

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, OCT. 16, 1907.

## A LOST OPPORTUNITY.

A news item appeared the other day in the Chicago Record-Herald, stating that Mrs. Anna Davies had been sent to a desecrated hospital as a charity patient, and that the papers had been signed for her transfer to the Soldiers' Widows' Home at Wilmington. Mrs. Davies is now 76 years old, in destitute circumstances. She is a daughter of Thomas Ford, Governor of Illinois at the time of the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph and his brother, the Patriarch. The lady, the dispatch states, is without friends or relatives, except for a daughter of meagre circumstances living in Chicago.

The correspondent of the Record-Herald gives some biographical data relating to the Ford. Gov. Ford was "regarded as one of the great men of his time in Illinois who retained the respect of everybody until his death." Yet, he died in "indigent circumstances." He was a lawyer in name in Peoria when he died. His knowledge of law was said to be unusual, but he was unable to get much law business, and spent most of his time writing his history of the state.

He was, at one time, appointed state prosecutor by Governor Edwards and reappointed two years later by Governor Reynolds. Then he was made circuit judge, and elected to the supreme bench of the state in 1840, from which he resigned to become the Democratic candidate for governor in 1842, when he was elected. A number of important questions, the biographer says, arose during his administration. He drove the Mormons from the state, had the Illinois-Michigan canal completed, established a sound financial basis for the state and made the Illinois troops an important factor in the Mexican war. But, notwithstanding all, he died of a broken heart, his wife having crossed the great divide three weeks before.

Mrs. Davies is the last survivor of the five children of Governor Ford. She met the man who became her husband, while her father was governor. With him she moved to Rushville, Ill., where he edited a paper for many years. The sad story inevitably reminds one of the agitation that culminated in the terrible tragedy of Carthage. Governor Ford had an opportunity of maintaining the law against mobs, which he neglected, or which he failed to perceive. He might have earned for himself a prominent place in American history. But he hesitated between duty and clamor, between the voice of conscience and the demands of mobs, until lawlessness prevailed and the soil of the state was stained with the blood of the martyrs he had pledged his honor to protect.

## AFRAID OF THE PUBLIC.

The tax-payers have been furnished additional evidence that the financial status of the City is hopeless. They will argue that if everything were perfectly regular, the so-called American wing of the Council would not refuse to let the public know what the true condition is before the election. They would exhibit their figures, triumphantly, and make political capital out of them. Their refusal to adopt the resolution introduced by Mr. Fernstrom in the Council on Monday night, ordering the financial report taken out of the hands of the committee and submitted to the Council, will be interpreted as a confession of guilt.

The so-called American Council men, however, display some discretion in their tactics. If that report were made public, it would, no doubt, give some of their precious secrets away. What they are we can only conjecture at this time. But we have little doubt that it would show, first, that the claim that the Morris administration left a deficit for the present Council to take care of, is essentially without foundation in fact; secondly, that the system of bookkeeping of the present manipulators of the people's money is so hopelessly irregular as to baffle even the best efforts of the experts. It would in all probability show that the financial situation is worse than indicated by the recently published figures. And that showing was had enough, in all conscience.

Those figures proved that the contingent fund alone is overdrawn beyond the limits of the resources of the year, and that the public debt is being increased daily in flagrant violation of the Constitution of the State. But the Council refuses to let the public know just what the status is. This being the case, it would not

be surprising if one of these days some tax-payers should apply to the court for an injunction against the issuance of any illegal warrants.

It will be remembered that at the end of last month it was shown that there was an overdraft of about \$210,000 against the contingent fund. The daily apologist for graft hastened to explain that the deficiency was due to the magnitude of the public improvements this year and that it would be covered, anyhow, by the taxes collectible in November. This is a double falsehood. Not a cent of that money was paid out for public improvements. At least, such payments could not be made legally. And the taxes due next month do not cover the deficiency. The attempt at deception in this matter is not the least suspicious circumstance in connection with the financial condition that has bankrupted the City. If there were any acceptable excuses for the disappearance of the money, the organ would not need to take refuge behind transparent falsehoods. Nor would the so-called American Council men be afraid of giving the figures of their exports to the public.

Since the above was written a report has reached us to the effect that two injunction suits are likely to be filed against the City in the near future, to prevent the issuance of illegal warrants and restrain the powers that be from paying for public improvements in the execution of which the contractors have violated the specifications. There seems to be no other alternative. The repeated warnings against the reckless extravagance in the expenditures have been ignored, and ridiculed. The protests against the violation of the contract in the paving of certain streets have also been ignored, though the facts have been quite thoroughly investigated and the results made public. When the majority that dominates the Council, in defiance of public sentiment continues a course that must end in financial ruin and disgrace for the City, it is time for public-spirited citizens to look elsewhere for redress.

