

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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THE DESERET NEWS,  
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SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 16, 1903.

## CONSOLIDATION OF CANALS.

It is reported that certain interested persons are making strong endeavors, to persuade stockholders in the North Jordan canal company to vote against the proposed consolidation of the irrigating associations in this county. In view of the disastrous results which would ensue from the failure of the plans to obtain, for this and adjacent counties, the benefit of the national irrigation law, a consequence of the refusal of that company to amalgamate, we hope the rumor is not true. And if it is, we trust the farmers and other water-users in that company will have the good sense to see the unwisdom of such opposition.

They are not asked to sacrifice anything that they now own or hold. They are not expected to give or throw anything away. They will retain every water right that has been fixed by law and the decisions of courts. It is true that under the consolidation there will be but one company, and this may exclude some individuals now in office from the directorate. But is personal pride or ambition to stand in the way of a great public benefit? We hope not. And we cannot believe that anyone in the company will be so unpatriotic and selfish as to take such a position.

The responsibility of either aiding or nullifying measures for the benefit of this whole region, the North Jordan canal company included, ought to weigh mightily on the minds of its stockholders, for upon their action will turn the success or failure of plans that, if effected, will ensure a full water supply to all the companies interested, bring many additional acres under cultivation, prevent further litigation and trouble as to respective water rights, and advance the material interests of a vast population.

If some of our friends cannot see what particular advantages will accrue to the North Jordan canal company from amalgamation, we think they should have some regard for the desires and necessities of others, particularly when they themselves will not in any event be losers by the transaction. But we are sure that if they will fully investigate the whole proposition, they will find that it is intended for their good as well as that of their neighbors. And in the end they will learn that the commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," is founded on eternal wisdom and designed for the benefit of those who thus love as well as of those who are thus loved. "The greatest good to the greatest number" should be the aim of all rational and humane people.

## THE ALLEGED "INTERFERENCE"

The frantic endeavors of certain papers, including our baffled contemporary, the Salt Lake Tribune, to place President Roosevelt in an improper light before the country, are to say the least, very indiscreet on the part of professed Republicans. They prove comments that are unfavorable to his political prospects and are, we believe unjust to him in his official capacity. The personal opinion of Mr. Roosevelt on a mooted question is one thing, a purported "message" from the President of the United States to a State Legislature concerning a senatorial election, is another and very different thing. We do not dispute either the fact or the right of the former, we do deny the truth of the latter, and wonder at the persistency with which some of his pretended supporters labor to fix upon the President, the charge that he has assumed to officially advise the Legislature of Utah as to the election of a United States Senator. The New York Sun has the following pertinent paragraph on this subject:

"How does the President find time for all that he does? While making plans for the more equitable division of property throughout the country he is giving the people of Utah instructions as to the sort of man they should send to the Senate."

"And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew,  
That one small head could carry all he knew."

The Cleveland Plaindealer commences a lengthy and thoughtful editorial on this matter with the annexed paragraph:

"The report from Utah that President Roosevelt has interfered in the senatorial case in that state and warned the majority of the Utah Legislature that they must not send Apostle Smoot, or any other Mormon apostle, to the United States senate, is surprising. If the report is true—and the statement is made with a circumstantiality that challenges denial or doubt—the president has again shown a strenuousness calculated to give some of his supporters cold shivers."

The Plain Dealer says further:

"The president has no voice in the matter. He is not supposed to know what the views of the senate may be concerning a prospective member. He has no authority to counsel such a person against presenting himself at the senate door. The propriety of his sending a messenger, or a message, to Utah to warn the legislature not to choose such a person for senator is questionable, to say the least. He is entitled to his private opinion on the subject,

but for him as president to attempt to influence the action of the Utah legislature in a matter of the highest privilege to that body, and in which he is officially in no way concerned, is entirely another matter."

