

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager

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THE LESSON OF FIGURES.

When the moral reform wave struck
Utah from the outside and the people
began to ask their representatives for
legislation closing the saloons, and
otherwise restricting the liquor traffic,
they were told in mysterious whispers
that the liquor, and kindred, interests
helped to defeat the anti-Mormon
agitators who tried to get hold of the
County offices for un-American pur-
poses, and the people, therefore, owe
that element some consideration now.
A bargain, to speak plainly, was made,
it was claimed, under circumstances
that fully justified it, and it is only
right that the terms of it be re-considered.

We confess freely our reluctance to
believe that any such compact was
ever entered into. Rumors are plenty
during times of excitement, but they
often prove false, or exaggerated.
Be this as it may, we are absolutely
certain that the Church was never com-
mitted by any compact such as that
alleged to, and we are equally cer-
tain that the voters generally have
asked to ratify a bargain which in
fact, they would have refused to do
so, no matter what the political
situation might have been.

But, owing to the rumors of a bar-
gain, or compact, or agreement, or
alliance, or whatever it was, the ques-
tion arises, Is it a fact that the saloon,
and kindred, interests really did
any material aid in the campaign
against the anti-Mormon consoli-
dators? Do the election figures show
that they kept their end of the bargain?
If not, the alleged other
party to it can be under no further
obligation, and the question of par-
tiality is entirely eliminated from the
further discussion of the temperance
issue.

Anyone who compares the election fig-
ures of last November with those of
two years ago, will, we believe, come
to the conclusion that the saloon in-
terests furnished very few votes, if
any at all, to the winning party. A
gentleman who has spent considerable
time over the elaborate tables, vouches
for the correctness of the following
statement, which anyone can verify for
himself:

"In all the outlying districts of the
city the Republicans made a tremen-
dous gain, but in the uptown districts
the 'Americans' gained over the Repub-
licans. For instance, the first three
voting districts in the First precinct,
which are farthest out from town, the
'Americans' carried in 1906 by a major-
ity of 52. In the last election the Repub-
licans in 1908 received 1,653 votes and
the 'Americans' 965. In 1908 the
Republicans had 2,504 votes and the
'Americans' 1,161.

On the other hand, when you take
the two up-town districts, you find a
different result. The Fifth precinct
which has always been considered a
saloon district, shows rather astonish-
ing returns. In 1906, the 'Americans'
had, in the two districts, 262 votes and
the Republicans, 357. The 'American'
majority was 225. In 1908 the 'Ameri-
cans' carried the two districts by a
majority of 544, the Republicans, 235.
The 'American' majority was 409, a gain
of 20 votes."

From these figures it ought to be plain
that there could have been no bargain,
as claimed; but if there was the saloon
interests did not deliver the vote.
It is not true, therefore, that the
present legislators from this County
are indebted to that element for their
election. It is rumored abroad that
the saloon interests paid considerable
sums into the 'American' campaign
funds, too. And this is not improb-
able, since they had at least one candi-
date on the 'American' ticket. That the
liquor interests supported him, is prob-
able.

We maintain that the result of the
last election was due principally to two
factors. A great many 'Americans' of
the respectable element realized that
the anti-Mormon campaign was doing
infinite injury to the business in-
terests of the State, and they were
sick and tired of it. They realized
that the threat made at the "Ameri-
can" convention was unworthy of an
American party, and they resented the
attitude of the leaders by their vote.
That was one factor. Another was
this: A great number of Democrats,
realizing the danger to American insti-
tutions from a victory of an anti-Mor-
mon agitation led by fanaticism, voted
the Republican ticket in defense of
those institutions. That turned the elec-
tion in this County. The saloon in-
terests have always been, and will al-
ways be, found voting on the side of
moral corruption.

THE SAME OLD ARGUMENT.

A former citizen of El Paso, Texas,
now resident in this city, recalls that
the gamblers there made the same
plays years ago, in fighting against
suppression of their nefarious busi-
ness, that the liquor interests are so
vociferously offering here as an argu-
ment why they should not be driven
out of Utah. The Texas sports were
loud in their protestations as to how
El Paso would become "a dead town,"
"absolutely no good," "they were gam-
bling to cease there." The sports loudly pre-
dicted that "all business will go over
the river, into Mexico," and "El Paso
the men, for selfish purposes, are now

be left high and dry." The city then
had 18,000 people. Since that time,
the gamblers have been thrown out
of the town, the population has in-
creased to 25,000, and the city has
prospered. It is but the question of
a short time before the saloon will
also be driven out of El Paso—over
the Rio Grande river into old Mexico,
and then the town will forge ahead
faster than ever.

