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SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 18, 1901.

THE SCHOOLS AND TAXATION.

The Board of Education has been authorized by a majority vote of the taxpayers to borrow \$50,000, to pay for maintaining the schools to the end of the present term. We do not care to discuss the question of the cause of the deficit which made the loan a necessity. Let the past go. The future is open to good management and wise economy. In our opinion there will be no necessity for a large extra levy to cover the present deficiency. In fact this was clearly shown to the Board by Mr. Geoghegan, when the proposition was first made to apply to the Legislature for an extension of the tax limit. The increased income from the city's proportion of the county school tax, will more than cover the sum that has to be borrowed.

As we have already explained, the bill introduced in the Legislature, provided for an increase of the regular taxing power of the Board of Education, to the limit of seven mills, annually. This was opposed by the Deseret News as needless and oppressive. Moreover, it was shown that the measure could not possibly be made available for the present emergency, and that the only legitimate way to obtain the money for immediate use, was to submit the question of borrowing it to a vote of the taxpayers. This was fought at first by a majority of the Board, but was finally recognized as the only legal remedy, after an opinion to that effect was rendered by a reliable law firm.

The Legislature rejected the proposition for a permanent tax limit of seven mills, but passed a bill making the desired increase for one year only. This was signed by the Governor, after an assurance from the Board of Education, that no extra tax would be levied under it beyond what might be absolutely necessary. The understanding has been, up to the time of the election, that not more than a half mill extra would be assessed. Under that idea, the vote was largely in the affirmative on the question of the loan.

The taxpayers of this city will fully expect the Board to stand by its own assurance. The burden of taxation is heavy upon the smaller property owners of this city. Any large increase of the lead will be strongly resented. The intimation that there will be a considerable increase of taxation this year, as a consequence of the vote on Tuesday, has aroused much feeling and it is for this reason we touch again on the subject. The Board will have to be careful about expenses, and must not go beyond the understood limit of the coming year's assessment.

Our public bodies with taxing powers will have to study how to cut a garment according to the cloth in sight. The sentiment against large salaries and heavy debts, is deep-seated and becoming more and more pronounced. The cause of education is dear to the people of this city and State, but there is a limit to the power to pay money for the support of the most necessary requirements, and that which is needless will have to be dispensed with.

The Board has received the cordial support of the press and the people in the present emergency, and now let prudence and care be exercised in the expenditure of school funds, and regard be had for the financial condition of the taxpayers, and that body will be encouraged and sustained in every laudable and necessary effort to keep the city schools up to their present high standard, with such improvements as are consistent with the circumstances surrounding the people who have to provide the means for the work.

GRAMMING SCHOOL CHILDREN.

We are pleased to see that friends of education in many places are taking up the subject sometimes touched upon in the Deseret News, of "gramming" in the public schools. It is stated that too little is done during school hours in the way of instruction, and too much out of school hours in night studies. The pupils are given more than they can properly acquire, to pore over when they ought to be in bed, taking the necessary sleep for recuperation, and to prepare them for the school exercises that should be had during the day.

We commend this to the principals and teachers in our public and private schools. Do not attempt to expect too much. There are often too many studies given to the pupils. There is too little discrimination as to their capabilities. It does not follow, because a score, or more or less, of children are in the same class, that they are equal in ability to learn. Some are able to grasp a subject quickly, and to engage in a number of studies, while others are much slower in perception and cannot take as many lessons as others. Difference in intellectual powers ought to be considered, and no child should be imposed upon or required to do anything beyond its mental or physical strength.

We are of the opinion that the system of tuition needs reforming, so that there shall be more teaching and ex-

planation in the class rooms, and more study in the school, with less burdens upon the pupils after school hours. Education is essential to the health of our youth, and sleep is absolutely necessary so that none shall become exhausted. Festina Lente is a good motto in educational life. The rush for promotion and graduation is often too rapid, and makes learning all too superficial and a mere matter of memory.