Some would-be critics affect offense at the implication that in giving counsel to the State Legislature the President assumed to interfere with a duty devolving upon that body alone. They object to the term "interfere," and appeal to the dictionary in their support. The Century Dictionary gives this definition of the word: "To take part in the affairs of others; especially to interfere; not in such a way as to check or hamper the action of other people or things." As an example, it quotes this sentence from Swift: "So cautious were our ancestors in conversation, as never to interfere with party disputes in the State." Webster gives a similar definition and quotation.

Every attempt to substantiate the first "special," conveying the purported "message" of the President, giving "counsel" to the Legislature of Utah with a "warning" as to the consequences of its rejection, is a further endeavor to fix upon the President, the stigma already taken advantage of by opposition papers, that he has assumed to "interfere" with the election of a United States Senator, and has thus overstepped the bounds of his authority. The "News" has declined from the first to take this view of the matter, and now leaves the responsibility for putting the President in a false position, upon those persons and papers that persist in their unwise and unfriendly endeavors.

## VISITED BY FAMINE.

London dispatches tell of the distress existing in the northern part of Sweden on account of famine. It seems that the people are again brought to the necessity of trying to sustain life on bread made of pine bark, and similar substitutes for flour. It seems to be a repetition of the experiences of the people in those parts about forty years ago, when a great many died of hunger and disease notwithstanding the philanthropic efforts made to save them.

The northern parts of Sweden are frequently visited by severe winters. The spring of 1902 was unusually late in arriving, and when it did come the sun quickly melted the ice and the snow. And then another heavy snowstorm came. The ground was soft. The snow melted quickly, and torrents of water rushed down every slope, washing away the soil and with it the grain that had been put in. This settled the crops for the year.

The reports state that much has been done to relieve the sufferers, but that much more in this direction is needed. The people of the southern part of the Kingdom are doing what they can, but it appears that the crops have not been abundant there either. A great relief work is being done by Scandinavians in this country, and particularly by the Swedes, and it is hoped the distress will not be quite as disastrous as it was in 1860.

But northern Sweden is not the only area where there is distress at present. Finland is also said to be suffering from a scarcity of food, and even in the European centers of population, there are thousands who are actually in want. Justin McCarthy describes, in the Independent, the situation in London. He says that in many of the poorer districts, especially in the East end of the metropolis, there is absolute starvation. The workhouses have no space left in which to pack the starving crowds who are craving every day and night at their doors for food and shelter. All the charitable institutions have exhausted their means in trying to raise supplies of food for famishing residents in the garrets and cellars of London lanes and alleys. The quarters of the Salvation Army in various parts of London are nightly besieged by hosts of the unemployed and the hungry, for whom neither shelter nor the means of sustenance can be provided. To add to the trouble, there are large numbers of men who were induced to go out and serve as soldiers in the war, and who now return home clamorous for some means of making a living, and utterly unable to find any manner of remunerative occupation. Hundreds and hundreds of these men are only too glad to accept the task of breaking stones under the workhouse authorities in order to get the means of obtaining food enough to keep them alive.

That is a sad picture, particularly when contrasted with the picture of wealth and luxury that can be seen daily in other parts of the great metropolis. Of course, the charitable institutions and the churches are doing all in their power to meet the emergency. It is a remarkable thing, in which we are living. The testimony of famines and of earthquakes seems to be presented with great force in many places.

## THE BALKAN SITUATION.

While Germany and England are busy in the Venezuela affair, Russia and Austria have taken a hand in the Balkan tangle, with a view of straightening it out. There seems to be a general desire to remove some old causes of trouble.

Russia and Austria, it is said, have agreed on a plan for the amelioration of the conditions of the "Christians" in Macedonia, and if Europe consents to the plan, it will be pressed on the Sultan. It contemplates the granting of autonomy to Macedonia under Turkish suzerainty, and the stamping out of the revolutionary movement that has been extended into Bulgaria. The military force is to be reorganized, and the obsolete system of taxation is to be abolished for a more modern.

