

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING,
(Sundays excepted.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose, Editor
Horace G. Whitney, Business ManagerSUBSCRIPTION PRICES
(In Advance):One Year, \$2.00
Six Months, \$1.25
Three Months, \$0.75
One Month, \$0.25
Saturday edition, per Year, \$2.00
Semi-Weekly, per Year, \$2.00NEW YORK OFFICE:
In charge of B. P. Cummings, Manager
Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office,
137 Park Row Building, New York.SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
In charge of F. J. Cooper, 36 Geary St.Correspondence and other reading matter
for publication should be addressed to the
EDITOR.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, - SEPT. 16, 1903.

DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

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rings.For City Editor and Reporters, 359, 2
rings.

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THE IRRIGATION CONGRESS.

Every indication is that the Irriga-
tion congress now in session at Ogden,
will prove a greater success than any
of its predecessors, and that the results
achieved will be more comprehensive
than ever. The question of national
irrigation is no longer new and start-
ling. It is accepted as one of the national
questions that must be answered.It is not necessary, therefore, to spend
time and energy on arguments to con-
vince the nation of the importance of
the topics under discussion, or to call
attention to those topics. All that
kind of preliminary work has been
done, and now "the time for action has
come." The work of the congress from
now on will show great results. The aim
is to build up the western empire, and
at the same time add immensely to the
wealth and resources of the country.And this will be accomplished, Ogden
and Utah are to be congratulated on
the success of this most important
gathering. It is one in which the entire
country is interested.

A PEACE CONFERENCE.

A peace conference has just been in
session at Vienna and gatherings of
that kind are important enough to
command at least a passing notice. The
conference represented various Euro-
pean parliaments, and it was held un-
der the presidency of the Austrian
premier. It proves that the rulers of
the Old World do not regard the peace
idea as chimerical, but as debatable,
and practical.Just now Europe is in a disturbed
state, and no one can tell when the
flames of war will burst forth in a gen-
eral blaze. The efforts at controlling
the raging fire may prove futile. This
fact proves the need of an arrangement
whereby important problems can be
solved by peaceful means. Not one of
the great powers desires a European
war at this time. And yet they may not
be able to prevent it. Why, then, do
they not come together and agree on a
settlement of the Turkish question, and
prevent war the only way it can be pre-
vented?No immediate results are to be
expected from the Vienna
conference, but the fact that the
ruling classes of the Old
World take an interest in the peace
question, and discuss it in conferences,
is a guarantee that the matter will
grow in popularity, until the time is
perfectly ripe for the great era that is
to come. The jackals of militarism are
still howling, and hunting in all direc-
tions for their prey, but such confer-
ences indicate the coming of the day,
when all the beings that love the dark-
ness will flee for the rays of the sun.
Militarism flourishes under tyranny
and ignorance. Peace will result from
liberty and enlightenment.

CHURCH AND UNIONISM.

An occurrence has recently taken
place at Beloit, Wis., which may have
far-reaching consequences. By it the
Roman church in this country seems to
have challenged unionism to com-
bat. A Roman Catholic priest has re-
fused to give absolution to a printer be-
cause, as a member of the typographi-
cal union he had taken an oath which
the priest considered at variance with
his duties as a church member. The
oath referred to contains a declaration
that "my fidelity to the union and my
duties to the members thereof shall, in
no sense, be interfered with by any
allegiance that I may now or hereafter
owe to any other organization, social,
political, or religious, secular or other-
wise." The priest takes the view that a
man who has taken such an oath can-
not be loyal to the church. He is un-
questionably in harmony, in this view,
with the authorities of that church. For
the late pope, in his encyclical on
Americanism expressly stated that the
church is a divine society, while all
other social human organizations de-
pend simply on the free will and choice
of man. Further, that all modern pro-
ducts of industry and study, if they
are to be of any benefit, can only be
"on the condition of recognizing the
wisdom and the authority of the
church." We do not see how the priest
could act otherwise than he did. But
he seems to have precipitated a con-
flict in which the whole country must
become interested. Unionism has on
several occasions gone farther thanpublic interest, or its own interests,
would warrant. It has prohibited mem-
bers from joining the militia and helping
the authorities to maintain law and or-
der. It has taken an attitude of hos-
tility toward the national government,
and demanded the dismissal of a gov-
ernment employee, for no other cause
than his expulsion from a union. Such
acts cannot but be condemned by the
public, that believes in the supremacy
of the government. Unionism in this
country is strong, as was shown on La-
bor day. And it will become stronger
still if it confines its activity to the
amelioration of the conditions of la-
borers. But if it engages in a conflict
with civil and ecclesiastical authority,
it must fail. For that authority is of
divine origin, and without it there can
be only social and moral chaos. In that
chaos unionism itself would be swal-
lowed up for ever.

