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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 14, 1907.

## AS TO BROKEN PLEDGES.

If Senator Berry of Arkansas, in his harangue against Senator Smoot in the Senate, accused the Church of having broken any pledges to the Nation, or anyone else, he simply repeated one of those cheap falsehoods which anti-Mormons here have in stock for the consumption of the gullible crowds that would believe the "Mormons" have horns, were that assertion made with sufficient frequency and emphasis. Were Senator Berry, or anyone else, no matter who, under the necessity of proving that the Church has broken any pledges, or covenants, or agreements of any kind, he would be completely lost. The unspeakable individuals who commenced an unprovoked assault upon the "Mormon" Church and the leading men of that denomination, for the purpose of gratifying a personal craving for revenge, are the plagiaries. As far as the Church is concerned, absolutely nothing has happened to justify the anti-Mormon crusade. The proof of that is found in the indisputable fact that the hostilities were not commenced until ambitious politicians found that they could not, neither by threats nor promises, induce the Church authorities to become parties to their political schemes and plots.

If the Senator from Arkansas had paid due attention to the subject he essayed to discuss, he would have known that the people of Utah accepted the Manifesto as the end of the controversy on plural marriage. He would have known that the prevailing opinion was that the anomalous conditions complained of before the issuance of that document, would naturally cease, when no new plural marriages were contracted with the sanction of the Church. For that reason the people of Utah were required to incorporate in their Constitution a proviso that "polygamous or plural marriages are forever prohibited," while they were not required to make any clause in that document as to cohabitation. This alone proves the general sentiment during that era of good will, that never ought to have been terminated. Mr. E. B. Crichton, in his testimony before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections testified to this, when he said that, "the non-Mormons" were disposed to overlook the "confusion" of polygamous cohabitation of those who had taken plural wives before the Manifesto, because they, the non-Mormons, felt satisfied that there would be no more plural marriages." This, we say, was the general sentiment. It was in accordance with the general understanding of whatever agreement there was, as expressed, or implied. There has, therefore, been no pledge-breaking on the part of the "Mormons." To the leaders of the anti-Mormon crusade belongs the infamous distinction of having violated the peace which was established with the acceptance of the Manifesto and the subsequent events. All this the Senator from Arkansas would have known, had he studied the subject without prejudice.

## A TRANSPORTATION REMEDY.

Under the auspices of the Utah Association of Credit Men, an important transportation measure has been prepared for enactment into law. It is calculated to overcome and abate an evil that has been very widespread in this state, during the past year particularly. The complaint which calls it forth is likewise very prevalent in different parts of the United States.

The bill provides that whenever a common carrier receives property or commodity of any kind, for transportation, such common carrier shall immediately transport the same to its destination, or to the terminal point operated or controlled by said common carrier nearest to the point of destination. On the failure to carry out the provisions of such duty it shall promptly pay to the consignee of said property or commodity, such loss as shall have been incurred by him, and restore said property and commodity with all possible dispatch. The penalty for non-compliance is not less than one thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail not less than one or more than six months.

While Utah merchants have sustained heavy losses on account of the failure of the railroad companies to deliver goods with certainty and dispatch, the greatest evil in this direction has not come from lines operated within the state but from those connections east and west, principally the former. So aggravated and serious has this condition been that business men have lost, not small sums of money, but amounts that will aggregate thousands of dollars. There are Salt Lake merchants who have not yet recovered from the delayed transportation losses of last year. Months before the Christmas holiday trade, goods were shipped from the east which did not arrive until after New Year's when they were out of season and out of date and unfit to go on the shelves for sale. It is even said that some cars of that kind are standing in the local freight depots now, the consignee refusing to accept them at this late date.

Of course, that is a bad state of affairs, and a remedy, sufficiently drastic to reach and cure the evil should be provided, but it does not appear that the proposed measure can give that relief, except where the shipping terminal are within the borders of our own

commonwealth. But home shippers and merchants say they have suffered severely both in and out of Salt Lake and Ogden, the main distributing points, and they declare that the time has come when they must invoke the strong arm of the law to aid them.