## OUR UNUSED WATERWAYS.

It is singular to what extent the faster railroad traffic has displaced the slower but cheaper river steamboat and canal service in the United States. The great rivers the Mississippi, the Missouri, and the Ohio, not to speak of their numerous tributaries, have a combined navigable distance of 5,000 miles. Yet these vast natural waterways are today almost unused. In early days the freight and passenger traffic of these streams was of enormous proportions and very profitable. Last year the tonnage of the Mississippi had shrunk to 6,500 tons. Once 2,000 boats touched at St. Louis and \$50 at St. Paul in one year.

In Europe the Volga, navigable for 2,600 miles, has a traffic of 14,000,000 tons per year; and similarly for the four other European rivers the Dnieper, the Rhine, the Elbe and the Danube. The Mississippi and its tributaries has a greater length navigable than these rivers combined, reaches a territory just as rich and extensive, and almost as many great cities. Yet its commerce has disappeared, while the waterways of Europe teem with a traffic so vast and inexpensive that the crowded millions are maintained and fed.

America's unused waterways ought to be one of her greatest resources. Here again we are confronted with the consequences of a short-sighted national and state policy in first destroying the forests and thereby filling up the rivers, and then the expenditure of vast sums in the attempt to clean them out again.

## WHERE IS THE MONEY, THEN?

The evening echo of the anti-"Mormon" morning sheet is authority for the statement that the revenues from Commercial street, "as nearly as we can ascertain, though trade has been active for nearly two years past . . . have fallen off something like \$60,000 from what they were during the two years of the administration of Mr. Morris."

The anti-"Mormon" sheets, everything considered, ought to be in a position to give pretty accurate information on anything relating to the affairs of Commercial street. If we, therefore, accept the statement as correct, the natural question is, Who has abstracted the missing \$60,000? If the City has not had it, somebody else has. Who?

It is common knowledge that as soon as the administration that calls itself "American" par excellence took charge, the city was flooded by an influx of the element that infests Commercial street. Before that time some effort was made at confining the traffic to certain limits, but with the advent of the new regime, the flood gates seemed to be wide open and "street walking" became a feature of nearly all the principal business thoroughfares. We are reliably informed that there are more hoveys of vice in the City now than ever before. If the revenue from that source has "fallen off" \$60,000, it takes no mathematician to demonstrate that someone has pocketed that money, unless the periodical "snags" have been reduced that much in order to encourage the traffic. But the latter alternative is improbable, although the anti-"Mormon" sheet is known to have advocated the establishment of saloons and brothels as effective anti-"Mormon" agencies of "liberty," so the probability is the money has been collected though not added to the public revenue. The so-called American organs should be in a position to give their readers further light on that point.

It is commonly reported that the company would refuse to accept the conditions upon which the additional privileges were granted. But, for some

reason or other, the ordinance was hurried to the Tribune advertising department, before it was "officially known" whether the company would accept the franchise, or not. The Tribune won the race for the advertising money.

But now for the Tribune logic. That paper defends the graft by showing that the City is actually \$50 ahead on the deal. The company paid into the City treasury \$200 as an application fee. Of this the Tribune wanted only \$144. The city made \$56! The Tribune might have charged \$200, and the City would not have had a cent. Or, the paper might have charged \$300, and the city would have been another \$100 in the hole. But neither happened, and the City made \$56!

We have heard somewhere of the case of a fellow who made \$10 in this way: He encountered a highwayman who relieved him of all the cash he could find in his pockets. But, somehow, a ten-dollar bill escaped the robber, and the victim made that much on the deal. As we have said, Tribune logic is irresistible.

There was absolutely no hurry about advertising the ordinance before the company had had a chance to pass upon it. The law provides that ordinances "shall not go into effect until twenty days after the date of their publication, unless otherwise expressly provided therein." The natural procedure would have been—particularly when the City's finances are in such a miserable state as now—to ascertain whether the company wanted the privileges offered in the ordinance, and then ask for a bid for advertising, and give the job to the lowest acceptable bidder, but safe and sane finance is no part of the present system. The Tribune knew by common report that the company in all probability would reject the conditions and that the publication of the ordinance would not be worth a cent to the City. The problem was how to obtain \$144 for a worthless job, from a depleted treasury, and it was solved.

The telegraphers' strike has entered the "30" stage.

Call a balloon a necessary of life and it will go up every time.

An awful lot of school room teaching is nothing but applied mechanics.

Mr. Harriman seems to find it an amusement just to fish and cat bait.

Mr. Harriman is finding out that it is a sword fish that he has to do with.

The Pennsylvania state capitol has the most famous "haul" of fame in America.

The President is slowly but surely finding out that Louisiana bears bear a charmed life.