ARE WE BETTER OR WORSE?

One who scans the field of public oc-
currences, through the aid of no other
instrument than the journals that make
a feature of the publication of crimes,
scandals, and horrors, would be pained
for forming the opinion, that the
world is about as corrupt as it was im-
mediately before the great flood. But
notwithstanding appearances, many
sincerely hold that we are growing bet-
ter from time to time, as civilization
progresses. They hold that crime forms
but a very small part of national life,
though this part is unduly emphasized
by a certain class of journals. They
assert that the readers who revel in the
details of divorce suits or scandals in
high society or in the disclosures of the
foibles and follies of private life are
not half so numerous as may be imag-
ined. The great body of the Ameri-
can people lead decent lives and have
a serious purpose in life. They know
that vice exists, but they do not want
it constantly flaunted in their faces by
newspapers. They do not care to intro-
duce in their homes journals which pre-
sent the seamy side of life in vulgar
detail and thus are not fit for the per-
sonal of boys and girls.It is a curious fact that moralists of
each age find their respective genera-
tions about totally corrupt. The pic-
ture given by Paul in his letter to the
Romans of the moral condition of his
age, is painted in the darkest colors.
Martin Luther has left on record the
following estimate of the moral con-
dition of the generation to which he
preached: "The whole world is nothing
else but a turned-about Decalogue, or
the ten commandments backwards, a
wicked, and a picture of the devil. All
commandments of God, all blasphemies,
all disobedience, whoredom, pride, theft,
murder, etc., are now almost ripe for
slaughter; neither is the devil idle, with
Turk and pope, heresies and other er-
roneous sects. Every man draws the
Christian liberty only to carnal excess,
as if now they had free liberty and
power to do what they list." Luther
also expressed the opinion that, on ac-
count of the moral condition of the
world, the "kingdom of the devil" was
the best government for it, "for there-
with they will be governed with strict
laws and rights, with superstition, un-
belief, etc."In view of the denunciations of for-
mer preachers of morality, it may eas-
ily be believed that we are not worse
than other generations have been. But
no one should be content with being
"not worse." Our age is one of free-
dom and enlightenment. We have gen-
eral school education, and the higher
branches of learning are open to near-
ly all, and to those who have no oppor-
tunity of attending the great temples
of learning, the discussions in the daily
journals and the magazines, supply
much light upon almost all subjects.
With these advantages, we ought to be
much better than our predecessors.
There ought to be less murder, less
dishonesty, less impurity, less profan-
ity, in the world than ever before. Our
age ought to excel in all that is good.
If it does not, its condemnation is just.
Its fall will be swift. The peril of our
age is in the lowering of the moral
standards of both public and private
life. When these are low, and trailed
in the dust, there can be no improve-
ment.

A LONDON PLAN.

The London Spectator is of the opin-
ion that the Macedonian trouble can be
settled without war and the tremendous
sacrifices a conflict would involve. It
thinks an allied fleet at anchor off the
Yildiz Kiosk would be a powerful argu-
ment, by which the Sultan would
quickly be persuaded to perform almost
anything. The Spectator urges the
powers to take that step, and then to
command the Sultan to keep his hands
off the Macedonian provinces, and to
permit a Christian governor general, ap-
pointed by the powers, and subject only
to their authority, to assume the reins
of government.The plan is not bad. But the fleet
would have to go to the Dardanelles
with the understanding that war would
follow a refusal to comply with the de-
mands. Europe must delay the dis-
patch of fleets, until it is prepared to
lose the war dogs, if necessary. Bluffing
will not do the work. The
Turkish diplomats are masters in that
art, themselves.

WAR ON INTemperance.