## WHERE IS AUDITOR'S REPORT?

Some time ago the apologist for municipal misgovernment in this City, with elaborate flourish of printing ink, announced that the "American party officials" had saved to the tax-payers immense sums of money during the past year, in the management of the street department and the police and fire department.

It was thought at the time that this advance panegyric was for a purpose, and more especially for the purpose of directing attention away from the actual financial status of the city, when the auditor's report shall be made public. This impression is deepened as time passes without the report being presented to the Council. Under ordinary circumstances it ought to have been ready about the middle of January. It has been promised for two weeks, but still it is kept back. What is the matter? Can it be that the "saving" effected by the "American party officials" is so overwhelmingly large that it is necessary to prepare the tax-payers for it gradually, lest the shock might cause heart failure?

Rumor has it that the "American party officials" are reluctant to publish the figures, because of the large deficit they show, and that efforts are being made to cover up, as deftly as possible, the real condition, though why that should be considered necessary we are at a loss to understand, since whatever the status of the finances of the city may be, it cannot be much worse than it is generally expected to be, considering the motives and qualifications of the party manipulators. Even if the report should happen to reveal a shortage of from thirty to forty thousand dollars and some serious irregularities, no one would be greatly surprised. The chief point is to see to it that dishonesty and incompetence are not permitted to rule always. If this city is to attain the dimensions predicted for it in a near future, its finances must be entrusted to reliable and capable business men, who have some regard for the welfare of the public.

## JUDGES OF DRAMATIC ART.

The question of ability to pass discriminating and intelligently on dramatic art as it is interpreted before the footlights, is one of interest to theatergoers. The presumption that only the man who writes a review for a newspaper, and who sometimes simply plies adjective upon adjective in praise or denunciation of a certain production, is alone able to judge of its merits and demerits, is wrong, as is also the idea that those who sit in the parterre and dress circle, are keener critics than those who take the first, or even the second gallery above them, for economic and other reasons.

It often happens that the gallery auditor is a student and reader; that he knows the history of the drama from the beginning, and can answer from the legends regarding it than an entire stall or box party below. He can tell, not infrequently, every great star, and many of the lesser ones, that have shone resplendently and twinkled themselves out, in a generation. It is said that the great Junius Booth, "father of the still greater Edwin Booth, ever liked to play in the cheaper theaters, where he could appear before the 'common people.' He loved to warm up their good red blood, and to hear the cheers which came from their intelligences as well as from their enthusiasms."

Not long since E. A. Sothorn and Julia Marlowe, two American favorites, were appearing in a leading Broadway playhouse, at \$2.50 per seat. The appreciation was at a low ebb, and applause of the meager sort. At the end of the run it was deemed advisable to transfer these two splendid artists, with their excellent company and uninviting Academy of Music. In this building the price of seats ranged downward from a dollar to twenty-five cents each. The capacity was 2,000 and that number was present at every performance. From the rise of the first curtain, almost, to the ringing down of the last, there were outbursts of applause and other demonstrations of appreciation, not of the haphazard kind, but of that which was able to discriminate; that which could detect the good from the bad, and which could draw the lines of difference, and, if needs be, tell why. Commenting upon that subject, a New York critic of wide experience and observation, said that it was due to the fact that the people who were filling the Academy of Music were of the more serious sort, and understood Shakespeare better, and had more definite knowledge concerning him than did the audiences that had the money to pay the price in the more fashionable house. Now comes Mansfield, probably the greatest living exponent of dramatic art, who solemnly asserts that he cares more for the applause of the galleries than he does for the downstairs demonstrations. The dress circle applause, "is too frequently of the kid glove kind," that makes itself heard because it is "the proper thing." But that which emanates from above he likes for the reason that "it rings right and is honest."

BE CAREFUL IN SPECULATION.

When times are good and labor plentiful at remunerative wages, the temptation to invest in all kinds of enterprises for speculation is proportionately strong. To those with a large income it may not matter much where some of their surplus money goes, but the laborer who needs to take care of every dollar he earns must of necessity be careful in his investments.

