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## OUR SCHOOLS OF LEARNING.

The schools will soon be opened for the first term of the new school year. Preparations are being actively made for their efficient conduct. The higher institutions of learning, particularly, commence their year's work with excellent prospects.

The University of Utah is better equipped than ever before, and is open to students from every part of the State who desire advanced education. It is an admirable establishment and offers very great advantages. The same can truthfully be said of the Agricultural College. These, of course, are all of a secular character, as no sectarian or religious tenets can be taught there.

They are State institutions and must therefore be conducted on secular lines, but they can be confidently recommended to the general public in this and the surrounding regions.

The B. Y. Academy at Provo, the B. Y. College at Logan, the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, and the different State academies, are all Church institutions, and include in the courses of study that theological training which the Latter-day Saints desire for their sons and daughters, who have graduated from the district schools and have arrived at an age when religious instruction can be fully appreciated and is essential to their future welfare.

For the members of the Church in the south the B. Y. A. at Provo offers special advantages, and its reputation as the pioneer Church academy is well sustained. In the north the B. Y. College at Logan is of a similar character, and is convenient for students in that locality. In the central parts of Utah the L. D. S. University in this city has ample accommodations and a splendid faculty, with facilities second to none in the State.

These establishments, each with special attractions of its own, start out for the new school year under the sanction and direction of the Church authorities, as do the academies in the different States of Zion. For the children of the Saints the Church schools are particularly adapted, for the reasons we have briefly pointed out. They are, indeed, a blessing to our people, and we expect to hear that they are all attended to their full capacity. Education is still on the upward march throughout the State of Utah.

## THOSE SPLENDID PRIZES.

We present to our readers today fine cuts of the three loving cups of solid silver, which are to be offered as prizes at the National Irrigation Congress in Ogden, September 16-18. We have mentioned them several times, and now give a full description beautifully illustrated.

Utah may not be able to carry off the honors in the hops exhibit; yet these have been raised here of excellent quality, but there are other places better adapted for growing them, and we may not be able to compete with our rivals on that product. Still there should be a strenuous effort to show the best we can do in the competition; quality rather than quantity will doubtless be the test.

In the barley contest there is no reason why this State should not take the prize. It is brewing barley that must enter the list. But that kind has been produced here in both quality and quantity to rank with the very best. We hope our farmers will not be behind in this exhibit, but will display their products in splendid style.

Utah sugar beets claim precedence in the market for large yield and high percentage of saccharine. California makes pretty sure of carrying off the cup for the best beets, but that does not count. Let Utah come to the front with her finest specimens which will stand the sugar test, and she has an excellent chance of winning.

We have already printed a handsome cut of the cup for the finest fruit exhibit, and that has been copied in other journals. There will be a mighty struggle for this prize. We are pleased to see the interest that is being taken by our home fruit-growers in this contest, and we believe we shall not be ashamed of the specimens that will be gathered and displayed by the horticulturists of the Beehive State. The beautiful prizes offered ought to be an incentive for friendly competition, and should not in that way upon our enterprising husbandmen. May the best exhibit win!

## THE LATTER-DAY DAVID.

Some of our friends in Idaho have been discussing the question of the meaning of a passage in the Book of Ezekiel (Chap. xxxvii, 25) which speaks of David as "a prince for ever," to be king over Israel after the restoration. Some of them think King David is to be raised from the dead and placed on the throne of redeemed Israel; others believe the scripture has reference to Christ, the Messiah, who was of the lineage of David and is to be king over all the earth.

The latter is the orthodox sectarian

interpretation of the passage in Ezekiel. It will be found in many dissertations on the subject by commentators and theologians of different religious bodies. We do not think they are right, nor do we believe that David, the king who sinned so grievously before the Lord in the case of Uriah and Bathsheba, that, as revealed in Section 132 of the Doctrine and Covenants, "he hath fallen from his exaltation and received his portion," is referred to in the prophecy in question.

The book of Ezekiel contains much in relation to the return of the House of Israel to Palestine in the latter days, and there are numerous references to a servant of God by the name of David, who is to be the "shepherd" and "prince" of the Lord's "flocks," after He has broken their yoke and gathered them from the countries and brought them to their own land. (See Ezek., xxxiv, 22-24.) The term "David," as applied to the rule of David the prince, does not necessarily mean eternally. It is to be taken, like the promise in the same scripture that the children of Israel, when gathered to their own land in the last days, "shall dwell therein, even they and their children and their children's children forever." It signifies always, continuously, without interruption, while life shall last, &c. (See Exodus xxi, 6; Jonah ii, 6).