Another thing worthy of consideration is the lack of proper training in etymology. We do not say that there should be a return to the old method of spelling lessons, but we do affirm that there is something wrong in the present system. Some of our talented teachers have very "bad spells" themselves, when they write even small words in every day use. And some pupils advanced to the higher grades exhibit an ignorance of etymology that is surprising.

We have heard of an educator who, when spoken to on this subject, exclaimed: "Oh! spelling. That is a small matter, not worth talking about." He is very much mistaken. There are few more striking marks of a poor or neglected education than the inability to spell in the English language. Let us have more careful study in these small things, and more time and care in the larger things, and give our children time for rest and recreation, and their learning will be more thorough and their advancement be more permanent.

JUNKETING.

A friend who is about to take a trip to Europe, and expects while he is gone to hunt up his relatives and obtain information regarding his ancestors, takes exception to a statement in the "News" that he is going on a "junketing tour." He regards this as a reflection on his moral character. He prides himself on the correct deportment which he endeavors to maintain and therefore objects to the idea of his "junketing," which he supposes means something very corrupt.

We have hunted up the objectionable paragraph, and find it in a letter sent to the "News" in which the writer evidently meant to be complimentary, rather than otherwise. He says, however, that the gentleman referred to "is contemplating a three months' junketing tour to England, where he will visit relatives and perfect a genealogical record." If there had been anything in this that was a reflection upon his morality it would not have been published.

Perhaps the term "junketing" was not altogether appropriate to the circumstances. Our friend may view it as a solemn journey to visit his relatives. But we assure him that his interpretation of the word is rather wide of the mark. "Junketing" means feasting, taking a tour as a holiday, having a merry time, and perhaps indulging in jollification. But it does not imply anything wicked or improper. Our Legislature, in its perambulations during the last session, was published as taking junketing tours when visiting the public institutions of the State. This was not intended as casting any reflection upon that body. But the members had a pleasant outing, with some feasting and jollity, and that was all except the oratory and the inspection of the establishments they went to see. Nobody that we have heard of objected to the term junketing used in their case.

We touch on this matter so that our correspondents will be careful, in mentioning the affairs of their neighbors, to use the proper language so as not to offend the most fastidious. There may be no junketing in the trip intended to be taken by our friend, but we hope, nevertheless, that he will find many of his relatives in "the old country," when he will doubtless be feasted and welcomed enough to make him feel that this was a real junketing tour, after all.

GOLDEN RULE BROTHERHOOD.

A notable gathering was held the other day in Calvary Baptist church, New York, under the auspices of the Baron Hirsch memorial association. The so-called Golden Rule was the principal theme of discussion. The speakers were "Christians," Jews and Confucians, and if nothing else was gained by the meeting, this was clearly demonstrated, that that rule forms a common basis upon which the otherwise widely divergent religious faiths actually stand side by side.

Among the speakers on this occasion was Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese representative in this country. He spoke of racial prejudice and religious intolerance as "two monsters of barbarism," and contended that the persecutions to which Protestants and Moslems had been subjected in Europe in former ages, resulted in great injury to the countries where they took place. He then spoke of the great Chinese sage and reformer.

"Among the wise men of ancient times," he said, "and the sages of mankind at heart was Confucius. I am not going to preach Confucianism here. The brotherhood of man was one of his teachings. Confucius found this noble doctrine the common nature of mankind. The Hottentot, as well as the Asiatic and the European, knows what is right and what is wrong. Civilization gives the Asiatic and European an advantage over the Hottentot, but the Hottentot is a man and should be treated as a man.

"No person can estimate the importance of this movement to eradicate race and religious prejudice. It will weld nations, governments, and people better to their politics or family alliances. It will promote commercial intercourse. It will reduce the possibility of war and enhance the permanency of peace. The civilization gives the Asiatic and European an advantage over the Hottentot, but the Hottentot is a man and should be treated as a man.

