

DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sunday Excepted.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance.)
One Year \$5.00
Six Months 2.50
Three Months 1.25
The Month50
Saturday Edition, Per Year 2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year 2.00

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.
All address all business communications and all remittances to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake City as second class matter according to the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 28, 1907.

LYNCHING IS WRONG.

If Senator Tillman told his audience that they know nothing about the race problem, because "You depend upon what you read, and that is nothing but falsehood; you depend on what you have heard—that, too, is nothing but falsehood and fanaticism." If he said, as reported, "I know I am honest. Therefore, I came to tell you the truth." If, in other words, he told his audience that all who have written or spoken about that subject, with the exception of the illustrious Senator from South Carolina, are liars and fanatics, and that he alone is honest and truthful, then his lecture is not worth a great deal more than the oratorical effort of a "barker" at the side show of a circus. One of the characteristics of truth is modesty. One of her trusted attendants is humility.

One of the weak points of the Senator's address was his defense of lynching. He is reported to have said that, rather than dragging the women into court, the men would lynch "the last one of them, (meaning the negroes) and if you drive us to it we will fight you." That is not argument. It is playing to the galleries by incendiary appeals to the passions. Even if we grant that there is some excuse for committing murder in retaliation of unspeakable wrongs against white women, there is no excuse for the brutal scenes enacted at some of the lynchings, nor for the numerous mob murders that are committed on the flimsiest pretexts possible. Anyone who can contemplate such facts without feeling very deeply the shame and horror of the conditions under which they flourish, should not appear on the public platform.

When the people of the great Republic delegated their power as individuals to officers of the law, they declared mob law illegal. When mobs, notwithstanding this, undertake to administer justice, they usurp the power the people has vested in the officers. They are rebels against the established order. They claim for anarchy superiority to government. Very often their summary justice proves miscarriage of justice. Very often the wrong man is lynched. And what else can be expected from a whiskey-soaked, passion-inflamed mob, sometimes composed of the most ignorant of the community?

Senator Tillman is said to have threatened the country with another civil war to determine whether mobs have a right to lynch negroes. We refuse to believe that the Senator spoke for a great number of Southern people, if he made such a threat. If we are not mistaken, a healthy and active sentiment is asserting itself in the Southern States for the repression of the barbarous pastime of murdering without trial, and thus removing a stigma on our civilization.

About four thousand persons have been put to death in this country during the last 25 years, without legal warrant, by mobs. Sometimes the cruelties practiced at these orgies were inhuman. In the case of a Texas farm laborer, torture was first applied, and then the upper part of his body. His tongue was burned out, and then the iron was thrust into his eyes. Finally he was slowly roasted on a pine platform, and his agony was prolonged as long as possible. Against such fiendish performances humanity, Christianity, reason, patriotism cry out in loud protest. How can anyone in our age defend a practice that includes such worse than brutal cruelty? It is not safe to entrust the administration of law to a mob. That is the reason why civilization has found it necessary to delegate the power to persons qualified for that duty. And the requirements of civilization must be upheld at any cost.

MRS. MCKINLEY.

Mrs. McKinley has departed in peace. A noble woman has been released from her earthly mission, and returned home to her Father and her friends. Here was a life of trials and sufferings. Death must have come as a welcome friend, long expected. At the time of her marriage to William McKinley in 1871, Miss Lila Saxton was a bright, vivacious young girl. Soon after the birth and death of her two children, her health failed and she became an invalid. The assassination of her loving, devoted husband in 1901 was the saddest experience of her life, and since then she has lived in expectation of a happy reunion behind the veil. With his departure all her interest in this life seemed to vanish. She has lived in quiet retirement at her home in Canton, seldom leaving the house except to be driven to the cemetery where sleeps her dead. Even her near friends will rejoice that her pure soul, refined through many trials as precious gold, has at last been released and entered upon a new existence.

Lord Bacon thought that death was a friend only to those in despair and poverty, but it is also welcome to those who are conscious of a well fulfilled mission and whose faith has taught them to look beyond the veil for the reward.

"There's a beautiful region above the skies,
And I long to reach its shore.
For I know I shall find my treasure there,
The laughing eyes and the amber hair
Of the loved one gone before."
With that view of death and the

life beyond, the departure from this life is but the crossing of an ocean beyond which friends are waiting.

