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SALT LAKE CITY, JULY 16, 1900.

MISERABLE METHODS.

In a last pathetic appeal for more bonds, the Deseret News says the job of the administration is trying to put through contract, P. J. Moran, is a Democrat.

That is from the Salt Lake Herald of Sunday morning. We are not of the number who think that deliberate and willful falsehood is any worse on Sunday than on Saturday, or any less shameful and mean and dishonorable on Monday than on Sunday.

But it is a specimen paragraph out of a big tissue of mendacity, spread before the Sunday readers of the Salt Lake Herald.

Anyone who wishes to decide for himself or herself the question of veracity involved in this matter, can do so by reading what the Deseret News did say on the water question on Saturday evening. We have not mentioned anything about the "honesty" of the city officials. We have not charged the city officials with dishonesty or set forth any claim to their honesty. We have not discussed that subject at all. The statement of the Herald is untrue in every particular, and was printed for the express purpose of misrepresenting the "News" as well as the bonds question.

It had been charged that the bonds movement was the policy of the Republican majority, for partisan ends and partisan profit. To meet that objection, sprung by some Democrats, the Deseret News said:

"There is nothing partisan in the course pursued by the Republican Council in this matter as suggested. The contractor for the \$85,000 improvement, the biggest of the lot, is a prominent Democrat—P. J. Moran."

That is the only remark made by this paper in reference to the contractor for the pipe system. There is nothing in it about "honesty." It is a sufficient reply to the "partisan" objection, that is all.

But the Herald proceeded to arraign Mr. J. E. Dooley, who is the chairman of the Board of Public Works. That body has to let all contracts for work done for the city. Bids are advertised for, and the contract is let to the lowest bidder. Mr. Dooley is not one of that body. He does not let a contract himself, as stated by the Herald. That paper further tried to make it appear that Mr. Dooley was personally interested in Mr. Moran's financial affairs and in the success or failure of the contract. These assertions are just as false and malicious as that about the Deseret News.

Exposed in this assault on Mr. Dooley, the Herald now turns the tide of its fool column on Mr. M. H. Walker. All that this gentleman had to do with the bonds affair was this: The special committee of the City Council appointed to present the question before the public, requested one citizen, not connected with the Council, from each precinct to investigate the subject and join them in formulating an address to the taxpayers. Mr. Walker was invited from the Second precinct. He could not attend. When the address was completed, a message was sent to him asking whether he would sign it after reading it and feeling satisfied with its statements. He expressed his willingness to do that, and so the document was signed by him cheerfully. The Herald perverts this connection of Mr. Walker with the address, by using vile insinuations as to his motive.

We have had no word with or from either of the gentlemen thus vilified, and do not think they need any defense of ours, but we mention the attack upon them as evidence of the miserable meanness with which the Herald has attacked all who favor the movement to secure an ample supply and better distribution of water for this city.

We do not intend to take up the figures published by the Herald, and presented in such a manner as to mislead persons who do not closely examine its ridiculous deductions. One instance will be sufficient. During the first six months of 1899, a smaller amount of taxes had been collected than was paid during the first six months of 1898. This the Herald displays as a "decrease in revenues," and as "a cost to the taxpayers," and a proof of "extravagance." The absurdity of this is only equalled by its mendacity. It is not a real "decrease," of course; the receipts for the last six months of the present year will no doubt cover this alleged "decrease in revenues," and the parading of the figures so as to hoodwink the unsophisticated is a species of dishonesty at least as bad as that with which the Herald has falsely charged the city authorities.

We have due respect for citizens who are opposed on principle to the increase of our municipal indebtedness, and who therefore vote against the issue of more bonds, although we believe that even they on full investigation would see their mistake. Every voter has the right to do his part to defeat a measure which he believes to be wrong or inadvisable. But no citizen or paper has the

right to lie about others who favor the bonds, and who see in their issue the only way out of a pressing difficulty that cannot be avoided.

Who are the men that compose "the gang," "the Contractors' Syndicate," the promoters of the "bond grab?" Read the names of the city councilors—Democrats and Republicans—who have issued the address to the public. Will any of them "grab" the funds needed for improving our water system? Take the entire Council, in which there are but three objectors out of the fifteen. Do they let any contracts? The Board of Public Works attend to that business. Are they or any of them entitled to the appellation of "the gang?" Has it been shown, or attempted to be shown, how any of the gentlemen who have supported the bond movement, as the only feasible way of raising the needed funds to save the city from a water famine, will gain anything or be able to "grab" anything out of the amount, which cannot be spent for anything but water purposes.

