, do not make any mark opposite either party emblem.

3—When you do not vote a straight ticket but pick your candidates, put a cross in the square to the right of each candidate you wish to vote for, and make no other mark on the ballot.

4—You do not vote directly for President and Vice-President, although the names of candidates are on the ticket; you vote for electors on the State ticket, choosing those of the party whose presidential candidates you wish to support.

By following these rules you will have no difficulty whatever in having your ballot just as you want it to be.

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Editor J. L. Montgomery, of Marshall (Ill.) Democrat, states that for many years he suffered acute agony from Dyspepsia. At last he began to take Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and in the time he used half a bottle, he was as well as ever. Cures others, will cure you.

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