We find in a Chicago contemporary the following observations which bear repeating:

"But the man of moderate means should never invest a dollar in any speculative enterprise without earnestly and anxiously considering the wisdom and propriety of such a step. The very fact that large returns are promised is notice of the considerable amount of risk involved in that affair. In our day absolutely safe investments—like municipal bonds of unquestion-

able validity—yield very modest rates of interest. The same is true of the solid and trustworthy savings banks and insurance companies. The greater the promised gain, the greater the chance of loss.

This is a matter of common sense. The truth needs no emphasizing. What, however, does need emphasizing is our era of publicity and speculation is that the man of small means—the wage-worker, the clerk, the small merchant, the struggling professional man—should think thrice before entering the speculative field at all. For him the only proper, the only right and intelligent course is to deposit his savings with some conservative bank or to life insurance or outright purchase of stable securities."

Enormous sums are wasted every year in speculating in wildcat schemes, and it is principally those who cannot afford it who are the losers in such enterprises. The capitalist is very careful, and, as a rule, sees to it that he is secured. The wage earner is more easily taken in. Although he cannot afford it, he is likely to take chances where the probability of gain is smaller than in a German lottery.

## AS PROF. STARR SEES IT.

Prof. Starr of the University of Chicago is quoted as having said that Japan is now the foremost nation in the world, in civilization and progress. In a recent lecture to a class of students he said in part:

"It is not true that the Anglo-Saxons lead the world. Japan has the top place. Progress is that which tends to the general diffusion of happiness, and the introduction of things from the outside in an attempt to get ahead is a mistake. There is nothing more horrible in the world than the slums of our cities and the slums of cities in Europe. There is not a condition in the wildest and worst part of Africa that will compare with the condition of the white crowds. China's crowded population is much better off. There are many very poor Chinese, but they are much better off than the very poor Americans. It is also a mistake to think that immigration will hurt America. The exclusion laws are a mistake. Neither the Italians nor the Chinese are dangerous elements. The only government that has continued uninterrupted for 4,000 years is the Chinese government."

Some time a Chicago professor will advise us to adopt Asiatic methods in preference to those we now are used to. They have a habit of saying funny things. The professor ignores the fact that it has been reserved for the Western world to take the lead in all the practical inventions that make the modern world entirely different from the ancient, and that Asia was a sleeping Rip van Winkle when awakened by the West. Anglo-Saxons undoubtedly have the lead. How long they can keep it, is another question. They will not retain the leadership, if they reject the light from heaven that shines in this age from the Valleys of the Mountains, to the uttermost parts of the world.

The Japanese are saying nothing. Are they sawing wood?

If Thaw's ego is so exaggerated what must his alter ego be!

Syracuse university is never without its Day of gladness.

The war Japan is thinking of is the fight mit Schmitz and the bully lacer beer.

When Jerome and Delmas clash, one involuntarily thinks of Greek meeting Greek.

This injunction against the Big Cottonwood conduit looks like progressive eucure.

Fill up your coal bins while the warm weather lasts, for when the cold comes no man can get any coal.

Every report from San Domingo on the condition of its finances shows that it is not Treasure Island.

Los Angeles has just had a great big gas explosion. They are always having a boom of one kind or another there.

Japan is fully imbued with the idea that light comes from the east, and that the east is the land of the Rising Sun.

People run to the President to have him right their wrongs as though they were children and he the father of his country.

Those conferences that the California school delegation is having at the White House are peace conferences par excellence.

There is a shortage in the Russian wheat crop. But murder and assassination crop up everywhere. No shortage there.

Hall Caine says that he pays no attention to the critics. Does he hold with Disraeli that the critics are the men who have failed in literature?

Count Boni, it is said, threatens to commit suicide. He may commit himself in a thousand and one ways, but he will never commit felo de se.

The country never had so much money as now, the per capita circulation being \$35.95, the highest ever reached. Then why this thudness?

Concentrated wealth and diffused poverty do not account for all the social life of which people complain. Discontented minds account for many.