The Sultan's attitude will naturally depend on the views of the other powers. If Europe supports the proposition, Turkey will accept them with as good grace as it can. If, on the other hand, the Sultan finds that there is difference of views among the powers, he will probably take the matter coolly, and let his sponsors fight it out between themselves.

The wishes of the Macedonians do not appear to figure prominently in the plans of the powers. The Macedonian

revolutionary committee wants union with Bulgaria, but the creation of a "greater Bulgaria" does not recommend itself to the powers that hope to obtain control, some day, over the territory now occupied by the Turks in Europe.

## AUTOMOBILE RAILROAD.

Some time ago we mentioned the trackless trolley cars now operated successfully in France and Germany. Another modern contrivance is the automobile railway system, which, it is claimed, is likely to revolutionize railroad passenger traffic.

The new system consists in the substitution of automobiles on railroad tracks for the common locomotives and railcars. The automobiles in use for this purpose accommodate passengers with luggage. They include a lavatory and refreshment bar, and are capable of a speed of about 60 miles an hour. A great railroad authority is quoted as having said: "It is an absolute revolution."

The railroad carriage and the automobile were in fact contemporaries in point of first appearance, but the railroad quickly became popular, while the automobile was almost totally discarded, until recently. It would be strange if now the automobile should succeed in crowding out the railroad car on its own track. But that does not appear improbable now. It has much to recommend it to the public. For one thing, it would do away with the horrible smoke that has become a nuisance in our time.

The invention will at first be confined to trains de luxe. The automobile does not cost more than the common carriage, but the present carriage cannot be converted. The apparatus requires but a single attendant, and its chief merit is that it saves time.

Mr. Baer is building the coal market. Money makes the mare go, and coal makes the money go.

According to the English press the Anglo-German alliance is a morass.

The people of Charleston, S. C., refuse to regard a Cram as being the same thing as the bread of life.

The captains of industry will naturally take the field for the trusts when the war on them begins.

When a legislature reaches the deadlock stage it is about time for the legislature to be taught the lockstep.

There is a great chance for a Don't Worry Club in Utah. Those who are worrying over the election of a certain prominent citizen to the senate should join it.

Lieutenant-Governor Tillman of South Carolina must feel very proud of his murderous assault on Editor Gonzales. He has dishonored his office and disgraced his state.

Commodore Scheder has been indulging in a practice bombardment of Puerto Cabello. His marksmanship seems to have been very good, but fortunately no one was hurt. There is nothing like exercising authority when one has it.

It is likely if an attempt is made to maintain two schools of mines in the state, at the state's expense, that neither will be a success but both a failure, and Utah boys desiring to become competent mining engineers will have to go outside the state for their education.

Of course Mrs. Coulter was very delectable in not seeking the advice of certain ladies as to how she should vote on the senatorial question. It makes no difference that not one of them, voted for her for the Legislature, they know much better than she does what she should do.

"In my judgment the tariff on anthracite coal should be removed and anthracite put actually where it now is nominally—on the free list. This would have no effect at all save in crises; but in crises it might be of service to the people," said Mr. Roosevelt in his message to Congress. And it was removed.

The expedition with which Congress passed and the President signed the bill to take the duty off coal was almost a revelation as to what can be done in a legislative way. No lobby had the temerity to attempt to block or delay its passage. The same expedition in the matter of anti-trust legislation would be a good thing.

Trustee McAllister of the Agricultural college says that "President Kerr has issued his ultimatum to the people at the University." He may or he may not, but it is not the season of the year nor the right time of the moon to issue ultimatums to the people at the University or to any one else, and those who are wise will not attempt it.

There are still a lot of people in Utah who do not seem to be able to realize that they live in a state and not in a territory. The days have gone by when hostile legislation by Congress can be invoked because they cannot have their way. Utah is not in her novitiate but is now a sovereign state, standing on the same plane and enjoying the same rights and privileges as the thirteen original states, and all that have come into the Union since they started the republic.

