

DESERET EVENING NEWS
 PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING
 (Sunday Excepted.)
 Corner of South Temple and East Tem-
 ple Streets, SALT LAKE CITY, Utah.
 Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager.
 SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
 (In Advance.)
 One Year \$10.00
 Six Months \$6.00
 Three Months \$3.50
 One Month \$1.00
 Saturday Edition per copy 5c
 Semi-Weekly per year 2.00
 Correspondence and other reading mat-
 ter for publication should be addressed
 to the EDITOR.
 Address all business communications
 and all remittances
 THE DESERET NEWS,
 Salt Lake City, Utah.
 Entered at the postoffice of Salt Lake
 City as second class matter according
 to Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.
 SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 2, 1909.

WHY THIS BITTERNESS?

Leading anti-prohibitionists, we understand, are going round deploring the bitterness of feeling that has been engendered between the two sides to this controversy. It is deplorable, but whose is the fault?

When the great majority of the people of Utah, responding to the call of Dr. Fuller and Hon. Heber J. Grant as national representatives of the Anti-Saloon League, decided to ask the Legislature for a prohibition law and forwarded their petitions to that body, they were, at the outset, met with the astounding assertion that they could not obtain prohibition this session, for the reason that somebody had sold the Republican party to the saloon interests during the last campaign. They were told that a deal had been consummated that could not be ignored. They were told, not by the slanderers of the party but by friends supposedly in the confidence of the party leaders, that prohibition may be obtained two years hence, if the people want it, but not now, owing to a certain understanding that had been entered into, under the stress of circumstances. Is there any wonder if citizens with clean hands and a clear conscience are being stirred to the innermost depths of their souls when men honored with trusted positions return such an answer to their prayers for a greatly needed moral reform?

And that is not all. In accordance with the last Conference resolution, Church members, as citizens, are asking for legislation that will close the saloons in the State, and they are being told, privately, by those who have made it their business to spread all kinds of false rumors, and publicly, by the official organ, that the Church officials and members who voted for that resolution, do not really want prohibitive legislation, but that they voted the way they did merely to curry favor with other churches. They are told that certain anti-prohibitionists know what the real wishes of the leading brethren are, and that these are different from their public utterances. They are told that men like Hyrum M. Smith, Heber J. Grant, and Nephi Morris, and others, are not so well informed on the temperance question as are the leaders of the defense for the liquor traffic. Is it any wonder, then, that loyal Church members very keenly feel the unfairness of the tactics employed against them and the brethren whom they honor and love?

The attitude of the Church has been explained, authoritatively, in these columns, and there should be no doubt as to that. While the Church, as an organization, can take no step to secure legislation on the temperance question, or any other issue, since that would be undue church influence; and while Church leaders very wisely refrain from any declaration that might be construed as undue influence on their part upon a political body, yet the Church, in Conference, has solemnly spoken upon the moral question involved, and pledged its officers and members to use their influence, as citizens, with the legislators to obtain legislation that will close the saloons. Is not that so clear that all can understand it?

The people have asked for prohibition, 75,000 strong. They are met with two assertions. One is to the effect that the party has been sold. The other is that Church leaders do not want it. We know that the last assertion is a clumsy falsehood. The first, concerning that infamous deal, has also been doubted by all who ought to know something about it. The question then remains: Shall the people rule, or shall a few champions of the liquor interests sway the Legislature by falsehoods adroitly told?

We hope the Legislature will pass the Cannon bill now before the House. It can do no harm to submit the question to the vote of the people. Let the people decide. They will decide anyhow, before they are through with this business. And when party leaders will take their proper place and let the people rule, there will be no more bitter feelings.

WHY THE DELAY?

