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Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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SALT LAKE CITY, JULY 31, 1901.

WILL ANYTHING MORE BE DONE?

Action has been taken at length by the City Council, on the petition presented some time ago by a number of gentlemen, representing the Deseret Sunday School Union, and asking for the enforcement of the city ordinances against the sale of intoxicants on Sundays, its sale to minors at any time, gambling, etc. The petition was referred to the committee on police and prison. That committee returned it with a recommendation that it be turned over to the Mayor and Chief of Police, the Council adopted that recommendation, and so the matter stands where it did before the petition was introduced.

The evident purpose of the City Council was to get rid of the disagreeable subject in the easiest way possible. Members of that body found themselves between two fires, or between fire and water in active force, whichever way one pleases to view it. On one side are most of the saloonkeepers, Sunday imbibers and the elements which affiliate with them. On the other are the religious societies and a host of people who desire to see order established and the ordinances enforced. Shifting the petition upon the executive branch of the city government, offered the speediest and least offensive way out of the dilemma in which the Council found itself.

The Deseret News has received a great deal of abuse for its suggestions to the Mayor and Police department of the city, as the executive authority having power and clothed with the responsibility to enforce the city ordinances, which are being openly and continuously violated. The City Council will now have to bear its part of the hostility exhibited against the "News," that body formally placed the onus of the whole business upon the Mayor and the Chief of Police. Will the Council be accused of personal or political motives, in thus calling the attention of the Mayor and Chief to the duties of their official positions? We shall see.

The law-abiding people of this city ask for nothing extraordinary or impractical. There are ordinances which have been duly enacted by the City Council, and approved by the Mayor, that have been re-enacted and reapproved by succeeding councils and mayors and that stand on the records today as the voice and will of the people of this municipality. They are not the expressions of the wish of any political party or faction, but they stand as the written law. All that is required by the petitioners and those whom they represent is, that these ordinances be put into action. The executive department of this city is charged with this duty. It is a matter of public comment that the duty is utterly and completely neglected. Is this right? Is it in accordance with public policy? Is it a proper example to be set before the rising generation? Is it a good thing to have it understood that laws in the interest of morality, order, peace and good government may be set at naught and flagrantly, openly and insultingly defied?

There is something in addition to this Sunday saloon business, that needs the attention of the Mayor and Chief of Police. It is the so-called "rooming" evil. We are told that it is a notorious scandal which has increased of late to alarming proportions. No effort appears to be made to check it. Rooms can be had by the night, or by the hour, without any question or difficulty, by the payment of the "rent" demanded. It is said that couples of young people and older persons commonly resort to those places for vile purposes, and lewdness, immorality and crime are thus fostered in this city in a constantly increasing ratio. Officers and other persons who know what is going on at night, declare that there never was a time in the history of this city when there was so much immorality permitted without hindrance as at present.

The Deseret News has had nothing personal against any officer of the city government in calling attention to these evils, or in urging the executive department to do its duty. It is strange that a demand upon public officials to do what they have sworn to perform, and what they are elected by the people to accomplish, should provoke comment as to our intent and purpose. It is not the individual or individuals who are thus appealed to. It does not matter who they are what they may be, their personal views or opinions. It is as the city executives that they are called upon to enforce the city ordinances. If they are determined not to act they should resign their positions. There is no escaping this straightforward and simple proposition.

We think the City Council might have done something more than shifted the petition addressed to that body on to the shoulders of the Mayor and Chief. In our opinion and that of thousands

of citizens, the Council should have made a vigorous request upon the proper officials to execute the city ordinances. It would have been within the line of authority of the committee to whom the petition was referred, to investigate the matters presented therein with a view to finding out whether its complaints were founded on facts. At any rate, the Council had the right to urge the enforcement of the ordinances of the city. We wait to see whether any further action shall be taken in the direction desired, and the people of this city will watch the progress of events with unabated interest.

THE USE OF INJUNCTIONS.

During the great steel strike there have been one or two occasions when there has been talk of applying for an injunction against the strikers. Resort to that extraordinary remedy has not been had thus far and probably will not be. But the threat of such resort has called forth comments on its use from various conservative papers that are rather radical. It is a time when it can be discussed without prejudice or passion for there is no campaign on, and there is no question of "government by injunction."

