

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 15, 1907.

## THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The message of Governor Cutler to the Legislature is a comprehensive document. Every citizen who is public-spirited enough to endeavor to keep posted on the affairs of the State, should read it carefully. It contains much valuable information. Throughout it is clear and to the point, if not always concise.

One of the strong features of the message is the suggestion that the utmost care be exercised in the appropriation of public funds. This we regard as wise and timely. Governor Cutler shows that the prospective expenditures greatly exceed the estimated revenue. Every claim must, therefore, be carefully considered. No legitimate request should be turned down. The educational and other important interests must be taken care of, but demands dictated by personal or sectional interests should receive no more consideration than they deserve. The general prosperity that Utah, in common with all the sister states, enjoys, may be a temptation to extravagance. But it should always be remembered that public expenses are in the last instance borne by the laboring classes and those least able to stand and addition to the cost of government. The capitalist who has his money out on interest, or invested in business enterprises, or real estate, is in a position to get back the money he pays out in the form of taxes. He can add this expense to the cost of the goods he sells, or to the house rent his tenants pay, or to the interest he charges. But the laboring man, the consumer, pays his taxes, direct or indirect, out of his daily wages, which generally do not admit of extravagance in any direction. If legislators will keep the needs of the so-called common people before them, they will not miss the mark either as to appropriations or any other legislative measure. And the "common" people are, after all, the mainstay of any commonwealth. They have the first claim to consideration.

Legislators all over the country would do well to remember that one of the evils of the time is the great flood of legislation that is poured upon the statute books, without being necessary to the well-being of the state. Inexperienced legislators naturally have an ambition to stand sponsors for some legislative offering, and therefore take up almost any measure, no matter how trivial. Others have the erroneous view that any kind of evil can be cured by a legislative enactment. We hope the present Utah Legislature will carefully avoid the unnecessary multiplication of laws. Let it be noted for earnest application to the real needs of the state and for conservative action.

Alexander Dumas, in his "Excursions sur les Bords du Rhin" tells the story of a German prince who opened his parliament with the following speech:

"Gentlemen! We are about 350,000 souls in the Duchy of Nassau. From the time of the Romans till now, about 350,000 laws have been made by my predecessors and their predecessors. That is one law for each person, and that seems to me to be very reasonable. I therefore counsel that we keep to the ancient laws without making any new."

As for my civil list for this year, there still remains about half of the sum appropriated by you last year, and it is therefore unnecessary for you to trouble about the coming year."

We are not so fortunately situated. There are matters that call for legislative attention, and among these is the "civil list." But it is well to remember that the enforcement of existing laws is as necessary as the enactment of new statutes. There are few evils for which there is not legal redress. The class of public men upon whom the public learns to place most reliance is composed not of those who are always clamoring for more laws, but of those who, when placed in positions of official responsibility, faithfully administer the laws, without fear or favor, and in the interest of the whole people.

## THE SHORTAGE OF COAL.

The shortage of coal in this city has reached the famine stage, and the situation is now very grave. There have been many times during the last few years when the supply ran low, and when the yards of the dealers were almost empty. But not until now have they been cleared of every pound of fuel. The family that puts in an order today cannot hope to have it filled for thirty days to come, perhaps more. That is the statement of the chief dealers of the town and can only mean one thing—suffering, sickness, and perhaps, in some cases, death.

Altogether that is a most alarming state of affairs. It is a time when abuse and name calling will do no good. There should be calm, quick and effective action. Just where the solution lies and how it can be reached is for the leading men of the community to say. There should be a conference with the railroad officials at once. Surely conditions can be mitigated if they cannot be entirely overcome. Set as our city is in the midst of coal fields not far remote in any direction but the west, it is not impossible to get relief in a comparatively short time. Already the sheds and fences of not a few home owners have been cut down and consumed to render their houses habitable. But there are many weeks of winter yet ahead and the weather man says a big drop in temperature is due. If it comes, the situation will be even more desperate.

The mayor of Boston has been made a martyr. He will be fed on the fat of the

land, which in Boston means baked beans.

Governor Hughes is a man of few words, and his favorite one seems to be "mum."

There is said to be a gum famine. May it spread over the land and never cease.