Another speaker, an Episcopalian, referred to the contempt shown in the world of business for the Golden Rule, although we profess to believe in it. He is quoted thus: "The Christian world of business is surely not a shining example of the Golden Rule. Too many business firms would seem to be branches of the great house of Greed & Grab. Advertisements are written by experts in the art of lying politely. They fool simple folk into buying what they do not want at prices which they do not mean to give. Stock is watered so that companies can go on paying dividends which the pub-

lic would not justify them in paying on the actual capital invested; while they keep down the wages of their workmen under the pretense of the necessity of paying just interest on capital.

"What an irony of history! Eighteen centuries of Christendom and we sing out for fame a man who, when his workmen tell him there are no rules in the factory, has the Golden Rule printed and posted there, and makes him believe that he really tries to carry work on according to that rule. We label him Golden Rule Jones, One Golden Rule Jones, myriads of Brass Rule Smiths, Brownes, and Robinsons.

These are solemn words of rebuke. And they are true. They cut to the root of one of the present-day evils, as did once the immortal sayings of Prophets. It seems the intention is to form a permanent organization under the name of the Universal Golden Rule Brotherhood, and to hold special synagogues throughout the country in synagogues and churches, three days each year. We hope this plan can be carried out, not only in this country but throughout the world. It is surely needed that religion be taken in earnest, as an everyday concern. Too long it has been lost in theological speculation and the intricacies of criticism. It is expected that universal brotherhood will finally be a reality instead of a beautiful dream, but the realization cannot come, unless some work for it of a practical nature is commenced. And those who earnestly enter upon that line of work, should be among the first to realize that it will never be accomplished except by that divine aid which has been offered the world in the Gospel of the Son of God.

It is natural that such a movement should start in this country. Here the principle of universal brotherhood has been announced and found an expression in the Constitution and the laws of the States. Lately, however, that glorious principle has been violated most flagrantly. States have prostituted themselves by disfranchising citizens on account of the color of the skin, and mob have trampled it under foot, with the ferocity of infuriated wild beasts. Yet, the truth itself still lives in the hearts of the people. The seed sown in this soil needs but little of the sunshines of education and charity, to sprout and to grow. It is well watered with the tears and the blood of noble martyrs for human freedom and equality before the law. An organized movement for universal brotherhood should, if conducted in the proper spirit, develop into one of the great labors of this century. It is needed. In the meantime, it is significant that Christendom is to be reminded of its solemn duties by disciples of Moses and Confucius.

LITTLE MABEL FREEMAN.

The terrible accident by which the bright little girl, Mabel Freeman, was suddenly summoned from her brief existence on this earth, into another sphere, has cast a gloom over the entire neighborhood, where she was known among her playmates as a sweet companion and unusually intelligent for her age. It is a most heavy blow to her parents and family, and they have the sincere sympathy of all who know them.

The accident is one more reminder to parents of the danger their little ones incur by playing near bonfires. It is not uncommon in the suburbs to see children flock around burning piles of leaves and straw, unconscious of the fact that a sudden gust of wind may drive the flame towards them and in a second envelop them. Very often boys flock together and make such fires, merely for the fun of it. Common sense should suggest that small children should never be allowed to play with fire, and when, in the spring or fall, it is necessary to clean the yards in this way, the burning piles should be watched by some grown up, responsible person. Too often, there is carelessness in this respect. We do not know but that the making of bonfires should be under some sort of municipal regulation. The matter is certainly of as much importance as bicycle riding of way, and splitting in public.

We hope the bereaved parents may find comfort in the thought that their little one is not lost to them, though they are temporarily separated. The child has been removed from their loving care, but not from the tender watchfulness of the all merciful Father. Her sufferings were brief, though for a moment will go on toward sweet spirit lives and the joy of the reunion will not be marred by any remembrance of the sufferings that had to be experienced on the voyage to the brighter shore.

COMPULSORY VOTING.

Back East they are talking about the advisability of enacting compulsory voting laws. A bill of that nature has been introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature, and it is claimed for it that it has a fair chance of passing. It is thought that a compulsory voting law would drive to the polls a great many who by their non-appearance change the result of elections and thus give a false impression as to the relative strength of the parties.