The understanding of the Latter-day Saints on this matter is, that after the restoration of Judah and Israel to Palestine in the latter days, the Lord will raise up to them a "prince" of the lineage of King David, who will also bear that name. The Prophet Joseph Smith made the following remarks in the discourse he delivered over the remains of King Follet in Nauvoo, as reported in Mill Star, Vol. xxiii, p. 88:

"David sought repentance at the hands of God carefully, with tears, but he could only get it through hell; he got a promise that his soul would not be left in hell." \* \* \* And the throne and kingdom of David is to be taken from him and given to another by the name of David in the last days, raised up out of his lineage."

This should settle the controversy among Latter-day Saints, whatever view may be taken of the matter by other people. When the House of Israel is restored to the land given to the fathers, and a ruler named David, of the lineage of the fallen king, is placed at the head of that revived nation, the truth of the Prophet Ezekiel's words and of the Prophet Joseph's explanation thereof, will be universally acknowledged.

## FOR THE IDAHO STATESMAN.

The Boise Statesman has been making assertions and demanding explanations concerning an alleged bargain, or trade, whereby the office of United States Senator was secured through "Mormon" votes in the Idaho Legislature, in return for certain offices to which "Mormon" candidates were to be appointed. The Capital News of Boise City has shown up in good shape the folly and wrong of such statements, but we have made some inquiries suggested by the Statesman's repeated attacks and insinuations, and are able to state, most positively, that the Church authorities have had nothing to do with the affairs in question, in any shape or form. They have not taken any part in the politics of Idaho or any other place in recent times or occasions, and all the rumors about their connection with any elections or appointments of a political character, are utterly without foundation in fact. What individual members of the "Mormon" Church may have said or done in political affairs, has been their own personal business for which they alone are responsible. The Church authorities have not interfered with them, or directed them, or taken any part whatever in such matters, which are entirely out of the line of their actions and duties as authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Will the Boise Statesman please take note?

## ONLY ANOTHER CANARD.

Some of our friends in the East who are not members of the Church are excited over a ridiculous story, published in the New York World, about "Mormon Elders in Indiana attempting to kidnap a young girl." They want the Deseret News to explain and thus refute the terrible tale. The only explanation we can give is, that it is one of those canards that every now and then are sent out to startle the public and arouse prejudice against the "Mormons." Our Elders are not engaged in kidnapping anybody, nor in urging persons of any age, class or occupation to come to Utah. Some of the sensational stories of the character complained of are inventions of "enterprising" newspaper reporters, others are pulled off upon the public from the pulpits, and still others proceed from the excited imagination of ignorant people, who exaggerate some rumor started without real foundation. That such stupid tales as that referred to by our friends find credence among the uninformed is not surprising; but they ought to cause no concern in the mind of anyone familiar with the faith and conduct of the Latter-day Saints.

## LEACHING ALKALI LANDS.

Some practical experiments are being made with alkali lands over Jordan, and they are reported as quite successful. A plot of alkali soil selected for the purpose has been sub-tilled, that is to say, the pipes have been placed at a certain depth, the surface has been flooded with fresh water, and the alkaline fluid thus drained has been carried away by this process, leaving the upper soil fit for cultivation. Crops are to be planted after the drainage has proved sufficient, and then a full report is to be made of the entire transaction. That is all very good, so far as it goes, and may be of benefit in places where the plan can be extensively carried out. But it is not by any means new to this region, nor adapted, as alleged, to the stretch of country between this city and the great Salt Lake. Washing alkali lands with fresh water has been common in Utah for very many years, and underlining has been adopted successfully also. But no washing can be done without water, whether the alkaline fluid is carried off

by tilling or by ditches to some place of outlet. And this is what is lacking on the plains the other side of Jordan.

We speak of this because of the justification of a contemporary over an old and well known method of reclaiming the desert, as though it was a new thing under the Utah sun, and also to take the opportunity of suggesting that some experiments to bring to the surface subterranean streams, to water and wash those acres that now lie uncultivated, would be of far more value in these parts than those to demonstrate the feasibility of under drainage or surface leaching, which, however, may be of use where the process is new or unknown.