The course taken by the Herald in this matter, on which it has gone back on its own advice, has been in the lowest channel of yellow journalism. The public need water and it has given them mud. They want light and it has raised clouds of dust to obscure it. They want facts and it has given them figures jangled so as to make fiction. It has met fair argument from its contemporaries by willfully falsifying their language, and then building upon the untruth a mass of sophistry and absurdity, for the purpose of defeating a measure designed to insure permanent and essential improvements, that will be of present and lasting benefit to this city and its inhabitants.

Whether the bond measure shall be found to have been approved by the voters or not, the methods resorted to, in order to hamper the city authorities and vilify all who desire to see the city supplied with plenty of water, must receive the condemnation of fair-minded people of every shade of political opinion.

AS TO "SCRATCHING."

A country contemporary, commenting on the visit of Senator Daniel, of Virginia to this city, finds no particular fault with the gentleman except his "manner of voting." He stated that he had never scratched a ticket in his life. This the c. c. declares is "a poor way to vote."

There are millions of people of various political parties who think otherwise. They make their objections to candidates before the ticket is formulated, then they yield to the expressed and feelings and vote to their party.

We fall to see wherein this is "contrary to the spirit of our government," as claimed by the objector. What is there in the spirit of our government that requires "scratching" as evidence of patriotism? Is chronic "kicking" proof of "true greatness"? Is there any indication of real American genius in voting against a party nominee, after his qualifications and defects have been discussed and a convention has decided on his selection?

We do not say that any man should be a slave to his party. On general principles, however, we would say that individual objections to a measure or a man, should be made at the proper time and in the proper place, and that the conclusion of the majority should prevail. There may be exceptions to this, but it ought to be the rule, or party organizations would be largely in vain.

If the argument of our contemporary means anything, it follows that a man's "greatness" is in proportion to his "scratching." Whatever force that might have in cases of physical or mental irritation, it does not figure as deep reasoning in matters political.

COL. LISCOMB DEAD.

The announcement that Colonel E. H. Liscomb of the Ninth U. S. Infantry has been killed in battle at Tien Tsin, China, is as startling as it is sad. It brings home a realization that the nation is again at war. Colonel Liscomb was the American commander in the field. His regiment was hurried over from the Philippines, and only Thursday last it was embarked at Taku for Tien Tsin, to which point half of it was rushed forward that day. When the colonel reached the scene, the plan of battle already had been arranged. It was practically stepping from the boats into the fight. Only a brief time, and the leader of the American troops fell in death. It was a fortune of war, yet one which carries with it a special sadness. What skill as a regimental commander Colonel Liscomb possessed he has not been given the opportunity to demonstrate, for he died at the threshold of his career in this regard. But everyone who knew of him knew that he was a hard and gallant fighter. No braver men are called to face the cannon's mouth. His record at Gettysburg and Santiago established that. Severely wounded in the attack on San Juan Hill, he had barely recovered when he was sent to the Philippines, and from being lieutenant colonel of the Twenty-fourth infantry he was transferred to the command of the Ninth. His long station at Fort Douglas makes the people here feel that a close acquaintance as well as a brave officer has fallen. Captain Davis, of the marine corps, too, is numbered with the slain. Not personally known to many here, he is yet esteemed as a gallant officer who has met his fate in the defense of American interests. Already America has contributed shining marks to the war demon in the Far East, and through no aggressive policy of our own. The issue has been forced on this nation; and the people will mourn the heroic dead as victims of a fault not their own or their country's.

GLOOMY NEWS FROM CHINA.

The latest tidings from China wear an aspect of the gloomiest character. There appears no room to doubt that all the foreigners in Peking have been put to death. Their heroic resistance did not avail against the horde of semi-barbarians, who knew no respect for age, sex, or condition. Further, it is reasonably certain that the allied forces

in Tien Tsin are in a critical, if not desperate plight. Their defeat at the hands of the large Chinese army is officially announced, and there is a prospect of great difficulty in relieving them from their present perilous position. While the Chinese losses have been heavy, their successes, even with having such great odds in their favor, have made them exultant, with the result that the anti-foreign movement has received an added impetus among the Chinese masses. The best that can be said is that further heavy disasters must be borne by the allies before this trouble is settled; and so far as our own country is concerned, many a gallant "boy in blue" must yield his life for the flag in the far-off eastern Asiatic empire.

What is to be done, is the question now uppermost in the minds of every nation that has direct interest. In one sense the reply already has been formulated, though it is much more modified shape than it would have been but for the conservative influence of the United States. There is no doubt that, if the decision had been left to Europe, the demand for swift and speedy retribution would have received ready response, the powers would have decreed the destruction of the Chinese nation, and would have set to work to bring about that end. But the United States prevented the carrying out of that policy, at least so far as present efforts are concerned, by a statement which is equivalent to saying that the war now begun shall not be chiefly for revenge.