Representative Clegg said Saturday that there is proposed legislation in the Senate on the prohibition question, and that we ought to see what is going to be done there. The trouble with

that is that the conviction is growing among the public, that the strong local option bill was held up to the Senate in order to induce that body to vote down the Cannon bill, and that the intention from the first was to kill, or, at least, to delay the bill. This conviction has gained strength by the unnecessary delay in reporting it to the Senate. The defenders of the liquor traffic are smooth as the original enemy of mankind and as unscrupulous in their tactics.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

On the fourth of this month President Roosevelt steps out of the exalted office of the President of the United States, and President Taft assumes the duties of that office. Mr. Roosevelt was on a hunting trip when assassination vacated the presidential chair. He at once hastened to his post of duty. He leaves that post and goes on another hunting trip, this time to Africa.

The Roosevelt administration marks an epoch in American history. During this administration the President and Congress have worked together in almost perfect harmony, until very recently. And the result is a number of measures that form a radical departure from the old, beaten path. The railroad rate law, the employers' liability law, the currency law, the creation of a department of commerce and labor, the pure food bill, the establishment of the custom of accounting for campaign expenses, are among the results obtained through the efforts of the ruling president. From the time of his administration dates the mandate of the people that corporations and trusts must obey the law and accord all a fair deal. That is the Roosevelt doctrine, and that is popular was demonstrated in 1904, by an enormous vote in his favor.

President Roosevelt's versatility has been commented upon frequently. He has been compared to Emperor Wilhelm, in this respect. During the seven years of office he has found time to write and speak upon innumerable topics, moral, industrial and political. He has taken a hand in the settlement of strikes at home and at least one great war—the conflict between Japan and Russia. He has had time to visit Panama and inspect the work there, and to think about a remedy for the overcrowding of the poor in the tenement houses in Washington. He has suggested and outlined a plan for the conservation of the natural resources of the country, and thought of some scheme for the amelioration of the condition of dependent children. And through the high moral sense of the President a higher moral tone has been imparted to public life generally.

J. E. Chamberlain, in the New York Mail, says that the dearest of all his own works to him is the arousing of the general conscience in the matter of the conservation of the natural resources, with its attendant blessings of the insurance of many thousands of acres of sacred woodland from the ax, and the springing up of the green grass upon the vast desert expanses. Theodore Roosevelt's childhood endowed him with a passionate love of the woods, and to his special forest love was in that period added a tender respect for the plowed field and the husbandman.

It would be impossible in a brief essay to enumerate the achievements of President Roosevelt, but it can be said, truly, that his administration has been fraught with benefit to the country, and that future generations will appreciate his work even more than do his contemporaries. He has accomplished things that waited and waited for the right man to secure them. He has opened the eyes of the people as no other man before him did to the greatness of the country and to its obligation to the present and to future generations. Correspondingly, he has secured many enemies. He has not been infallible. No man is that. But he has been fair to all. To labor and to capital he has preached the same sermon, that the conduct of each must conform to the rules of individual freedom and the interests of the general public; that to each must be given full liberty as long as he does not infringe upon the rights of others.

President Roosevelt's love of fair play was very plainly manifested during the assault made upon the Church by the leaders of the anti-Roosevelt agitation. That was an assault upon the Constitution, inasmuch as the agitators demanded the unseating of a Senator without any cause except his religious affiliations. The victory of the un-American conspirators would, indeed, have been a dangerous precedent. It would have meant the downfall of one of the bulwarks of American liberty. It, during that crisis in the nation's history, a less fair-minded, or a less firm man had occupied the office of President, his influence upon the Senate might have been exercised in support of the great wrong that it was proposed to perpetrate upon the American people. As it was, President Roosevelt lent his moral aid to the side of righteousness and justice, and that shall ever be remembered in the State of Utah. All honor to men no matter what their station may be, who dare to stand up for the right, even when the cause is unpopular.

PROHIBITION PARAGRAPHS.

The Republican organ charges that the members of the Latter-day Saints' Church are not sincere in their demand for the closing of the saloon, but that this demand comes, principally, from a desire to curry favor with other churches. They want to be in good company. They want to be spoken well of. We protest against the infamous insinuation that the men and women who are prominent in this agitation for a moral reform are hypocrites. The organ itself has repeatedly admitted that they are sincere. What is the reason for the change of mind, this time?