PRIESTS AND CELEBRITY.

Report has it that an appeal to the Pope has been made in a Paris newspaper, for a repeal of the rule that makes celibacy obligatory upon the Catholic clergy. It is claimed that no less than 3,000 French priests are behind this appeal. In urging the matter the writer refers to certain alleged scandals, in which priests are said to have been implicated. The results which, it is claimed, would follow the abolition of celibacy are thus painted:

"After this would arise a great shout of alleviation among the priests and faithful. We would see a renewal of Catholic life, and immediately the faces of things would change. Christian families would be founded, children would arise profoundly pious and devoted to the church, and the cause of religion would take an immense step in France. If in place of abolishing celibacy the pope maintains the status quo we will surely witness the ruin of religion and the church of France."

If the report is true, it indicates widespread dissatisfaction with the Roman Catholic view of the sacredness of single blessedness. Are they, perhaps, prepared to admit Luther's contention that few can live a moral life in celibacy? Or, the statement ascribed to Pope Pius II: "Marriage has been forbidden to priests for good reasons, but there are better reasons for permitting it to them?" At all events, it is difficult to see how the head of the church can permit any innovations of so radical a nature, since he is bound by the decisions of councils.

THE CRIMINAL WAVE.

Some time the people of this country will awake to a realization of the fact that an epidemic of crime is threatening the very life of the nation. Those who keep posted on the subject claim that something like eight or ten thousand murders a year are regularly being committed in the United States. They say that American murder seven times as many persons per million inhabitants as do the Kaiser's subjects, and that, with the exception of Russia, Poland, Calabria, and Sicily, our own country is the most criminal of all "civilized" lands. Incredible as such statements appear, they are based on nothing but the cold, passionless foundation of statistical inquiry.

But murders and homicides are not the only class of crimes in which an increase is noted. Burglaries and robberies are said to be increasing as well. Ordinary misdemeanors are also more common than ever. Thefts of churchware, communion cups, and contribution-box funds are said to be on the increase.

George Allan England in a magazine article claims that criminal disregard of moral standards is permeating every class of society. Superficial observers used to ascribe many crimes to poverty, but prosperity shows no improvement in moral conditions. The writer mentioned claims that crime exists in much more extensive, though more politely disguised, forms among our "better" classes—our politicians, "Why, speezy," he says, "with the operations of high finance, Wall Street, and the divorce court matters of everyday comment, say so familiar to us now as almost to have lost the power of bestirring comment? Who will deny that business today is for the most part carried on with little scruple either for the law, when the law can be successfully evaded, or for the principles of ethics, which have now grown rather moth-eaten in presence of this new 'higher law' we have heard so much discussed? Without in any way seeking to belittle the virtues of many of our people, it may be safely asserted that double-dealing, graft, extortion, adulteration, commercial obliquity (all these when practicable and profitable), with a growing disregard for the marriage relation, a divorce-rate which is a national scandal, and an ever-increasing mass of violent crimes, all point toward a weakening, a breaking down, of the moral stamina of our people—a potential even if not an actual inclination toward lawlessness."

We fear this is true. But what is the remedy? To discuss the disease is of little use except with a view to find some cure. It is a complex question. Whatever tends to lessen quarrels among men and women, jealousy, desire for intoxicants, strikes, riots, race hatred, cupidity, and thirst for revenge, will lessen the criminal record, for most crimes have their origin in the unbridled passions.

Then, the proper regard for law by the officers whose duty it is to maintain it, would go a long way. In this country, however, where officers depend upon votes for their offices, the temptation is strong to overlook the disorders of those from whom votes are expected, and thus crimes are tolerated, if not officially sanctioned. We see no brighter prospects as long as the criminal element is in a position to exercise strong influence upon the administration of the government of a community. Chicago, for instance, had a couple of years ago a record of six times as many murders as London, and more than eight times as many as Paris. In 1905 Chicago reported 187 killings. Berlin, with approximately the same population, had but six in that year. That illustrates the result of bad government.

The duty of every good citizen, in view of the flood of crime that threatens the country, is to elect men for office who will not hesitate in the performance of their duty.