The same would be true in Salt Lake
were the local liquor interests de-
stroyed; the town would thrive as
never before, gambling and prostitu-
tion—joint handmaids of the whiskey
traffic, would be reduced to their low-
est terms, and the City become clean
and respectable. The sporting ele-
ments can only prosper where there is
free course for liquor, just as the de-
moralizing race course associations can
only flourish where gambling is allowed.
Men and women can not hold their
heads up, keep their nerve up, in dis-
reputable life except where whiskey can
be obtained at will. The distillery,
the brewery and the saloon are an in-
fernal trinity that serve hell as its
most formidable breast work, and all
the forces of evil are bound to make
a tremendous fight before exposing
their inner entrenchments to the fire
of the forces of Temperance and Civic
Righteousness. Grant's campaign here
was one of the greatest conflicts of
history; so was the siege of Port Ar-
thur by the Japanese. But the cam-
paign of Temperance against the liquor
evil is showing up in the world's his-
tory as far transcending either of
these in the importance of the issues
involved, and the nature of the out-
come in the fight.

DIVORCE IN DAKOTA.

Divorces cannot now be obtained in
South Dakota by a casual affair
there of six months. The new law re-
quires bona fide residence for six
months. The proceedings must be be-
fore the open court and not in
chambers as heretofore.

The last issue of Law Notes main-
tains that this principle of publicity is
of the utmost importance notwith-
standing the tendency of sensa-
tional papers to parade before the
public gaze the most obnoxious de-
tails of such suits. It argues that
while a class of newspapers report
divorce trials, and "feature" under
prominent headlines the most im-
moral details of the lives of the par-
ties, people are inclined in dis-
gust to say that such matters ought
not to be made public; yet since news-
papers are not bound to give details,
and in fact self-respecting and decent
journals do not, "it is better that the
principle of publicity should be occa-
sionally abused than that the law should
afford facilities to husbands and wives
for quietly exchanging their partners
without their acts and motives being
brought to the open bar of public
opinion." For the public verdict,
though unenforced by legal compul-
sion, may have a most salutary in-
fluence. Judges of large experience
have pronounced unqualifiedly in
favor of publicity.

A leading woman lawyer in Chi-
cago says that she ascribes the grow-
ing frequency of divorces in recent
years to two causes: The growing
economic independence of woman and
the relaxation of religious restric-
tions. She says that it is now possible
for a woman to make her way in the
world, and she is not obliged to sub-
mit to the kind of domination that was
once her portion. "The better educa-
tion of women also has undoubtedly
played its part in establishing them
upon a more independent plane and
increasing their freedom of action."

Be this as it may, it is certain that
throughout the whole country, the
rate of divorce has doubled in the last
twenty years.

The last census bulletin dealing with
this subject shows that the rate per
100,000 of the population in 1880 was
35; in 1900 it was 73; and since 1900
it is estimated that while population
has increased but 10.5 per cent, divorces
have increased 25.3 per cent. Whereas
during the first decade of the
investigation (1870 to 1880) divorces
increased two and two-thirds
times as fast as population, now they
are increasing three times as fast.
Analysis of the returns shows that the
most conservative region of the coun-
try, relatively, is the North Atlantic
section. The most conservative region
absolutely is the South Atlantic. That
is to say, while in the latter section
the rate per 100,000 of population in
1900 was only 23, as over against the
North Atlantic's 35, the gain in the
South Atlantic from 1880 to 1900 had
been from 15 to 33, while in the North
Atlantic it had only been from 25 to 35.

The explanation of the variations in
the different sections is, according to
the Boston Morning Herald, that
while the South is just beginning to be
touched by radical influences that
the North has known for some time,
the northern States have begun to feel
conservative influences that have
been aroused in the North central,
the south central and the western
States the increase of divorces during
the decade 1880-1890 was very mark-
ed, from 59 to 129 per 100,000 of the
population in the western group.

FOR NO GOOD PURPOSE.

One of the speakers at the Women's
Prohibition meeting at the Theater, on
Tuesday last, took occasion to in-
sert into her address sundry references
to the suffrage movement, with many
sarcastic thrusts at the men, present
and not present.

The matter is, perhaps, of no im-
portance. The American gentleman is
a very good-natured animal, and if a
lady snubbed him on the right cheek he
smilingly and obligingly turns to her
the other also. But it does not do the
temperance cause any good to inject in-
to the plea for it a matter that is en-
tirely foreign to it. For that cause the
husband and wife, the brother and
sister, should work unitedly.

It is not true, besides, that man has
kept woman out of legislative halls any-
more than it is true that woman has
planned man there. It is not true that
the men, for selfish purposes, are now

opposing woman suffrage and office-
holding. Society in its present form
is the result of processes of evolution
which are still going on. In all ages,
and in all countries, capable women
have had, and have now, as much in-
fluence upon the destiny of nations as
the men have.

It is not true that the men in this
country are opposing the ambition of
women. Anti-suffrage associations, if
we are not mistaken, are formed by
the women themselves. In a petition
against suffrage presented by the Il-
linois Association, to the Republican
convention, it was stated that for the
last ten years intelligent women of
high character and standing, have
formed associations whose aggregate
membership numbers more than fifteen
thousand, to oppose the efforts to thrust
upon them against their will, the onerous
duties and responsibilities of civil
government. In the Legislatures of
every New England State, of all those
Middle and Western States where the
Suffrage propaganda has been actively
carried on, ranging from New York
on the East to Oregon and California
on the West, the campaign, the peti-
tion said, has been prosecuted with
untiring vigilance and energy. The
result has been that during these ten
years the Suffragists have not gained
a single important victory, while the
legislative records show against them
more than one hundred and fifty signal
defeats, covering the ground of munici-
pal, State and presidential or na-
tional suffrage.