"A St. Louis paper notes that a resident has sailed for Paris, France. This will help those who might fall into the error of believing he had sailed for Paris, Ky., or Paris, Tex., or Paris, Mo.," says the Globe-Democrat. Or to distinguish it from Paris, Ala.; or Paris, Ark.; or Paris, Ga.; or Paris, Ind.; or Paris, Ill.; or Paris, Ind.; or Paris, Miss.; or Paris, New York; or Paris, N. C.; or Paris, O.; or Paris, Okla.; or Paris, Pa.; or Paris, S. C.; or Paris, Tenn.; or Paris, V. V.; or Paris, Wis.; and finally from Paris and Helen.

The Tribune, referring to the sentence in its editorial columns, which the "News" suggested should be given to an expert to parse, says: "That is not

singular." Correct for once. A school-boy guilty of the composition that is "not singular" but frequent in the Tribune, would deserve to be spanked. As to the candidate for the Senate to be sprung by the Tribune, in the event that the scheme to "bluff" the Legislature succeeded, that is another story; and it need not be told just now, for the plot failed and the Trib. once more had its labor for its pains. It has our sympathies.

SAGASTA.  
Boston Transcript.

The death of Francisco Sagasta of Spain comes as a fulfillment of his own prophecy, spoken late last summer: "I am wearied, and judge my political mission is finished. I am ill, and will leave political life very soon." Concerning hardly any other of the statesmen of Europe, who have attracted so large a share of the world's attention, have there been such varied and often conflicting opinions as concerning him. He remained to the end of his days a man of enigma to the student of statescraft; but when we consider the problems that confronted him through his almost fifty years of intermittent public service, the frequently limited resources at his command, the temper of his people and the always more or less unsettled character of the government, he retained the country's confidence even at the last to a degree that argued either the most marvelous astuteness or the highest and most unselfish patriotism.

Springfield Republican.

He does not rank with the great men of European states, nor even with the second-rank men like Crispien and Salisbury. Sagasta's work, like that of his country, was limited, and it may almost be said parochial, notwithstanding the frequent confusion introduced by Spain into European and world politics. He was a man of brilliant intellect and great industry, and his nicknames of "the fox" indicates the opinion held of his astute and wily methods. It is but a short time since he resigned the prime ministership and was succeeded by Silveira, who himself is not young in political service.

New York Evening Post.

In the last five years of his life he showed that peculiar fortitude which only statesmen must have who lead back to political health a prostrate nation.

Hartford Times.

The death of Senor Sagasta cannot, perhaps, be regarded as a great loss to Spain, because his public career undoubtedly ended with his last retirement from the premiership.

New York Tribune.

He did his best for Spain and wore himself out in the attempt. The world will honor his memory, and Spain will honor it most sincerely striving to do for herself the work he would have done for her. A Spain rising from her woes into prosperity and strength and wisdom will be his best memorial.

Brooklyn Eagle.

He will hardly be regarded as a statesman, not that he lacked the capacity to be one, but because the times forced him to be something less.

Philadelphia Record.

He was the author of the plan of an autonomous government for Cuba, which was proclaimed late in 1897, and which might have averted the war but for the catastrophe of the Maine.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Home and Flowers for January has for frontispiece a beautiful picture representing "Winter in the Yosemite." The subjects treated on in the number are: "Preparing School Gardens," "A Tribute to the Evergreens," "Looking at Pictures," "The House of Happy Hours," chapter IV: "Winning Her Way," a story, "The Life Beautiful in the Country," "Among the Flowers with Ellen E. Rexford," "What to Do in January," "Sunshine Every Day in the Year," "The Well-Ordered Household," "The Relation of Clothing to Beauty," "The World Beautiful," "The Myrtle Garden," and "With the New Books."—Springfield, Ohio.

The World Almanac for 1903 is at hand and its wonderful wealth of information. The publication contains over 600 pages, and it touches on over 1,000 subjects more or less exhaustively. It is, in fact, a little encyclopedia, well adapted to the needs of the busy man. It is well printed and carefully edited. It is an ideal book of reference.

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