William G. Huntington, who calls himself Rev., but who might drop that title for a shorter and uglier one, asks, "If the Church wanted prohibition, couldn't it get it?" He implies that

all the Church has to do is to want a law and then it can have it. Now, will the Rev. William G. control his wandering reason and abstain from invective long enough to enable him to think before he speaks? No church has a right to force legislation. We do not believe that any church in Utah can dictate to the legislators, and if any church could do that, it had no right to do it. But a church has a right to speak on moral issues in its own meetings and pulpits. It is its duty to do so. And Church members, as citizens, have a right to use all their influence as citizens to persuade their representatives to do what is right. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has declared itself, in Conference, for legislation closing the saloons. Church members, loyal and true, as citizens, have petitioned, prayed, spoken. Now, will the Rev. William G. tell the members of the Church what more they can do, as citizens, to further the prohibition cause in the State? If he knows of anything that can be done legitimately, let the people know, and they will do it. But before he essays to speak to a clean people, he might as well clean his mouth thoroughly and use no foul language.

Rev. William Thurston Brown, in an apology for the saloon traffic, last Sunday, said that "the vice of intemperance and the saloon as the means of feeding that vice are simply a social abuse. Both of them are merely symptoms of a human demand." What kind of an abuse is it that is a symptom of a human demand, Doctor?

The agitation for a hold-up commission has not had the effect of arousing general interest to any appreciable extent, as has the agitation against the saloon traffic. Those who read the signs of the times need not err in their interpretation of this fact. It proves what the public sentiment really is.

President-elect for just one day more.

May wheat goes soaring long before it scuds.

For several days all roads will lead to Washington.

Who will be the charter members of the Buncombe club?

Fear of overdoing a thing generally causes it to be overdone.

The ne plus ultra of misery is to be penniless and not painless.

"Uncle Joe" does not believe that nothing succeeds like Success.

Never borrow trouble. You will get it as a free gift soon enough.

Widow's weeds can generally be found in the garden of love.

March came in as a cross between a mountain lion and a lamb.

When so minded Speaker Cannon can fire hot shot as well as anybody.

This season's fashion notes are mostly of the fifty dollar denomination.

All proposed commissions should be searched for a possible nigger in the woodpile.

The price of neglect is high but scarcely so high as the price of butter and eggs.

The man who says he says what he thinks, only thinks he thinks what he says he thinks.

The biggest lie told to the American youth is that they all have a chance to be President.

Mrs. Leslie Carter is quoted as saying that "children are a nuisance." There are others.

Governor Hughes is said to be taking riding lessons. This means more ups and downs for him.

No matter how Carrie Nation is taken, seriously or otherwise, she is never pleasant to the taste.

Whenever anyone thinks he has made a discovery the Chinese claim to have had it three thousand years ago. One exception to this claim is an exclusion law.

"The czar recently rode through the streets of St. Petersburg without being encased in boiler-plate. They are certainly making some progress in Russia," says an exchange. Yes, a royal progress.

According to the committee that investigated the matter, Representative Cook of Colorado did not exceed the privileges of debate in his speech attacking the President. The question suggests itself, what would he or could he have said if he had?

LAST OF HIS KIND.

New York Tribune.

Gerónimo, the Apache chief, will live in history as the last of the long line of Indian warriors who devastated the frontier as it slowly moved westward. No other American Indian will ever achieve an evil eminence of that sort, for the conditions which permitted Gerónimo to kill and burn in the aboriginal fashion are now, happily, out of date, even in the least settled portions of the far west.

EXPERTS IN CITY GOVERNMENT.

President-elect Lowell of Harvard.