Undoubtedly this must be a serious matter to party leaders, but is not the proposed remedy too drastic? And how could it be made effective, unless it should also be made a crime to belong to a political party and not vote the party tickets? As long as citizens are at liberty to vote as they please, compulsory voting cannot effect the condition complained of. It is supposed that in the recent municipal election in St. Louis about 17,000 Democrats stayed at home or voted for an opposition candidate, and that 26,000 Republicans did the same. They are supposed to have been dissatisfied with the candidates of their own parties. How could compulsory voting have removed that dissatisfaction? The probability is that the result, with compulsion, would not have been materially different from what it was. Those who were dissatisfied enough to refrain from voting would have been dissatisfied enough to "throw their votes away," and thus defeat the very purpose of a compulsory voting law.

A great many citizens remain away

from the polls, because they do not believe in the methods of some who engineer the political machinery, and because they see no way of making popular elections what they, in their views, were intended to be. The remedy is clearly not in driving citizens to the polls, through all kinds of political mud and slush, but in making the paths and roads that lead to the shrines of liberty so clean that even the best citizens can walk upon them with a clear conscience.

AFRICA DIVIDED.

Only a few years ago Africa was almost unknown. Its entire interior was represented on the maps as a blank. The rest of the world was not aware that this space contained rivers and lakes, verdant regions with millions of human beings, that lived in a world to themselves, unconscious of what was going on around them.

Now, it is estimated that only one-sixth of that vast continent still belongs to the Africans. The remainder has all been annexed by European powers, and it is only a short time till the entire country will be in the hands of strangers.

The relative positions of the European powers in Africa is given in the following figures. The continent is estimated to contain about 13,514,500 square miles. Great Britain's sphere of influence covers 7,731,640 square miles. France surpasses her a trifle with 7,903,000 square miles. The Belgian sphere is third, with 365,400 square miles, while the Portuguese have 841,000, the Turkish 836,000, the Germans 822,000, and Spain 203,764. Estimating the area of the lakes and also taking out little Liberia, there is left less than 2,000,000 square miles that have not been included in the sphere of European influence.

Russia, it will be seen, has had no share in the division of this spoil. That country is not anxious for non-contiguous territory. It is but natural, perhaps, that Russia should be anxious for expansion in Asia, as a set off to European annexation in Africa. And the powers that have in recent years divided a continent between them, cannot consistently protest against the annexation by Russia of one Chinese province.

BIRDS AND WILD ANIMALS.

We have received some splendid specimens of the handwork of Ernest Seton-Thompson, published by the Youth's Companion. It is called a Bird Portfolio, and consists of faintly tinted half-tone pictures of several species of birds. The work shows the skill of an artist, and is an indication of what may be expected from the oral descriptions of the bird family, by the celebrated lecturer who is about to pay this city a visit. His lectures next Saturday afternoon and evening will be delivered in the Assembly Hall, and from the interest that has been aroused it may be reasonably expected that the house will be filled to the utmost on both occasions. It is to be regretted that the arrangements contemplated, by which all the children of the schools could be invited, and the lectures be delivered in the Tabernacle, were not agreeable to the Board of Education, and so the first plan—to use the Assembly Hall as advertised—will have to remain. The remarkable knowledge of the habits and peculiarities of wild animals acquired by Mr. Seton-Thompson, renders his lectures of great value as well as entertainment, and we have the personal assurance of Major Pond, the manager of his tour, that they are worthy the attention and study of the most critical as well as of students and the young people everywhere.

What a recruit Anti Ritualist Kenseit would be for Mrs. Nation's band!

There is one thing that Skoog did not counterfeit, and that is death.

Japan will face Russia alone. This goes to show that Japan is not two faced.

The talk used to be of Cuban independence. Now it is of Cuban impudence.

The empress's palace at Peking has been burned. Another evidence of hot times in China.

The backward spring has had a great influence in checking the annual crop of spring poetry. For which much thanks.

Insurgents have attacked the town of Bay, near Manila, and were soon repulsed. This would indicate that the Filipinos are still at bay.