And what is so new as a day in May?

Wide as is their legal knowledge, the code commissioners know no unwritten law.

Being on the warpath, the James-town exposition is the place for Senator Tillman.

The Haywood and Schmitz trials teach the moral, fast catch your juries before you convict.

It is a much easier matter to say that certain diseases are preventable than to prevent them.

People having skeletons in the closet will confer a public benefit by keeping them in the closet.

Being cock of the walk, why

shouldn't Paderewski be a chicken fancier?

The weather bureau will find it safer, and quite as satisfactory, to make its predictions ex post facto.

A few words from the President on the question of the authorship of the Shakespearean plays would be most interesting.

Those who favor the repeal of the fifteenth amendment and the modification of the fourteenth, forget that revolutions never go backwards.

A thousand million dollars railroad combine! It should reach over the length and breadth of the whole land. Next!

It begins to look as though all the work of the last three decades for the pacification of Ireland had been upset by the rejection of the Burrell bill. Saxons and Celts mix about as well as oil and water.

The Brownsville incident has been worked for all there is in it. There is no longer any interest in it and it might just as well be relegated to the political lumber room.

E. S. Martin, a member of the Ohio legislature, has walked from New York to his home in the Buckeye state. It is a feat that would have done credit to a theatrical star, "down on his uppers."

The court at Boise should engage the services of an actuary to determine as near as may be what will be the percentage of special venturers that will survive the examination for jurors. It might materially facilitate progress.

A dispatch to the London Daily Mail from Berlin states that the torpedo service of the German navy is about to undergo an improvement which experts believe will make that branch the most powerful in the world. All the new battleships will be fitted with torpedo tubes of a diameter of 19 1/2 inches instead of 17 1/2 inches, which are now used in most navies, the velocity being increased fully five knots. Now all the naval powers will have to have torpedo tubes of equal or greater diameter. And but let some nation adopt a 25 inch diameter for torpedo tubes and all the powers that have warships will want the same.

STREET-CAR COURTSHIP.

Philadelphia Record.
The order of courtship is reversed when a street-car conductor or motor-man falls in love. He seldom has a night off, and the little time he gets in the morning has to be used for sleep. As a result his sweetheart has to call on him. And she visits him on the official nights, Wednesday and Sunday, while he is at work. On the Haddington line there are several conductors and motor-men whose faithful sweethearts ride over the route with them two and three nights a week. It's rather trying sometimes for a trolley man to express his sentiment between quarrels with cranky passengers, but a smile from the girl in the corner keeps him in good humor. Some of the girls ride until the center of the rear end and are taken safely home by their sweethearts.

A BIG WOLF HUNT.

Topeka Capital.
The largest wolf hunt ever gullied off in McPherson county was held recently south of Windom. At the appointed time over 1,000 men were in line and surrounded sixteen sections of land. The tract being four miles square, and all moved toward the center. Wolves and jack-rabbits were started up, and when the men finally came to the center there were three or four hundred wolves. Those with shotguns began shooting them, and then the dogs were turned on them. During the fight six out of the thirteen wolves escaped, and after the fight was over there were seven dead wolves. There are a great many wolves left yet in the same territory and another hunt is planned.

INEFFICIENCY OF LABOR.

Wall Street Journal.
One of the leading bankers of New York, who makes a study of economic conditions, says that in his opinion the most unsatisfactory feature of the business situation is not political agitation, not the anti-railroad crusade, not the crop uncertainties, not the money market's inability to meet the demands made upon it, but the growing inefficiency of labor. He says that all large employers are face to face with this condition, and it is a deplorable one. The American workman, the most prosperous of his class in the world, is, according to all accounts, becoming more slack in his attendance to duty and in the performance of his daily task. It is probably true, as a general proposition, that labor was through many years underpaid. This has not been the fact, however, during the past two or three years, for labor has been in the saddle and held the reins, and capital has been compelled to submit to its terms. If in the past the efficiency of labor could have been quoted at 100, and its pay at 90, and if as the result of prosperity its pay has been advanced to 100, while its efficiency has fallen to 80—and that is practically what the statement of the banker just quoted amounts to—has the country been benefited by this change in condition? Surely that inquiry must be answered in the negative. But the question may be put in another way. Has labor profited by this change in condition? Has its advance in pay from 90 to 100 been any equivalent for its loss of efficiency from 100 to 80? The ideal condition might be expressed by par as regards both efficiency and pay, although taking even a larger view of the matter it may be said that every man should aim to produce something more than the reward paid him for his labor.