The great want of wide stretches of barren sage plains in Utah is water to irrigate them. When that is obtained, the reclamation of alkali lands will follow. But in addition to the essential water supply there must be some outlet for the alkaline fluid, by whatever means it is drained so that it is carried off where it will do no harm. Water, however, is the great desideratum and without it other experiments will be of small advantage.

## ZIONISM AND AFRICA.

Leading Hebrews do not regard the offer of Great Britain of a portion of East Africa for Jewish settlement, as an alternative of Zionism. They do not believe that the acceptance of that offer would retard the movement toward Palestine. And therefore they urge their coreligionists to consider the offer favorably. A congress is to be held, as soon as practicable, to consider the matter, and Hebrews all over the world are urged to take an interest in that gathering.

Israel Zangwill, in a communication to the New York World says that Great Britain's offer is an act which must be put on the same ethical plane as that of the United States government as regards Kishineff. He further explains that the East African scheme belongs to general Jewish politics, not to specific Zionism, whose goal is Palestine. But the Zionists, having for the first time in eighteen centuries, he says, envisaged the Jewish situation as a whole and thus created general Jewish politics, have naturally found themselves confronted with another solution of the mere political side of the Jewish situation, and the leaders consider themselves as not warranted to withhold from their followers, in view of the scheme of salvation so generously offered. He feels confident that either this sultan, or some successor, will perceive the benefits the Turkish empire can derive from giving "the country without a people to the people without a country," especially as the Jews would not denigrate the sacred places of the Mohammedans.

Max Nordau also believes that the offer is most generous, and that it involves no danger to Zionism. He says that such is the fervor of the Jews, principally those of Russia, for their Zionistic ideal that they look with suspicion even upon the kindest offer, if it implies even the remotest possibility of turning the Jews away from Zion. They ask as a body for one country only—Palestine. But he adds that both Dr. Herzl and he believe that there is no danger of the Jews forgetting Zion if they found a colony for the shelterless at once before the doors of Zion are open for them.

These expressions are of interest. They reveal the fact that the leaders of the Zionist movement have ceased hoping for a speedy opening of the gates of the Holy Land to their enthusiastic throngs. They also prove that Zionism is not given up, but that the ideal will be pursued. With the explanations given by the leaders of the movement, Great Britain's offer of land for a colony should appeal to the Hebrews, who realize the necessity of a national center. If the land offered is suitable, it should be accepted. Who knows but that a sojourn in another Egypt is a necessary preliminary for the possession of the Land of Promise?

## IT IS THE BLOOD.

While the discussion is on as to whether the prevalent disorder is caused by tainted water, or milk, or other microbe-carrying substances, or flies, it may be well to remember, that modern science recognizes that the power of resistance in the body depends upon the "vital force" present. Susceptibility to such maladies as typhoid fever which poison the blood, is dependent upon the condition of the blood at the time of attack, and not merely upon the presence of the infecting germ. In other words, it is now, accepted as a fact that when the blood is in its normal condition it possesses the properties necessary to kill bacteria. These observations, we believe, are amply supported by experience. For it will be found invariably that attacks of such diseases are preceded by a longer or shorter period of ailment and weakness. The old contention of some physicians that fevers are merely nature's way of trying to cleanse and purify the system, after this result has, for some reason or another, failed of accomplishment through the regular channels, appears to be well founded.

A series of experiments has recently been made by a young pathologist, Dr. R. L. Thompson of Boston, to ascertain the resisting power of the blood to various diseases. Bacteriologists have shown, says Dr. Thompson, "that the blood serum contains two distinct chemical substances—the so-called complement and an intermediary body or acceptor. The complement is the substance that destroys bacterium, the invading disease cell entering the blood, but it is able to do this only when joined to the bacterium by means of the second body—the acceptor. This has led recent investigators to consider carefully the complementary body, for it is easy to see that when a diminution in that substance occurs the individual will be more susceptible to an infecting bacterium."