There is a proper and an improper use of the injunction. It may be made an instrument to prevent wrong and tyranny; it may be made an instrument to work wrong and tyranny. It largely depends upon the judge which it shall be. In the hands of a bad or weak judge the injunction is liable to become a terrible thing, a thing to be feared and avoided.

In Connecticut the other day it was used to restrain some strikers, a hundred and fifty in number, from picketing or patrolling the factory of the plaintiff company or from interfering in any manner with its employees, "by way of threats, persuasions, personal violence, intimidations or other means." It is rather strange to enjoin a man from persuading his fellow man to adopt his view of a matter, even when that matter is a strike.

A man enjoined from persuading a non-striker to strike would be guilty of violating the court's order were he to attempt to show the non-striker why he should strike or why he himself had struck. It would be the same to call a public meeting and urge his arguments before strikers there. The man who is persuaded is neither threatened, menaced nor made afraid. The constitutional guarantee of free speech and a free press is, in its essence, the guarantee of the right to persuade. Where violence is threatened or offered then it is right to restrain by injunction or to protect by the strong arm of the law. Not so where persuasion, the very antipodes of violence, is employed. Judge O. W. Holmes, in the Hanover street, Boston, case, in a dissenting opinion defined his position as follows:

"If it be true that workmen may combine with a view, among other things, to getting as much as they can for their labor, just as capital may combine with a view to getting the greatest possible return, it must be true that when combined they have the same liberty that combined capital has, to support their interests by argument, persuasion and the best lawful or lawful control."

That is a common sense view, but it was not that of the Connecticut judge in the Derby case. That case has brought out rather strong adverse comment from such anything-but-sympathizers-with-strikes-and-strikers papers as the New York Evening Post, the Boston Transcript and Springfield Republican. The Post says:

"An injunction of this order is making that criminal which the people, acting through its legislature, has not made criminal. In setting aside the ordinary safeguard of the citizen in trial by jury, and is causing an innocent act to take on the consequences of a violation of law from which it may have been carefully guarded. Confusion and chaos will ensue, for the higher than this mark. Judge Gager would rob the workman of the direct and ordinary methods of enforcing his views and bring the machinery of law to work in an entirely unusual way in favor of his adversary. . . . If there is any time in which the law should be applied with caution, moderation and fairness, it is in connection with the settlement of questions involving the welfare of society. There is, in these questions, no temper of criminality, but simply a wish to assert and maintain rights. . . . The judiciary already suffers from the suspicion of being among workmen that it does not and will not bring to this class of questions sound and unbiased opinion. They do not believe that there is a spirit of fairness at the bottom of the judicial mind."

The Boston Transcript, ultra conservative and always the upholder of law and order everywhere and under all circumstances, has this to say:

"The most far reaching of these recent injunctions was the one issued last week at Derby, Connecticut. The court enjoined the 151 individuals named as defendants from picketing, patrolling the factory of the plaintiff company and from interfering in any manner with its employees 'by way of threats, persuasions, personal violence, intimidation or other means.' For disobeying this order several persons were promptly committed for contempt. Such a method of judicial procedure is little short of revolutionary. It interferes with the rights of free speech and of trial by jury, two principles which have long been recognized as essential to popular liberty. It denies to organized laborers the use of peaceful and legal means in carrying on a strike and provokes them to crime and outrage. Injunctions of the Derby type do not make for peace and order; on the contrary, they breed distrust of the courts and contempt for the law."

The Springfield Republican comments upon the injunction restraining the Derby strikers after this manner:

"The judges have been mainly acting to protect the rights of employers to conduct their business unmolested and the rights of non-union workmen to sell their labor where they please. In this effort they have reached a point where they are clearly encroaching upon the rights of the other side. To enjoin a striker from talking with a non-union workman in order to induce him to peaceful argument to join the forces of the strikers, is an invasion of the simplest rights of the citizen."

Such cases offer legitimate ground for criticism, and it is not a far cry from legitimate ground to radical ground. When judges go to extremes, where their orders affect large masses of the people, the affected portion of the people and their sympathizers are very liable to go to extremes. One fit usually begets another.