JUST FOR FUN.

Perils of Peace.
A soldier of fortune who had fought under eighteen different flags died a few days ago from overindulgence in dumplings. Peace hath its dangers no less terrible than war.—Chicago Record-Herald.

New Thrills.
About the only thrilling stunt left for society to take up is the submarine boat competition.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The Disagreeable Ones.
"Well," growled Mrs. Nagree, inspecting the new house he had found, "there are disagreeable features about this place that you didn't mention before."

"They weren't here before," snapped Nagree.
"What features are you referring to?"
"Yours,"—Philadelphia Press.

Caustic Counsel.
"Yes," said Miss Kroech, after her

sole, "I expect to go abroad to finish my musical education."

"Indeed?" remarked Miss Knox. "Why not finish it right now and save the expense?"—Exchange.

Couldn't Be.

"Talk about luck!"
"What happened?"
"I found a \$10 bill in my last summer's suit."
"Gee! Why I thought you were married!"—Cleveland Leader.

A Quaker Whisky Cure.

William Penn was once urging a man he knew to stop drinking to excess, when the man suddenly asked:
"Can you tell me of an easy way to do it?"
"Yes," replied Penn, readily; "it is just as easy as to open thy hand, friend."

"Convince me of that," the man exclaimed, "and I will promise upon my honor to do as you tell me."

"Well, my friend," Penn answered, "Whenever thou findst a glass of liquor in thy hand open that hand before it glues thyself to thy lips, and thou wilt never drink to excess again."

The man was so struck by the simplicity of the great Quaker's advice that he followed it and reformed.—Minneapolis Journal.

Massachusetts Pride.

A Massachusetts capitalist offered to give \$25 to any dowries bride.
"What! Money for money?" exclaimed the proud sons of the Old Bay State. "Never!"

Thus it was that matrimony failed to boom.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Social Unrest.

"Everybody has more or less trouble."
"Yes," answered the observing woman, "but a man can't find anything else to worry him, he goes to a ball game and gets highly indignant at the umpire."—Washington Star.

The Only Escape.

First Visitor (in New York Harbor):
—That's a pretty old looking excursion boat.
Native—Yes. That boat ought to have blown up or sunk long ago.—Life.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Bohemian for June has a list of short stories—seventeen of them—of the clever kind that the readers have come to expect from this magazine. Two will attract special attention: "Miss Dossie Raffles," a story of a woman Raffles, and "The Strength of the Weaklings," by Whitman Bennett of the New York Times, is perhaps a revelation to the public. "The Making of Coney Island" is by Frederick Thompson, the man whose name is linked with the promoting of several great amusement enterprises. The humorous feature of the number is by Edward Marshall, being entitled "Monarch, the Big Mouse," one of his Unnatural History series. Miles Bradford writes of the spaghetti habit, in his regular household article, "The Disappearance of Nicholson" is the first installment of a serial.—Deposit, New York.

The story of the dramatic events leading up to the trial of Haywood is graphically reviewed in the current Harper's News, accompanied by photographs bearing upon the case. Some of the other features of interest in this issue of the Weekly (dated May 25) are: the continuing story of an interesting installment, of Will N. Harben's admirable new serial, "Mam' Linda," a full and detailed description of a wonderful new invention—Inconceivable that while a newspaper in single sheet, and the method of counting China's 400,000,000 of population.—Harper & Bros., New York.

The "out door" woman will be interested in the June number of Dress. A special article in that number tells her exactly what to wear on any outdoor occasion. The new bathing, yachting and tennis suits are shown as well as the new golf suit. But the interest is not limited to the sportswoman—for every woman wants some guidance in the choice of a summer wardrobe, and the article on that subject, with its many illustrations, tells just what to wear at seashore, mountain, or for traveling, etc. It is a beautiful number.—McCready-Reals Co., 24 East Twenty-first street, New York.

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