The administration of a great city cannot be conducted efficiently and at the same time be kept in touch with public needs without a combination of the expert and the representative or outside opinion, and the relation that ought to exist between these two is plain. The current management of the initiative in the main ought to be with the expert, but he ought to work under the constant oversight and control of non-professional men. Such a relation has grown up spontaneously in our great commercial and educational bodies, in the president and directors of a railroad or a bank, in the president and trustees of a university or college, for example, and it could be introduced into almost any form of city government, for it is not inconsistent with the plan of boards of coun-

missioners or with that of a mayor's cabinet. In order to set up the proper relation between the expert and the non-professional representative of the public, it is not necessary to prescribe their duties, but to make the distinction between them perfectly clear, and that distinction must be based upon the essential difference in the functions to be performed. The expert is expected to make his public work his career. He should devote his whole time to it, receive a liberal salary and be protected from removal except for cause. The non-professional is not to manage his department, but to see that it is properly managed. He ought not to be expected to give a great deal of time to it, ought to be paid nothing or a much lower salary than the expert, and ought to give an account of his stewardship by the coming up for reappointment or election at fixed intervals.

JUST FOR FUN.

Guessing at the Truth.

One of our dashing comedians was endeavoring to dazzle the worldly manager of a North London music hall the other day by the alleged magnificence of the prospects offered by his forthcoming engagement in America.

"Yes," he said, with all the enthusiasm of a man who wants his hearers to believe what he is extremely doubtful about himself, "I'm to have \$10,000 per—"

"Per-haps," interrupted the worldly manager—"Tit-Bits."

Not Within His Jurisdiction.

A well known New York judge invited a friend of his, a lawyer from Boston, to go for a short trip on his yacht. A storm came up and the boat began to roll and toss in a manner which the Boston lawyer did not relish. The judge laid a hand on his friend's shoulder and said, "My dear fellow, I shall anything I can do to make you comfortable."

"Yes," was the grim reply, "overrule this motion!"—Brooklyn Life.

As to Squiggles.

Baldwin—Yes, Squiggles is a fairly good man, but he has his price. Ramon—You may think so, but I've asked him for the price half a dozen times when I've been hard up and thirsty and never got it.—Washington Post.

Simple Subtraction.

During an arithmetic lesson in a Wilmington school the teacher was endeavoring to make one point clear when she said:

"Now, boys and girls, in order to add, subtract or multiply, it is necessary that the things must always be of the same denomination. For example, we couldn't take three oranges from four apples, or multiply nine horses by two cows."

Whereupon Sammy Stilson, without signs of confusion, asked the teacher, "Sammy?"

"Why, ma'am," asked Sammy, as he stood up, "can't you take five quarts of milk from four cows?"—Harper's Weekly.

And Just as Good.

Don't ever get the notion, boy. Whatever else you do. That you're supreme, because there are ten thousand more like you. —Detroit Free Press.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Wide World Magazine for March contains an astonishing amount of attractive material gathered from all the quarters of the globe. Among the contents of the issue are many articles of a thrilling nature. There is an amazingly realistic description of a fight to the death between a whale and a school of threshers about which a most striking account of a nest-robbing's terrible battle with an infuriated mother eagle. But it is perhaps in its descriptions of the peculiar customs of other nations that the Wide World is particularly valuable and to the average reader—interesting. One does not usually think of England as being a dangerous mountain-climbing country, yet in the article entitled "Mountain Tragedies of the Lake District," we learn of the numerous climbing fatalities which have occurred in the loveliest country of England. The Barones de Boerio concludes the account of her "Experiences in Algeria," while H. Chausse-Flaviens writes of those strange and little-known people—the Lappes. An intensely interesting article, written by a native of Auckland, tells of the endless ramifications of the old Maori law of "tapu" (meaning sacred, forbidden, prohibited) and the predicaments in which Europeans coming under its influence occasionally find themselves. A. Pitcair-Knowles writes very charmingly of "The Flanders Festival" or the "Bird-Singing Competitions of Flanders." There are many other articles and stories equally interesting.—\$3-45 Duane St., New York.

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