Again Ruef's sentence has been postponed. It seems to be a rather involved compound sentence.

Just think of a little boy eight years old pulling a train of ox teams and wagons across the plains!

There is a big slump in the price of all kinds of stocks but there has been none in the price of coal and food.

The "Americans" claim that the present mayor fends the city log cabin and adobe and will leave it marble. My!

Sixteen people killed in a railroad wreck near Shrewsbury, England! The great Anglo-Saxon race is first in all things.

The trusts seem to be much like Artemus. The more often they are knocked to earth the stronger they are when they arise.

When it comes to genuine detective work and finding out what rivals and competitors are doing, the Pinkertons are babes compared with the Standard Oil detectives.

If Professor Hugo Munsterberg's machine for compelling people to tell the truth can make the organ of the "American" party do so, it is a dandy, indeed.

"What is an affinity?" asks an Alabama paper. A passing whim. By the way, Artemus Ward's little piece on Berlin affluence is the best authority on the subject, and is a classic.

Will Japan make the tumbling of a drunken ledger through the window of a Japanese laundry in San Francisco and his attempted rescue by his drunken companions, a cause belli?

Professor Haupt proposes to prove that Solomon was not the wisest man. That is his reputation, and it has been established so long that it is accepted as a fact and will continue to be so accepted.

Prince Wilhelm of Sweden is said to have a very poor opinion of American democracy as he saw it at Newport; in fact he characterizes those he met there as snobs. He mingled with the plutocracy, not the democracy.

## BREAKING DOWN FROM OVER-STRAIN.

Baltimore American.  
In view of the breakdown of one after another of the men who stand at the head and front of industrial affairs and those who are sacrificed in the crash that carries the magnates from the stage of active life, the great American tax receiver feels emphatic. Overstrain is the bane of American life, and the exhaustion of nervous vitality is the penalty. But the homely upon the folly of rushing and striving tails upon dead ears for the man behind the one in the race for the ultimate triumph of materialistic effort takes no account of the carrying off the field of his fellow. The biblical simile of the pitcher broken at the eastern accurately describes present-day conditions. In the mad rush for the waters that are supposed to impart a new elixir to living the evident often fall while making the supreme endeavor. The collapse of H. H. Rogers is a warning against the strain and tension of modern industry.

## CASSIE CHADWICK.

San Francisco Chronicle.  
The death of Cassie Chadwick in the Ohio penitentiary will serve as a text for many an editorial and sermon, and an infinite variety of opinion concerning her method and character will find expression. Perhaps out of the hundreds of chaff may be extracted some kernels of sensible observation, and one of them will be that bankers and other alleged

business men are too prone to abandon sensible precautions in moneyed transactions when a plausible story is told to them and their cupidly is simultaneously appealed to by a designing person. If bankers invariably adhered to the strict rules they make for the transaction of ordinary business there would be precious little show for Cassie Chadwick.

## MOTHER'S DREAM SAVES DAUGHTER.

New York Times.  
Twice, according to Mrs. Minnie Hanley, of 48 East Thirty-first street, did the face of her daughter Minnie awaken her from a dream of death when her child was trying to end her life. The daughter, a girl of 18, was taken to Bellevue hospital as patient and prisoner on the charges of attempted suicide. Mrs. Hanley said that the girl loved a young man named Earl Bennett, of Brooklyn, but they could not wed because Bennett had consumption. Minnie Hanley heartily loved her daughter. The mother tried to cheer her, but without avail. Night before last she killed Minnie good night and went to bed, only to dream that the girl was killing herself. She found Minnie in the bathroom. Minnie told her mother that as soon as she had finished her bath she would go to bed. The mother retired and dreamed a second time that her daughter was trying to end her life. She went again to the bathroom door and found it closed. The gas had been turned on and Minnie was on the floor very near death. Mrs. Hanley declared that she and her daughter were so in touch with each other mentally that the effort of her child to end her life had awakened her. The girl may recover.

## LOSS OF THE FRITHJOF.

Portland Oregonian.  
The loss of the Arctic steamer Frithjof, which carried the Wellman polar expedition to Spitzbergen, is another addition to the already long list of fatalities which have resulted from the attempt to reach the North Pole. While the Frithjof was not directly engaged in polar exploration at the time of the disaster, she was homeward bound in a crippled condition as the result of injuries received in the loss of a pack while in the service of Wellman. It is a very serious loss. The ship that tells of those tragedies of the far north, and whether the men perished like Sir John Franklin or Anderson, having no trace behind them, or whether they were drowned in the icy northern seas as were the crew of the Frithjof, the alleged "interest of science" is responsible for their untimely end.

## JUST FOR FUN.

### Misunderstood.

"I see that Mrs. Emma Barnes is going to sing before the German emperor."

"I didn't know the emperor was a singer."