Miss Helen Hay is making a reputation as a poetess; her father is making a reputation as a statesman. Both are making Hay while the sun shines.

"Broaden the field of consumption," says the San Francisco Chronicle. This, no doubt, that California may become the health resort of all mankind.

It is announced that Gen. Corbin will soon take a bride. That is the most important capture he has made in either the Spanish or Filipino war.

Senator Tillman says that Booker Washington's work is only a scratch on the negro problem. It may be that the senator is right, but it cannot be denied that it is a scratch in the right direction.

The commissary frauds in the Philippines are not to be charged to imperialism or to anti-imperialism. They are simply rascality and the rascals should be punished to the full extent of the law.

Judge Gaffey of the Sixth South Dakota circuit court, is the idol of the women, for in all divorce cases where there is any doubt he always decides in favor of the women. Thus he sets at naught the old adage, "When in doubt, don't."

Much indignation is expressed in Germany over Mr. Rockhill's figures giving the amount of indemnity that each nation will demand. There is no reason in this, for Mr. Rockhill is not the international auditor. But very naturally,

Germany prefers that the size of her indemnity be "made in Germany."

The politicians are busy explaining the true intent and meaning of the Platt amendment. Some are plausible and some are very far-fetched. But plausible or far-fetched, the final interpretation and construction of the amendment, if accepted by the Cubans, will rest with the courts and not with the politicians. It would be well to bear this in mind.

Chicago has become the place for making all kinds of experiments in educational methods. The latest one is in the teaching of language. The other morning forty sets of language lessons were sent out to the public schools. These lessons are in the form of big posters, on which are printed in heavy type the word to be learned by first and second grade pupils. The method, as explained, is a combination of visualization, oralization and action, especially action. The pupil is shown words such as hop, skip or jump. A teacher then proceeds to put the word in action. The pupil imitates her, and after the whole class spends sufficient time in hopping, skipping or jumping it becomes language perfect so far as the word in question is concerned. In addition to these intellectual exercises the children are taught to mow like a cat, bark like a dog and imitate other sounds that heretofore have been considered to come instinctively. All these words express concrete ideas. How will it be when it comes to abstract notions? Fancy a pretty Chicago lady teacher inculcating the idea expressed in "Love your neighbor as yourself," into the head of a full grown but backward youth. The Chicago method of teaching languages is not entirely free of difficulties.

KILLING OF PIGEONS.
New York Sun.

The interstate slaughter, maiming and torturing of 20,000 tame pigeons for the purpose of advertising various kinds of powder, shot, and guns went on all day in spite of the drizzling rain. Several women were among the spectators and seemed to enjoy seeing the butchery very much, although to the true sportsman, as well as to the laymen, it was not very exhilarating to see the men hired by the powder companies stand a few feet away and for hour after hour blow semi-pet birds to flinders, or so mangle the harmless creatures that they resembled nothing but them but to feebly wing their way off, to linger dying somewhere out in the rain. Some fifteen maimed and mangled birds were found dead in the vicinity of the clubhouse and there must have been a hundred or more adrift and dying all about the neighborhood with broken shot in their bodies, even their bodies horribly torn and lacerated.

Boston Transcript.

It is impossible that a brutal indulgence in such alleged sport should be other than grossly demoralizing, no matter how well dressed and outwardly refined they may be who are responsible for it. We have put the ban of vulgarity and lawlessness upon cock-fighting; but pigeon-shooting is a thousand times more demoralizing because they have the protection of law and the sanction of those who set themselves up as the arbiters of social propriety, and lawgivers with respect to fashion and to form. To our thinking the slaughter of twenty thousand pigeons is both the height of vulgarity and the height of garishness.

AS TO CUBA.

Chicago Record-Herald.