The London female suffragists have much more determination than discretion. How they would have added picturesqueness to the Lord George Gordon riots.

A woman who said she was Mme. Calve, on being confronted by people who knew the singer, admitted that she might have been slightly confused as to her identity. Evidently a case of mistaken identity.

The New England senators generally intend to vote against the resolution to unseat Smoot. It is well understood and believed the prosecution failed to make a case against the Mormon," says the Boston Transcript. Perhaps the prosecution, or persecution, will claim that it did not have sufficient time in which to establish its case.

## PACIFIC EXPOSITION.

Portland Oregonian.  
The 40th anniversary of the discovery of the Pacific Ocean will occur in 1913, and California has already started the ball rolling for a world's fair that is expected to eclipse any exposition that has ever been held in this country. The date set is still some distance in the future, but in spite of increasing protests against the numerous expositions, the project should and undoubtedly will have the best possible support from the Pacific Coast tier of states, and perhaps from all the others. History is making fast out here on the Pacific, and by 1913, if its commerce increases for another six years proportionately with that of the past six years, the affair will have National support on a grand scale. It is needless to mention that Oregon and Washington will reap good returns on any investment they make in the enterprise.

## HIGH COST OF LIVING.

United States Consular Reports.  
Consul-General Richard Gienhofer, of Frankfurt, raises the question of public address recently delivered by the mayor of Stuttgart, a German city having a population of 247,000, that officer quoted from his calculations the statistical bureau, which show that the meat consumed in Stuttgart for the last twelve months cost 2,530,000 marks (mark, 23.8 cents) more than that of the year before. The city's consumption of agricultural products for the last year, compared with that of the year 1901, shows an enhanced cost, amounting to 5,000,000 marks, of which 1,500,000 would be attributed to the meat tariff. Besides this, the city, owing to the higher cost of living, had to raise the wages of laborers and of officers in its employ. It is making an increased expenditure of 330,000 marks, which has to come out of the pockets of the taxpayers. From other German cities come statistical reports of similar import.

## DEMANDS ON RAILROADS.

Evening Wisconsin.  
It is indeed a fact that the cost of materials and the wages of labor have gone up considerably without any corresponding increase in railway rates. It is also a fact that any general increase in rates would provoke a tempest of criticism from the people. Yet fresh demands upon the railroads continue to be made. They are constantly called upon to put on more trains and to build up and strengthen stations at points along their lines. Since the uproar about the freight bill began there has been insistent demand that they should make heavy additions to their rolling stock and enlarge their terminal facilities.

## THE NEW REICHSTAG.

New York Tribune.  
The second elections in Germany have confirmed the result of the first. Despite their strange alliance with the Clericals in some districts, the Socialists have lost heavily, while the parties which compose the imperial purposes the government bloc have gained sufficiently to assure the chancellor a working majority in favor of that colonial policy which was opposed by the Clericals and Socialists in the late Reichstag. Estimates of the bloc now range from 187 to 210. As the Reichstag contains 347 members, 193 will be needed to give even the barest majority.

## JUST FOR FUN.

Only One Thing Lacking.  
"Say, old man, how do you like me in my new dress suit?" "Fine. Now, if you only had a little dignity you'd look like a head waiter."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

## Women and Wit.

Woman's sense of humor has increased in recent years. They see jokes more readily than they used to. This is due to the fact that they realize now that they look their best when they are smiling.—Strand Magazine.

## In Court.

Bright dialogue from Mr. Justice Lawrence's court. Counsel—J suggest that the door of room 160 was closed, not ajar.

Witness—What is a jar?  
Counsel—You will be asking next, "What is a door not a jar?" Don't point at his lordship. He is not a jar.—London Globe.

## After Expert Advice.

M. Z. (at the police station)—Can I see the man you arrested at my house last night?  
Chief Constable—What do you want to see him for?  
M. Z. I want to ask him how he managed to get into the house and go up the stairs without waking my wife?  
—Le Rire.

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"Helen of Troy, no doubt."—Boston Transcript.

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