### A Neat Extension.

"I wish you'd try to cure yourself of looking cross-eyed, my dear."

"Cross-eyed? Why, before we were married you said my eyes were like diamonds."

"Did I? Well, even the finest diamonds are not always set to advantage."

### Humor in the Jungle.

The Monk—Afternoon, Mr. Lion. Are you taking little Leo to dancing school?

The Lion—Yes, Mr. Monk.

The Monk—Do you patronize Prof. Bear or the Misses Fawn?

"Neither, Mr. Monk. I prefer Signor Gnu. He teaches all the Gnu dances, you know."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### An Act of God.

A Philadelphia property man was relating, in a sad and respectful voice, his memories of Richard Mansfield.

"If one worked hard," he said, "one got on with Mr. Mansfield well. He never rebuked me but once, and then it was hardly my fault."

"It was a sultry afternoon in the spring, and we were rehearsing one of the Mansfield plays—I think it was 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'—and here and there I had to supply a clap of thunder."

"Everything went well for a time. Then, in an unexpected place, a loud roar of thunder rumbled forth. Mr. Mansfield hurried to me."

"Look here," he said, with a hurt look, 'do be careful, won't you? A million dollars like that would be very serious before an audience. That clap of thunder came in the wrong place."

"I'm very sorry, Mr. Mansfield," said I; "but it wasn't my thunder. It came from outside."—Washington Star.

### Force of Habit.

Mr. Easy—Cheer up, Mr. Peck. If we must go down, let's go cheerfully like men.

Mr. Peck—But, hang it all, Mr. Easy. If I don't get home my wife will never let me go fishing again, never!—Harper's Weekly.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

There is a mellow autumn glow about the October issue of the National Magazine. Besides the usual gossip concerning Affairs at Washington, which included a visit to Oyster Bay, there is a notable article on the completed Jamestown Exposition.

On September 14 a splendid and touching tribute was paid to the memory of President McKinley. In the Auditorium Building at the Jamestown Exposition, at a reunion of National Magazine readers, where 4,000 people rose with bowed heads and paid a silent tribute to the memory of the martyred president, as his favorite hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," was sung; and his portrait was unveiled by a little boy clad in pink and carrying a bouquet of pink carnations. This reunion was also the first instance of a publication and its readers joining with its advertisers on a festive occasion all gathered for the purpose of furnishing refreshment of mind and body. The event was pronounced a very impressive one—in fact, the most impressive of kind during the whole period covered by the exposition. The entire October issue is representative of this fraternal happy spirit peculiar to the National—Chaplin Pub. Co., Boston, Mass.

The Forum for October-December, 1907, begins its usual review of the world's progress with keen and far-reaching analysis, by Henry Littlefield West, of the many conflicting issues and interests which promise to make "The Next Presidential Campaign" one of the most significant and most exciting in our history. Mr. A. Maurice Low discusses in his customary incisive vein "The Frontiers of Peace and War," drawing illustrations from Japan's recent aggression of Korea, the Moroccan situation, and the growing friendliness between France and Germany. Alexander D. Noyes devotes his article on "Finance" to a discussion of the causes which have brought about "The Fall in the World's Markets," incidentally discussing at some length the Standard Oil case and the administration's attitude toward the trusts. Under the caption of "Applied Science," Henry Harrison Spiller treats historically "The Development of Power as a Manufactured Product," emphasizing the need of the present tendency to develop the renewable sources of power rather than continue to rely upon the natural stores of energy, like coal and oil, which must sooner or later be exhausted. "How Teachers Spend the Summer and the Rewards They Receive," is the theme of Ossian H. Lang's contribution to the Educational Outlook in the current issue; in the

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course of which he offers abundant evidence that the short hours and long vacations of the teaching fraternity are by no means the boon they are regularly supposed to be. The drama is discussed in this number in two suggestive papers, one by Clayton Hamilton, who makes some thoughtful observations regarding "The Psychology of Theater Audiences," the other by James Humecker, who reviews in a non-committal manner the various dramatists of the world who may be claimants to the honor of holding first place "After Ibsen." The department of literature includes reviews by Edward Slark Marsh, Walter Clayton, Edwin Moxer, and Frank Moore Colby, who has some trenchant things to say about the snobishness of the conventional Shakespearean commentator. There are also two special articles, one by Prof. George Philip Krapp on "A Social View of Language," in which he holds that we all have the same common rights and privileges regarding the formation of laws of language that we have in politics and that we should protect our language equally from the literary anarchy on the one side and from the oligarchy on the other. The second special article is from Edwin Moxer, on "Korea—An Example of National Suicide," in which the action of Japan in absorbing Korea is defended with vigor and a certain amount of dry humor—45 East Forty-second street, New York, N. Y.

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