A general war seems to have been
concerned in Europe against intem-
perance. The increase of the consump-
tion of intoxicants has been alarming,
or, the evil has become so well under-
stood as to create alarm, and temper-
ance societies and legislatures have
therefore joined hands in many coun-
tries, to combat it.In Germany the vigorous crusade of
the temperance societies has resulted
in the introduction, by the government,
of a bill, the object of which is to re-
strict somewhat the consumption of in-toxicants. It is a very mild law. It
requires saloonkeepers to keep on sale
such non-intoxicants as lemonade, milk,
tea, coffee, and also cold foods. The
number of barmaids is limited, and
credit is prohibited credit sys-
tem flourishes especially in sal-
oons in the country districts and
manufacturing towns, and is held re-
sponsible for much of the increase of
intemperance. It is thought that this
law, though not very radical, will do
much toward restricting the evils of
drunkenness.Other European countries are also in
the fight against intemperance. In
France medical statistics indicated that
the great increase in pulmonary tuber-
culosis was due almost entirely to ac-
coholism, and also that two-thirds of
the inmates of the insane asylums
were suffering from the same cause.
There is now talk of prohibiting the
sale of adulterated liquors and of
creating a state monopoly of alcohol,
which will supply only the pure article,
and that at a very high price.In Great Britain parliament has re-
cently enacted a law limiting the num-
ber of public houses and providing for
the "blacklisting" of habitual drunk-
ards by forbidding under severe penalti-
es the sale of liquor to them. Austria
is considering a law which provides that
drunkards shall, after ten convictions,
be sent to a reformatory, there to be
imprisoned till physicians certify that
their craving is cured. Norway has a
similar system now in force, except that
it applies it much more promptly. In
Switzerland the police are required to
arrest every person showing the slight-
est signs of intoxication. Alcohol is sold
by a government monopoly, and each
canton is required to spend 10 per cent
of the receipts from this source on hos-
pitals and other agencies for combating
the evil.Thus the war on alcohol is on nearly
all over Europe. People are waking up
to the dangers of the greatest peril of
the present time. With the restriction
of drunkenness, a better moral condi-
tion should come, too, particularly if
the use of tobacco is restricted in the
same way. War against excessive drink
should always include war against to-
bacco and similar narcotics. They are
all destroyers of the manhood and wo-
manhood of the nations addicted to
them. They are responsible for both
physical and moral decline.

WILL CROSS IN A BALLOON.

A Paris correspondent of a London
paper says that two professors in-
tend crossing the Atlantic in a bal-
loon. They will take advantage of the
trade winds, and they think they can
cross from the Canary islands to
Trinidad in four or five days. They
have planned a huge balloon which will
be able to lift six persons, a parachute,
and a life boat, as well as the necessa-
ry provisions and instruments.The plan is, of course, possible. Dur-
ing the siege of Paris, two gentlemen
traveled from that city in a balloon,
across the North sea, and landed in the
Norwegian mountains. It should be
possible to cross the Atlantic in the
same manner, provided the wind
is favorable. But when that is done,
what is the gain to voyage? It is not
known that the air voyage just men-
tioned resulted in any particular bene-
fit to air navigation.The experiment, if it succeeds, is use-
less, and if it does not succeed, it only
means the needless sacrifice of life.September weather is beginning to do
itself credit.Irrigation is not a sectional question
but one of water.Sam Parks' days seem to be many
and full of trouble.A cemetery seems a queer place for
a live issue to spring up."Arms and the man I sing," is what
they are singing in Cripple Creek just
now.It is about time the powers were
having the Porte up on the Turkish
rug.In Macedonia men may come and
men may go but massacres go on for-
ever.With a little more frost people will
soon be walking up to the pumpkin pie
counter.Bulgaria will appeal to the god of
war. It would be wiser to appeal to
the powers."Every man's task is his life pre-
server," says Emerson. Even the hot
air man's task.The streets of Dawson City may be
paved with gold but there is no milk
and honey there.The cemetery trouble could be set-
tled out of hand if the grave diggers
would only bury the hatchet.Does it mean that Mr. Carnegie is
going star gazing because he has be-
gun to build observatories?It is very doubtful if Sir Thomas
Lipton would have had an attack of
indigestion had he won the cup.Mr. Peary searching for the North
Pole is only equalled by Sir Thomas
challenging for the Americas cup.Miss Huldah Todd finally surrendered
the Greenwood postoffice to her suc-
cessor. In other words, she toddled.Only the man who works can be truly
resigned to his fate. Not to work
and be resigned is simply to be lazy.If Ogden feels a little proud she is
justified in the feeling. She is doing
the handsome as she never did it be-
fore.Senator Carmack would solve the
race problem by eliminating the negro
from politics. Otherwise, he would
make a solitude and call it peace.Judge Hall should make his decree
for more steam in the joint building
coextensive with the jurisdiction of his
court. He could do nothing more popu-
lar.The Warner ranch Indians insist that
they shall all be employed on irriga-
tion work or none. Very queer Indians
those that they should want to be at
work under any conditions.