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

Some years ago a New York paper had a sensational article on the danger to the Brooklyn bridge from electrocution. It succeeded in raising a small sensation and it served as a wonder for a day. It soon died out and no one was apprehensive for the electrical experts said there was no danger. But within the week New York has been greatly stirred up over the discovery of the fact that some of the guy wires of the bridge were broken. If some are broken it is a legitimate inference that others are very liable to break, having been subjected to the same conditions that the broken ones were. At first the theory was advanced that the breakage was caused by expansion caused by heat. It was soon abandoned. Mr. Roebling, who designed the bridge, says the breakage was due to over loading the bridge, which has been made to carry a much greater traffic than it was ever intended to. This is a very reasonable explanation and not doubt the true one. Perhaps no one will be surprised to learn that the New York reporters have discovered more breakages than have been officially reported. It is safe to say that the bridge will now be thoroughly inspected and put and kept in proper repair. It would be criminal negligence not to do this.

The Brooklyn bridge is one of the most beautiful structures in the world. Every line and curve of it fills all the demands of esthetics and the theory of the beautiful. It is described when it is said that it is the perfection of grace and beauty. Coming into the harbor from the ocean it is the first thing that strikes and arrests the eye. Poised high in the air, stretching from shore to shore across the beautiful East river, it seems a thing made by fairies rather than by the hand of man. It is a bridge grand enough to serve as a highway from this world to the realms beyond the stars. And the panoramic view that it affords! From it may be beheld the mighty works of man, the land and the sea as they were fashioned forth by the Lord in the days of the creation. It is a picture beautiful to behold, one ever to be held in remembrance. Any injury to the Brooklyn bridge that would mar its beauty or destroy its usefulness would be a calamity to all America, a harm to the whole world. The world never saw anything like it before, might never look upon its like again. Let it be preserved and guarded as a monument to American engineering skill.

A FAKIR FAIR.

The story is told of a spiritist medium who recently went to Mexico from the United States and made a great sensation by his "manifestations" and "materializations." But it seems he became conscience-stricken as he went on, and when ready to leave for another field, he gave the following, in an interview with a reporter:

"I feel sorry for the poor innocent mortals who come up here every day for readings, expecting to receive messages from the other world. I say to them, many of whom are old people, 'Oh, you poor fools, so you're silly enough to come here and be humbugged, too, are you? All right, come I'll give it to you. I'll humbug you to a finish. But it grieves me much to see gray hairs in a head with so little sense.' And the way I rattle it off to those people is a wonder. They never know what great people they are until they come here and see me. I give them a talk sometimes that is so bloody crazy that I put on a false face when I go to the mirror to comb my hair—which is very seldom. I'm ashamed to look myself in the face. But I believe in making everybody happy. It's a puddin', this business of mine, this spiritualist business. It's a great snap to marshal a bunch of freaks from the spirit land. When I came to Mexico I advertised that I would diagnose and cure all diseases by simply touching the patient—in the pocket. I said that I would relieve them from all burdens—in their pockets. I did. I said I would make them all happy—for what they had in their pockets. I have, I don't mind having people call me a fakir. I admit it myself, but I am very proud of my profession, and when people take the trouble to tell everyone that I am a fakir, I always like them to add, if they are friends of mine, that I am a clever fakir."

Possibly this remarkable "manifestation" of sincerity is due to the reporter, but that does not change the fact that a great many "mediums" were there to speak the truth, would say practically what is credited to this "professor." We do not deny there are psychical phenomena that science is unable to explain, but it is certain that a great many of such alleged phenomena are but frauds and that those who profit by them in a pecuniary way are fakirs. The public knows it, but still pays for the fun of being deceived and mystified. And spiritists are not the only ones to take advantage of this weakness of the public.

Rain is as common in Kansas now as drouth was ten days ago.

Don't read the weather reports, they will only exasperate you.

To American eyes that German tariff is not a thing of beauty, much less a joy for ever.

The Panama hat is the fad now. Only a little while ago and the Panama canal was the fad.

The Duchess of Newcastle, having quit the Kennel club, the club will not now go to the dogs.

A universal match trust is in contemplation. There will be a flare up if the scheme goes through.

Crescens is the champion trotter of the globe, but he is not the champion globe trotter by a long ways.

Uncle Sam has over five hundred million dollars in gold in his coffers. Dear old Uncle should "cough up."

New York papers are doing as much worrying over Brooklyn bridge as though it were a Bridge of Sighs.

Coney Island is to be cleared up morally and physically. But when it is all done, Coney Island will not know itself.

Business on the San Francisco water front is tied up. This being the result of the teamsters' strike the teamsters should untie it.