In the controversy over the Brownsville riots it is evident that the pen will prove mightier than the sword.

The cold, freezing weather warms the cockles of the boys' hearts. They want some skating. And may they have it!

The steel trust is going to build another city. It will not be necessary to set it up on a hill; it will be conspicuous wherever it is.

The tomb of Queen Thli, wife of Amen Hoop III, has been discovered at Luxor. Drop a few tears on it and spread flowers around.

The Crown Prince of Portugal while out riding horseback has had a fall. Many a prince is riding for a fall without knowing it.

Professor Lowell says there are canals on Mars that are thirty-five miles wide. The professor is talking through his telescope hat.

The President's defense of his action in discharging from the army three companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry shows that the men involved were quite as black as they were painted.

It will take much more than an increase in the head tax on immigrants to keep out the undesirable. It not infrequently happens that they are most desirable upon whom the head tax already bears heaviest.

Doubtless the blacks of the Congo Free State deserve sympathy (it's about all they get), but are not the blacks of our own country who are often deprived of their political rights and who in some parts of the country are regarded as legitimate objects of lynching when any charge is made against them, also deserving of sympathy? Sympathy as well as charity should begin at home.

## "NEWS" NOT COMMITTED.

We understand the article in the "News" on Monday on the Railroad commission question has been construed as indicating antagonism on the part of this paper to the railroad interests.

We deny that imputation. The "News" has endeavored to give the public a perfectly impartial statement of both sides of the discussion, without committing itself to either side. We have in a former issue pointed out some of the grave objections to the appointment of a railroad commission, and now what the advocates of the commission reply to those objections. In a spirit of friendliness to the railroads we have advised the legislators to take time for the consideration of this important question, and not to do anything hastily, or ill-advised.

## MORE WATER RIGHTS.

The acquisition by the city last night of the Knudson-Bagley water rights in the Big Cottonwood Creek is paraded in several headlines in the Morning Defender as an "American Party Triumph," wrested from months of skimming and hard work. The benefits that will come from the city's ownership of these waters is displayed with great glee. To those who are informed upon the subject of the long negotiations this sudden outburst of satisfaction will cause them to wonder what has wrought the change of heart. When a previous administration laid the plans to acquire these rights it howled itself hoarse and designated it as a graft just as it did the building of the conduit. Now when the purchase is finally completed at a sum in excess of what was originally intended to be paid, the same inconsistent sheet welcomes it as the accomplishment of a great and good thing for the municipality. How different are its deeds of yesterday when compared with those of today—and yet, paradoxically, always the same, in that they vary only when circumstances would seem to make it necessary to shift from its shaky base to secure another and surer footing!

## MR. STEAD'S SUGGESTIONS.

Mr. William Stead has recently addressed a circular to the press of the world on the subject of universal peace. He has also endeavored to enlist the sympathy of the Head of the Roman church on that topic. Mr. Stead has some definite ideas and suggestions. He believes the governments ought to appropriate money for the purpose of advertising among the nations of the earth what the blessings of peace and arbitration are, thereby creating a popular sentiment in favor of that cause. He also suggests that one of the sessions of the Hague convention be made compulsory. He says:

"The conference should make obligatory article VIII of the Hague convention. This article advises that before drawing their swords disputants should place their case in the hands of neutral friends who shall act as seconds or peacemakers, who, for a period not exceeding thirty days, shall confer together with the object of averting war. If this were made obligatory any power which appealed to arms before invoking the intervention of such peacemakers, or consenting to refer the dispute to a commission d'enquêt, ought to be declared an enemy of the human race and subjected to a financial and commercial boycott by all the other powers. If this principle had been accepted in 1893, the world might have been spared the war in South Africa and the war between Russia and Japan."

There is at present no way of making arbitration among nations obligatory except by appointing two or more powers the administrators of national justice, but we fancy this idea does not recommend itself to any but the nations that might have aspirations to become members of such a national police force. The other would not willingly submit to an arrangement that would almost certainly become a menace to their independence. There would have been no Hague convention, had the delegates interested in its success, insisted upon compulsory arbitration, and there has been no radical change in the sentiment as to that.