By the experiments made it was found that in normal persons a small amount of blood serum will destroy immense numbers of certain bacteria, as for example the typhoid bacilli. It was found also that in certain cases of fatigue and overwork, although the persons examined were not sick, the complement contents were considera-

bly diminished, this making the individual more susceptible to certain infection. It was found in smallpox that during the first stages of this disease the complement contents were diminished, but apparently the resistance of the individual to the disease caused an attempt on the part of the person attacked to bring it back to the normal standard. In the cases where the resistance of the patient was sufficient to cause the return of the complement to the normal the patient escaped the secondary pyrogenic infections, which are the most dangerous complications of smallpox. When the complement remained low, on the other hand, the patient was liable to have the secondary infections, and thus the worst cases were always attended with a low complement.

An interesting statement made by the doctor is that a technique will soon be presented to the profession, whereby they will be enabled to make practical use of the discoveries made, in the fight against diseases. Much is hoped for this new achievement. It was stated by an ancient authority that the blood is the life, and that may prove literally true.

## A LITTLE CANAL HISTORY.

The French minister from Guatemala, M. Crisanto Medina, gives an interesting explanation concerning the manner in which the Panama route was selected for a canal in preference to the Nicaragua route. He relates that in 1875 an international congress was called to study and pass upon all projects submitted for a canal, and to decide in favor of that which appeared most practicable. A commission was then sent to explore the isthmus and negotiate with the respective governments. The commission returned, however, to Paris, without having attempted to reach an understanding with Nicaragua. The international congress convened to consider the report of the commission. M. Medina tells us, it met at Paris. There were present sixty-two foreign delegates representing Germany, the United States, Great Britain, Russia, Austria and some fifteen smaller countries, France having a preponderating representation of no less than eight delegates. M. Medina himself represented Guatemala. Project after project was considered and thrown out, until there remained only the ones relating to Panama and Nicaragua. The French delegates, influenced by de Lesseps, were universally in favor of the Panama route, whereas, after the fullest discussion, the foreign delegates, without a single exception, were in favor of the Nicaragua. De Lesseps feared it might not be possible to make a favorable arrangement with the Nicaraguan government, and he finally, for that reason, declared openly in favor of the Panama route, and carried with him in a body the whole French delegation. The foreign representatives, when they understood that the convention was to be rushed for Panama, abstained from voting. The delegates from the United States, we are further told, were ardent partisans of the Nicaragua route; so were the Dutch and Belgian representatives. Gradually, every one of the foreign commissions endorsed that project, until finally, without a single exception, every foreign delegate championed the Nicaraguan project.

This little bit of history is very interesting at this time. It verily appears as if no canal project were possible of execution, until the various interests are more united than they have been hitherto. As it is, it seems possible to play Nicaragua against Colombia, and Darlen, perhaps against Nicaragua, in the future. For four centuries the commercial world has searched for a waterway across the isthmus. The search is still going on.

A Brooklyn man is endeavoring to fast for forty days. He may apply to our Mr. Van Meter for pointers. For the benefit of Miss Colombi, Uncle Sam has defined his position on the Panama canal case anew. The young lady seems quite dull of comprehension.

Weather Physician Hays' predicted hot wave visited us today in the form of a very refreshing rain. Never mind; if the disappointment be always so agreeable there will be no complaint.

Richmond's condensed milk factory is assuming shape and the already appreciable results are gratifying to the people of Cache valley. Utah needs all she can get of such manufacturing enterprises.

Harry Brooks, the burglar, who was arrested in New York yesterday, and whose record for a very short time included thirty-nine robberies and booty amounting to \$65,000, was certainly a strenuous robber.

A trade review says there is "notable activity in wearing apparel at the south." Usually heretofore there has been a noticeable absence of such apparel, and the farther south you go the greater the paucity observed.

That was a very neat little present which was made to Clarence H. Mackey by his father. Not every day may one pick up \$2,000,000. If the elder Mackey has any more such amounts to bestow upon those we know of a very deserving person whom modesty now prevents our naming.

Condemnation of a reckless driver or rider cannot be made too strong. The death of little Florence Hicks at Bingham yesterday was the result of an unpardonable and utter disregard for the rights of others. If there be a law "which may be made to reach the rash rider with vigor it should be exercised quickly."

President Roosevelt has determined to hereafter appoint to the foreign consular service such men only as are fitted to the position by experience and ability. And why not? Such requirements are requisite to employment in private life and the public may be pardoned for expecting its servants to be similarly qualified.

Gov. Sparks of Nevada is of the mind that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." At least his refusal to extradite the escaped and recaptured California convicts before the Golden State pays its promised reward would

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