Yet war it is. No governmental effort will be made to change that. No sympathy with China because of incursions on her territory by some of the European powers will be permitted to stand as an endorsement of the Chinese outrage in Peking. A re-establishment of order in the Mongolian empire is not sufficient for the emergency. A necessity of international relations is that the Chinese people must be taught to respect, or even fear, the power of the western nations to the extent that they will not assail the representatives of the latter with impunity. The Chinese must be brought to realize that the slaughter of foreigners who are legitimately in China is too unprofitable business to be indulged in, even by Mongolian insurgents.

It will be no easy task to administer this lesson. Yet there is now no safety for foreign representatives in China until it is done. The Chinese are not easily impressionable in the manner necessary, because of their dense ignorance of real conditions in other lands. Besides, China is a vast country to deal with in the way of population and resources, and the tact and ability of her military division are shown by recent events to have been improved greatly since the war with Japan. It will not do for the nations to beguile themselves with the idea that the Mongolians are proper respect for the persons and property of foreigners who may be lawfully in China under recognized rules of international relationship.

There is one thing, however, that people in this country should not forget. That is that the indiscriminate wreaking of vengeance on the Chinese is not justified in a civilized nation by anything that has occurred. The government has set the example of wise moderation, yet firm insistence on its rights. The people should follow that example and on no account should the Chinese be made the subjects of violence, which could not be other than cowardly. Let the Mongolians here be treated properly, and be protected in their rights; and let the national policy proceed to the end that that which now makes the situation so gloomy will not be likely to occur again, through Chinese failure to realize that an attack on Americans in Peking is a serious and even dangerous business to engage in.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The statement of vital statistics by the board of health of this city, for the month of June, is an interesting document. It proves, for instance, that this city has a very low death rate, although it is slightly increased since last year. It shows a satisfactory birth rate, and in addition, that the city has a population estimated at 70,000; 130 miles of paved or graded streets; 141 railroads; 83 miles of electric lines; 127 miles of water mains; 27 miles of public sewer; 400 electric street lights; 12 public schools; parks, costly public buildings, and real personal property assessed at \$34,751,919.

This is satisfactory progress in the few years since the Pioneers planted a few potato vines in the virgin soil of the valley. But as yet only a beginning is made to utilize the natural resources. If the people only would drop all animosity and work together in harmony, and for the good of the community, the marvels of the past in this region would be repeated again and again, until this city would become what it is destined to be—the glory of the American continent.

WHAT WILL THE BOERS DO?

Does the question as to what the Boers will do is yet a sore puzzle to the British in South Africa. It is also an interesting topic to the nations that have watched the conflict. For some time past it has appeared as though the Transvaal Dutch were hopelessly beaten, and even yet there does not seem to be a chance to change that prospect, for really the burghers are overwhelmed by the present imperial force. But the latest news shows that they retain sufficient strength to inflict heavy losses on the British, and to worry the latter badly almost within halcyon distance of Lord Roberts' headquarters. Their exploits may be the classic contributions of the struggle, but it is possible these are still some distance away.

As matters now stand, the record of the Boer war shows a heavy expense to Great Britain. Its cost to the Boers is not fairly figured, in money and men, in the absence of reliable data. But the score of millions in British gold, and the loss of 48,128 men on the part of the British in nine months of war, tell a significant tale, the character of which is not changed by the fact that

the last month is more expensive than the first; and the full year may be rounded out in about the same way.

With the Chinese trouble growing worse, what will the Boers do? Will they find aid through Britain being compelled to withdraw troops from South Africa for service in China? Lord Salisbury is not likely to allow that; for South Africa is more important to England now than those interests in China that cannot be conserved by British fleets or reawakened when England settles with the Dutch. But will the Chinese affair bring the threatened rupture with Russia? That would recall Britain's trained army from the Transvaal—and then? For the present, however, the Boer is playing a waiting game, and what he does in continuing the war will depend very much on what others do to afford him an opportunity. If Britain does not become seriously involved at an early day, the Boers will simply have to give up. Alone they can do nothing of great import now.

"Bonds Yes" is the right proposition.

If you have not voted go to the polls before 7 p. m.

This year, campaign stories will be much larger than fish stories.

The apathy of the citizens on so vital a question as water supply is amazing.

Speaking of policies in China, a life insurance policy would seem to be about the proper caper just now.

Some of our citizens who went to Nome have already had enough of it. But some people never know when they have had enough of anything.

Richard Croker is back in New York, and says he is in harness again. The harness does not seem to gall him. This must be because it is a Concord harness made by Hill.

The situation in China, affairs in South Africa and elsewhere make it more than evident that the reign of peace is not to be ushered in with the twentieth century.