In all this talk about the Santiago

loop sight seems to have been lost of the fact that some one may yet get his neck into it and hang himself.

The war news from Clover Valley Junction indicates that the opposing railroad parties in that vicinity are constructing strategic railroads.

A little while ago Senator McLaughlin insisted on resigning, but nobody wanted him to. Now many want him to resign and he positively refuses to. The contradictions of human nature are beyond comprehension.

"Time is money," said the sea captain who brought a cargo of sugar from Porto Rico to New York and waited outside the bar for several days until the President issued his proclamation declaring free trade between the island and the United States to exist.

One effect of MacLay's attack on Admiral Schley is to cause a big demand for volume III of his history. Already the first edition is out of print, and can only be had now, if at all, through second hand dealers, say the publishers. Late in August there will be a second edition issued, but that will be revised. This means that that part which has made it famous, the spicy part, is to be expurgated. It will quite likely be a drug on the market and as flat and tasteless as an egg without salt.

There is no animal grander and nobler than a handsome horse. There is no practice more barbarous than docking his tail. It has never found favor in this country outside of those who ape European ways. Our trotters, the greatest in the world, have never been subjected to it. There is that first of trotters, Crescens, who has a long and beautiful tail that lightly sweeps the ground. The most famous ones have all had splendid tails—Dexter, Goldsmith's Maid, Rarus, Maud S, Jay-Eye-See. It is to be hoped that the time will come when, in this country at least, a horse with a docked tail will be as rare as the dodo—which is extinct.

The Mail and Express says that Admiral Schley, taking advantage of his prerogative, which gives the defendant in a naval court of inquiry the right to summon his own witnesses at government expense, will send to Spain for several officers of the Infanta Maria Teresa, to testify before the court. The purpose of this is to show that the Brooklyn was absolutely compelled to make the famous loop to save herself from being rammed by the Teresa, which was the flagship of the Spanish fleet, and that the Brooklyn was unable to turn and straighten out in her pursuit of the Spanish vessels in less distance and time than were employed on that historic occasion. The Spanish officers may not come if requested. But if requested, the honor of the situation must strike them. To call in the officers of a defeated fleet to testify in a quarrel between the officers of the victorious one, is something absolutely new in the annals of naval warfare. Offenbach's fertile brain never conceived such a bouffe idea as this.

FREE TRADE WITH PORTO RICO.

N. Y. Evening Post.
President McKinley's proclamation establishing free trade with Porto Rico is confined to the barest recital of the facts and of the authority under which he proceeds. Least said, soonest mended, he apparently thinks. Certainly neither he nor his party can be blamed for wishing to draw a veil over their last year's dealing with Porto Rico. It is not the truth that I object to, but the shuffling," said witty Archbishop Magee, when Lord Salisbury was explaining how he proposed to "deal" with the temperance question; and so might have said an observer of the extraordinary hacking and filling of the Republicans in Congress when they attempted to legislate for Porto Rico.

Mail and Express.
This view is not the establishment of a "colonial policy." It is the orderly development of a social, political and industrial system of a people who had known only the extortionate misrule of an unnatural "mother" country. The control of the Porto Rico has paid for itself many times as they expected from annexation to the United States, and possibly if they had known what the future had in store for them they would not have accorded so cordial a reception to Gen. Miles and his American army. Still, they should not despair. Whatever mistakes have been made in the past may be corrected in the future, and possibly some day they may be given the form of government they desire, and which they expected when they were freed from the dominion of Spain.

Chicago Daily News.

The anniversary of the planting of the American flag in Porto Rico was celebrated yesterday by the issuance of the President's proclamation establishing free trade between that island and the United States. This action, taken in accordance with the terms of the Foraker law providing for free trade as soon as Porto Rico should have put into effect a system of local taxation adequate to its needs, marks the opening of a new commercial and political period for the island.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The presidential proclamation headed "Cession of Porto Rico" brings the President back to the position which he first assumed and discredited and terminating the policy which was advocated by the administration and its representatives in Congress before the session of 1898-1899 was closed.

KENNAN'S EXPULSION.

Boston Herald.
The Russian government may be presumed to exercise as much forbearance as is consistent with due regard to its own interests in the treatment of any American traveler, but it draws the line at Kennan. The reason for ordering him to quit the country summarily is reported to be that he is "politically untrustworthy." It is a

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