Remorse has seized the Colombian

house of representatives and it is now
in favor of the canal treaty. But the
senate is still obdurate. After remorse
comes repentance, which is usually fol-
lowed by reform.The construction of the Panama
canal is desirable but not at the price
of the spoliation of a free but weak
country. Colombia may be a dog in the
manger, a very little one, but if
she were a big Dane or mastiff in the
manger there would be much less talk
about ignoring her. After all it is to
be feared that the rights of men and
nations are measured very largely by
their size.Charleston, S. C., has always been
famous for its chivalry and high sense
of propriety. Its lofty ideas have even
percolated through to the negroes. The
other day, an old negro from there was
a prisoner in the Harlem police court,
charged with begging. He was ac-
cused of soliciting ten cents. "I can't
read," he said. "I come from Char-
leston, and was a body servant during
the war. In my town it is thought per-
fectly proper for one gentleman to ask
another for the loan of ten cents."Charles Francis Adams has been in
Europe studying municipal transporta-
tion. His studies have not impressed
him favorably with paternalism in
government. He says: "Every time
private enterprise would do it four
times as well, at about half the cost.
Please don't talk to me of doing busi-
ness through government machinery.
It is one colossal exhibition of waste,
extravagance and incompetence." In
other words government control of
business enterprises is conducted on
the lines of the Circumlocution office
and how not to do it.

GRAVES AND THE NEGRO.

Chicago Record-Herald.

No intelligent citizen of the northern
states will deny that the negro problem
is a very serious problem for the
south. It is, moreover, such an ex-
ceedingly complicated one that it nat-
urally evokes suggestions for a variety
of remedies, but the remedy that is
proposed by John Temple Graves is so
absolutely impractical that it would
merit no attention at all except for the
fact that it has already secured a cer-
tain popularity with southerners. Hence
Mr. Graves speaks not for himself
alone, but as an exponent of public
sentiment, and of a sentiment that
ought to be discouraged because it
can lead only to false hopes and a
growing intolerance. In the broadest
sense the plan contemplates banish-
ment and expatriation.

Springfield Republican.

The real truth is that race prejudice
is an acquired and not a natural pos-
session. Man, and not God, is respon-
sible for it, and ignorance and provin-
cialism, and not enlightenment, are the
soil in which it lives and grows. It is
greatest where the human life is small-
est and narrowest and meanest, and
least where life is largest in knowledge
and experience. This is simple fact,
and the people in the presence of the
Jew, or the Yankee in the presence of
Celt, or the white man in the presence
of the negro, will do well ever to keep
the fact in mind. That way, and that
way only, lies the solution to the race
problem.

Boston Herald.

Mr. Graves, with ostensible fairness,
admits the wrong and cruelty and
scandal of the courses which have been,
and still are, pursued in dealing with
negroes; but he does not advocate
turning from them. On the contrary,
he says they must continue and in-
crease, because the supremacy of the
white race by the subjection of the
colored race must be established
everywhere completely and perman-
ently.

Los Angeles Times.

Just how John Temple Graves of
Georgia happens to know all about the
policies of the Almighty hasn't been
stated. If Mr. Graves is an ambassa-
dor for the celestial court we would
like to see his credentials. For our part
we have our doubts about the authority
of Mr. Graves in the premises. Were
the God of nations to send out a repre-
sentative to define His policy of His
would be mighty likely to pick out
somebody for the office besides John
Temple Graves of Georgia.

New York Mail and Express.

Emigration, though it should be aid-
ed by heavy national appropriations,
could make no impression on the col-
ored population of the United States.
Mr. Graves' calculations are mislead-
ing. If the immigrant ships which ar-
rived in this country from 1880 to 1885,
inclusive of both years, had carried
back to Europe as many negroes as
they brought Europeans here, they
might have taken away 4,000,000 black
people out of between 6,000,000 and
7,000,000. But that would have been
supposing that they had had return
carriage to Europe in carrying the same
people to Africa would have been en-
tirely another proposition. It is doubt-
ful if all these ships could, as a mat-
ter of practicable fact, have taken to
Africa more than the natural increase
of the colored population.

San Francisco Chronicle.

This extraordinary individual, who
thinks he can fathom the designs of
Providence, suggests that the Philip-
pine islands may have been placed
in our keeping in order "to furnish
an answer to the problem of the time."
He tells us that the negro was not
made to share in the duty and the
destiny which he perplexes and be-
clouds. "Let us put him kindly and
humanely out of the way," he says.
"Let us give him a better chance than
he has ever had in history, and let us
have done with him." In short, let us
get rid of him by shipping him to the
Philippine islands.

LABOR DAY.

New York World.

American workmen were never
more prosperous than they are at the
present time. In achieving that pros-
perity the labor union has been a pow-
erful agency, exercised in the main only
for good. Such a labor chief as the
late Mr. Arthur of the locomotive en-
gineers, fulfills a very high ideal of use-
fulness in the community. As the union
grows in power the danger grows
also that this power may be grasped
for private greed by the unworthy. The
telling rebuke given to Parkism and
Deverism, when in this city less than
11,000 men appeared in line instead of
160,000, shows that intelligent laboring
men are alive to the danger and know
exactly how to deal with it.

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