There is no "official war" in China, which proves that Talleyrand was right when he said language was invented to conceal thought. And he might have added, facts also.

"The automobile girl" is the latest society production. She is the same old girl that all have known as the sea-side girl, the Alpine girl, the bicycle girl, the golf girl, etc. There is a change of name; nothing more.

Chicago is disgruntled because Uncle Sam's census takers have returned her population at less than two millions. Her numbers may not be so big as she has been wont to boast and brag, but she still leads in go-ahead-iveness.

A writer in the Hartford Times says that what the country needs is a new party. All right. Let the Hartford man go forth and form one. There are a good many in the country now, but a few more or less won't make much difference.

The civilized world has arrived at the conclusion that hope for the safety of the foreigners in Peking is gone. And it is announcing this conclusion openly. For Chinese officials to attempt further to palm off stories of hope and concoct explanations of the origin of the present trouble and responsibility for the same, is too puerile even for the wily and deceitful oriental. Only details and confirmation of the worst fears are awaited now.

Counterfeiters appear to be active in the Philippines. The Mexican dollar only being worth half the American dollar, or its commercial value, is taken, melted down and made into a counterfeit American dollar. This money is false although it is not made of base metal. Hunting the makers of it down will be a difficult task in the Philippines. The real trouble is that the bullion and the face value of the American silver dollar is not the same.

American soldiers have been slain in battle in China. That they honored their country and died like heroes, is certain. What was the impression made upon their European allies? American soldiers have never had that castron, macho discipline that marks particularly the soldiers of Germany, but they have the fighting qualities that make men cheer and laugh as they go to death. Those men at Tien Tsin will make all Europe respect our boys in blue.

There are rumors of threats of wreaking vengeance on the Chinese in this country for the atrocities practiced upon Americans in China. Whatever foundation there may be for these reports they no doubt originate with that class which is always ready to perpetrate outrages and commit crime. The better element of the people throughout the country is decidedly opposed to any retaliation against the Chinese in the United States. It is good news that the government is determined that they shall be protected at all hazards and any cost.

THE GERMAN VOTE.

Baltimore News.

There are certain notions and tendencies and characteristics which are widely prevalent among Germans. One of these unquestionably is a great degree of conservatism and soundness in reference to the currency of the nation; and nobody has ever seriously questioned that this trait among them was of the utmost importance in determining the fate of the soft-money movement in the great state of the middle West in the years following the civil war. There is a like conservatism among them as regards any tendency to military adventure or to imperialism.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"Militarism," so far as it can figure at all in a canvass in this country under present conditions, figured in the elections of 1899. It figured in the election in Oregon a few weeks ago. * * * The German vote in Oregon comprises a large proportion of the total.

Washington Post.

There is no more reason to suppose that all those American citizens who came from Germany or descended from German parents will hang together, either for Bryan or McKinley, than there is for the supposition that all the red-haired or round-shouldered or snub-

nosed men will vote "as a body." The citizens for whom Mr. Ottendorfer assumes to speak so positively are, like other Americans, divided among parties according to their political views. They are Republicans, Democrats, or Socialists, and will vote for McKinley, Bryan or Debs, according to the dictates of individual judgment. That is what they have always done.

Philadelphia Times.

There is every reason to believe that the "Bonds" fund represents the independent German vote. Their declaration against the imperialist policy, suggests danger to the administration that must be taken into account. It is the more significant because it accords with the known attitude of many influential German-American leaders.

Correspondent Chicago Record.

There is absolutely no doubt that the Germans of Wisconsin are opposed to the colonial policy, to the acquisition of new territory—in short, to what may be termed the entire foreign policy of this government during the last two years. It so happens that Wisconsin has a large proportion of the Germans of means and station who left Germany in 1848 as political refugees, and they see the new policy a prospect of the same evils that caused them to leave their native land.

Cincinnati Times-Star.

The fatal mistake that Mr. Lantz and other little Americans make is in counting a man of German parentage or who was born in Germany, a German. Ninety-nine per cent of the German-American citizens are Americans to the core.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The great majority of German voters, however, belong to the substantial class of citizens who do credit both to the land of their ancestry and to the country of their adoption. Some of them, as is inevitable, are Democrats, but even in 1896 these were repelled by the 16 to 1 doctrine and wheeled en masse into the Republican ranks, which have always held the majority of their countrymen. There they will stay. A sound financial platform might have recalled some of them to the Democratic standard. They might even have accepted the endorsement of the Chicago platform with the understanding that it was a mere necessary by the exigencies of the occasion; but when Bryan insists not only upon free coinage of silver some time, as the Chicago platform put it, but free silver right now, which the Kansas City platform demands, it is too much.

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