We believe the next few years will witness a great movement in favor of compulsory arbitration, but it will come about rather through an agitation among the people, than by government acts.

In the State Senate joy is duty and Love is law.

Card playing is no longer on the cards at Des Moines.

Boston is taking the lead in making the day of rest a day of arrest.

Governor Cutler's message was long but it was filled with good things.

The voice in the wilderness these days is crying out, "Coal famine."

All legislatures start well. Not until they finally adjourn can they be judged.

Canned foods are beginning to discard their pseudonyms and to use their right names.

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Determined to frighten him into wakefulness the medium stepped from the platform, walked quickly to the nodding man, touched him lightly on the shoulder and said, in sepulchral tones:

"I shall order up the spirit now!"

"Tha'sh all ri!" came the unexpected answer. "Make mine a highball! I'll pay the darn bill!"—Florida Times-Union.

His Interest.

"Are you related to the bride or groom elect?" Inquired the busy usher.

"No."

"Then what interest have you in the ceremony?"

"I'm the defeated candidate?"—Washington Herald.

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"The graspingest man I ever knew," said Uncle Jerry Peeples, "was an old chap named Snooping. Somebody told him once that when he breathed he took in oxygen and gave out carbon. He spent a whole day tryin' to find out which of them two gases cost the most if you have to buy 'em. He wanted to know whether he was makin' or losin' money when he breathed."—Chicago Tribune.

Unwritten Laws.

The great trouble with the "unwritten laws" is that most of them are neither written nor right. They are merely excuses for unlawful acts.

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Watchman (discovering a burglar in the act of opening a bank safe)—Hold on! What are you doing there?

Burglar—Don't make such a row, old man. I want to see if my deposit is all right. Nobody can trust his banker nowadays.—Stray Stories.

Now They Don't Speak.

Clara—Don't be surprised if Willie Saiphel proposes to you tonight.

Maudie—Gracious! Do you think he will?

Clara—Yes, I do. When I refused him last night he said he didn't care what became of him.—Stray Stories.

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TONIGHT AND WEDNESDAY.

Wednesday Matinee at 3 O'clock.

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A Masterpiece of Melodious Romance.

RED FEATHER!

Management of Joseph M. Gates.

Music by Reginald De Koven.

A \$25,000 Operatic Spectacle. CHERRIE SIMPSON, GREAT CHORUS.

Augmented Orchestra.

Prices—25c to \$1.50; Matinee—25c to \$1.

Sale now on.

Next Attraction—Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "Under Southern Skies."

Popular Prices—25c to \$1.00; Matinee—25c and 50c. Children, 25c anywhere.

Sale To Day.

## Opheum

MODERN VAUDEVILLE.

ALL THIS WEEK!

Jolly Fanny Rice J. C. Nugent Co.

Claude &amp; Fanny Usher

Mlle. Ozila Charles Serra

Joe Whitehead and the Misses Grierson

Kinodrome.

Every evening (except Sunday) 7:30, 8:00, 8:30. Box seats \$1.00. Matinee: Daily Except Sunday and Monday 5:00.

Grand Theatre

A. M. COX, Manager.

TONIGHT!

Solemn Matinee Wednesday.

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THE SILVER KING

Thursday Evening, the Sensational

Melodrama.

Honor Among Thieves!

Lyrice Theatre

Salt Lake's Only Family Theatre.

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The Big Scenic Production of

FAUST!

The Largest and Best Show Ever Given

in this city.

Night—10:30-3c; Matinee—10-2c.

Matinee Wednesday and Saturday.

## M. I. A. Lecture Bureau.

JACOB A. RIIS,

REFORMER AND AUTHOR,

BARRATT HALL,

Wednesday, Jan. 16, '07

8:15 p. m.

General Admission 50c.

Tickets for sale at Deseret

News Book Store.

## AUDITORIUM

RICHARDS

STREET

If you don't know where it is,

Just Follow the Crowd.

All good people patronize the

Auditorium Roller Skating Rink.

Others need not apply. Roller

Skating is a healthful, harmless

exercise for young and old.

Rink opened every day except

Sundays.

Mornings 10 to 12, afternoon,

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Fields Band, afternoon and

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Grand march at 9:30 every

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