It is easy to understand President McKinley's aversion to the proposed visit of a Cuban constitutional commission to Washington. The Cuban convention, by a vote of 24 to 2, has voted to reject the Platt amendment to the army bill, and any commission that body might send to Washington would seek a modification of the terms of the Platt amendment. Now, those terms are mandatory in form and substance. They fairly bristle with "shall" and "must" words, and phrases which are used by a paramount power in dealing with a willing or unwilling subordinate. The amendment dictates the terms upon which the United States will recognize the government of Cuba to its people.

San Francisco Chronicle.

There could hardly be worse governors of distant colonies than the Spaniards who cannot govern their own peninsula, but it is also true that there could not be a much worse people to govern than the Cubans. The two together finally produced an intolerable situation and we were compelled to interfere, nominally in the interest of "humanity," really in our own interest. We were entitled to have the security of a stable and responsible government in an island in which so many of our own citizens, in pursuance of treaties, had lawfully entrusted their lives and their property to the protection of the local laws. The rights exist now which existed in 1898, and the same necessity for the assertion of those rights.

Baltimore News.

While we unquestionably possess the means and the power to crush out all opposition by force, the true policy of the United States is to employ conciliatory methods, and to convince the Cubans of our good faith. This end would be defeated by the application of pressure to compel the adoption of an agreement whereby the people of the island would virtually acknowledge us as masters.

New York Sun.

The Platt amendment against which the Cubans now stand in opposition, was not intended to affront or to irritate. Its purpose was wholly benevolent and just to all concerned. Apart from its effects upon the Cuban sentiment, it is politically sound.

The Christian Work.

It must be evident to the most ordinary observer, we should think, that our dealings with Cuba have been accompanied with a fearful amount of blundering. Certainly, if the declaration made by our government one day before the precipitation of war was unwise and precipitate, that was a sad blunder, of the kind that imperils peace and often provokes war. If, on the contrary, the declaration was a wise and proper one, it becomes a double crime not to keep the word of promise to the hope.

LOVELY LADIES' SUITS

Have just arrived at Z. C. M. I., and are obtainable this week at our Cloak Department. Our stock of seasonable suits is the choicest in the state in style and quality, and is offered at reasonable prices. Ladies who insist on having tasteful goods will not fail to view our extensive assortment and become our patrons.

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As usual Z. C. M. I. leads in this line of merchandise. We have the best, the neatest, the cheapest. Our large stock is now offered to the public, all new, stylish and good. We will not waste your time reading unnecessary words of praise—our superior goods speak for themselves.

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T. C. WEBBER, Superintendent.

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CHILDREN'S DAY.
The Great Friend of Wild Animals.

ERNEST SETON-THOMPSON.

Two of his Great Illustrated Lectures.

"PERSONALITY OF WILD ANIMALS."
Saturday Afternoon, April 20th,
at 2:30 o'clock.

"WILD ANIMALS I HAVE KNOWN."
Saturday Evening, April 20th,
at 8:15 o'clock.

Since October last over 50,000 children and 7,000 grownups have attended these lectures, seen Mr. Seton-Thompson's beautiful animal pictures, and heard the wonderful stories of his experience with them.

All the children of Salt Lake are invited to come and bring their parents, teachers and friends. They will see their animal favorites, The Springfield Fox, Mottie Cottontail, Lobo and his Mate, Little Johnny, The Great Bears and many other Animals and Birds in his books.

ADMISSION—Children 12 years, 25c. Others, 50c. Two hundred choice four-legged seats at 75c. For sale at Daynes Music Store and Ferguson Casket Mfg. Co.
Direction, MAJOR J. B. FOND.

TIME FOR A NEW SUIT

Does not the month of April awake in you a desire to order a cheerful looking suit and to lay aside that somber one of black? You certainly know what the difference in one's feelings, bright cheerful appearance make after having seen nothing but gloomy objects all around for some time.

At \$20.00 and \$21.00

We have a line of cloths we make to order which surpass any similar line of goods in the West. Our new cutter is an artist and a thoroughly up-to-date, fashionable man, one with whom you will find it a pleasure to deal.

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"FATINITZA"

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Go and hear the magnificent chorus, the splendid orchestra, the great ensemble, and all the popular songs introduced in the opera.

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