

deserve nothing but detestation and contempt.

The "Liberal" campaign to put the School Board and the school moneys under "Liberal" control, has so far been conducted with the old "Liberal" arguments—falsehood, vituperation and anti-"Mormon abuse. It is to be hoped and expected that all the best elements of the city will unite on Monday, and by their votes give the most effectual proofs that they are opposed to that sort of campaigning and that kind of school management.

THE INDIGNATION MEETING.

THE great audience at the Theatre last night and the rousing speeches made, were a strong rebuke of the "Liberal" effort to hinder the progress of the Territory. The alarms that have been sounded at various times by the unprincipled "Liberal" organ, have done more to damage material interests in Utah than anything else that has ever been accomplished by "Mormon" or "Gentile."

When this city was as peaceful as the quietest country village and there was not the slightest sign of danger from any source, alarms were raised repeatedly, troops called for and the Government imposed upon, by the same conscienceless prevaricators who now predict all sorts of calamities as a consequence of the organization of Democratic and Republican parties in Utah.

The decent people of the city should take further steps to disseminate correct information, and if necessary to punish the authors and publishers of the daily libels that are injuring business.

If the object of the meeting in the Theatre had been known, or some of the gentlemen who addressed the vast audience had signed the call, there would have been an overflowing assembly and enough people for an outdoor meeting.

This endeavor to put the public right and show who are responsible for the wrong, ought to be repeated with emphasis.

TWO QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Editor Deseret News:

Will you kindly answer the following questions through your paper:

1st. If a man dies, without a will, leaving a wife and some children, can that wife sell some of the real estate belonging to the family and give a legal deed thereon?

2nd. If a company of men buy a piece of property, say a mill, and give their individual notes therefor, payable, some of them in one and some in two years, would it be legal and just to tax both the mill and the notes.

ENQUIRER.

To the first question we answer, no.

The children have each a legal claim on the property, as well as the widow. If she were appointed administratrix of the estate she could not dispose of any portion of the property, even for the benefit of the minor heirs, without an order of the Probate court.

To the second question we answer, it would be legal, but whether it would be just is an open question on which there has been much debate both in and out of the Legislature.

AN ALLIANCE FAD.

MR. POLK, President of the Farmers' Alliance, is reported as having said: "Until something better is offered we will stand by the sub-treasury scheme." According to the *Chicago Tribune* this scheme is that the United States shall take a large part of its revenues, drawn chiefly from taxes on city and town people, and use the money for the construction of warehouses throughout the farming districts, large enough to hold one or two years' crops of tobacco, cotton, corn, wheat, rice, oats, barley flax seed, wool and the other products of the farm and the plantation.

It further says:

"The idea seems to have been borrowed from Joseph's advice to Pharaoh of Egypt to build storehouses for surplus crops. Joseph's plan, however, was to store up the surpluses of abundant years so as to tide over the seasons of bad harvests, and thus avoid a famine in the land. The Polk proposition is to store up and withhold from market not surpluses, but whole crops, and thus create an artificial famine, and to keep the wheat and corn locked up till the city and town people get so hungry that they will be willing to pay for them twice or three times what they are worth rather than starve."

All this may do very well to please the farmers and draw support from among them for the Alliance, but such a scheme will not be seriously considered by Statesmen, and there is very small danger of its ever crystallizing into anything substantial by way of Legislation.

LABOR LAW MUDDLE IN KANSAS.

THE Kansas Legislature during its last session passed an eight-hour labor law. It was made a misdemeanor for any State, city, county or municipal officer to permit a hired laborer to do more than eight hours' work a day unless in case of emergency arising from war or the saving of life. The punishment prescribed for violation of this law is a fine of \$50 to \$100, and imprisonment not less than six months for each offense.

The time for the enforcement of this law has just arrived. Difficulties never

thought of now present themselves. The various public institutions of the State have been operated as a rule by two shifts, a night and a day force. All the penal, charitable, reformatory, and even county institutions have been so carried on. Under the new law, to operate them will require three shifts of employes, but there was no provision made for engaging this extra force. The Attorney-General of the State holds that the officers of all these institutions will make themselves liable to the penalties of the law for each instance in which an employe works more than eight hours a day.

The Boards of Trustees of the State Charitable institutions have notified the Governor of the rather anomalous situation, and have asked him to call a special session of the Legislature to rectify matters. They hold that unless something be done immediately all the inmates of the State reformatories and refuges must be turned loose.

Legislation of this kind presents a curious feature of our American system of politics and political demagogism. In all the agitation relating to the eight-hour law not one word has been said by labor leaders about public institutions of any kind. Farm labor by universal consent has not been touched on, because it was conceded that the eight-hour day would be impracticable in that industry. In Kansas the employes of public institutions did not demand any labor reforms, nor did they agitate on the question, yet the Legislature passed the law above mentioned.

The question arises, were these legislators all ignorant of the fact that where two shifts of men were then employed, the new law would require three? If so, Kansas legislative intelligence must be at a very low standard. But it is absurd to suppose that such was the case. It looks more like miserable demagogism than ignorance. These legislators knew this contingency would arise and would bring the whole question of labor agitation into ridicule. When they voted for such a law they did so out of pure buncombe, and out of contempt for labor.

Labor, no doubt, has grievances, and they should be inquired into calmly and philosophically. Legislation of the Kansas kind is likely to lead to a very bad result, and that is the driving of the working men into anarchy, socialism and lawlessness.

W. W. Thomas, United States minister in Stockholm, and his beautiful wife, are at present traveling in northern Sweden.