This indicates where the opposition
comes from. We need not say that
woman suffrage is a success in this
State, and that no one here seriously
opposes it. On the contrary, we be-
lieve that the general view here is that
the other States should copy the ex-
ample of Utah. And therefore it is
all the more absurd to inject cheap
chatter about suffrage into an appeal
for temperance legislation in this State.

SHALL THE PEOPLE RULE?

The apparent determination of cer-
tain elements in this State to defeat
the popular demand for effective tem-
perance legislation altogether or to
substitute for the straightforward mea-
sure now pending, something essen-
tially different and of doubtful value,
raises a question that is entirely new
to this State though it has been
worked out in some of the others.

Probably the most evil reputation on
the divorce problem, possessed by any
State in the Union was that enjoyed, or
rather endured in South Dakota.

The result of the referendum by
which the people voted by a majority
of two to one for the proposed mea-
sure of reform, is now taken to be one
form of practical answer to the ques-
tion "Shall the people rule?"

The South Dakota referendum may
be considered as a triumph for an
awakened public opinion resulting from
persistent discussion of the divorce
evil. Church assemblies, assemblies of
lawyers, conventions for discussion of
uniform laws, the magazines, the daily
press, the pulpit, all organs of public
opinion have kept the evils of "the
divorce problem" as constantly to the
front that it is not at all likely that the
South Dakota voters could err through
ignorance. The action of that State
is a happy promise of conservative re-
vision of the divorce laws in other
States which have been offenders along
the same line. It also illustrates the
power of public opinion in bringing
about needed reforms.

We have in this State a situation that
calls for a similar solution. The peo-
ple demand that the saloon shall go,
that the traffic in all forms of intoxi-
cants shall be abolished. Some of the
legislators, it is claimed, are averse
to obeying the people's mandate, and
are seeking to subvert the popular
will. If they should succeed in de-
feating the measures for reform desired
by their constituents, it would mean
that some form of initiative and refer-
endum would be required in Utah.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN NICHOLSON.

Space is willingly given to the fol-
lowing sentiments respecting John
Nicholson, who died a few days ago,
and was, for many years, connected
with the editorial department of The
Deseret News. The writer, Elder B.
F. Cummings, was an employee of this
establishment, in various capacities, on
and off, the greater part of the time
for nearly forty years, and is now sta-
tioned at Independence, Mo., and oc-
cupying the position of editor of La-
hona The Elders' Journal, the organ of
the missionary system of the Church
in the United States.

"Editor Deseret News:—My sense of
loss tells me that the death of John
Nicholson is an event which places
upon me a moral obligation to pub-
licly record my testimony concerning
some of his traits and labors with
which I was familiar; for it is not ex-
ceeding the truth to say that my own
character and career in life have been
materially influenced by a close as-
sociation with him.

"I was twelve years old when I first
became acquainted with him; I was
then mail and office boy in the Deseret
News Office, and he was city editor.
That was in 1888. He took an in-
terest in me then which in later years
ripened into one of the strongest and to
me most profitable friendships I have
ever known.

"When eighteen years of age I be-
came a reporter under him, and received
from him my first lesson in prac-
tical journalism. After having spent
five years in the mission field, and five
years in newspaper work elsewhere, in
1888, I again became his associate, and
the staff of the 'News.' For reasons
that will be readily recalled, the editor
in chief, Charles W. Penrose, had been
obliged to absent himself from the ter-
ritory of Utah, and John Nicholson was
in charge of the editorial department.
My position was that of a staff writer,
and my work done under his direction,
and was subject to his criticism.

"I need not tell those who knew him
that his criticisms were at times
severe. Under no circumstances would
he pass in an article written by me,
stroke as my friends were wont to
seem to him an error of judgment or
sentiment, much less a misrepresentation
of fact; and his constant effort
was to impress upon me a strict neces-
sity of adhering strictly and rigidly to
truth, justice and honesty. I have
never known a man who was more

resolute in maintaining those virtues
than was John Nicholson.

He possessed the unusual quality
of being able to criticize the work of
a subordinate with great severity, yet
without impairing the ties of friend-
ship; and there was never a moment
when he gave his back because he had
thrown my copy into the waste basket
and had accompanied the act with
strictures that I would not have listen-
ed to from another. I knew his purpose
was to uphold the character of The
Deseret News, and give me the train-
ing I required.

As he could censure severely without
impairing confidence in his honesty,
he could likewise praise without a sus-
picion of flattery; and he did not hesi-
tate to commend the work of any em-
ployee of the staff when he thought it
deserved it.

"The relations here referred to were
maintained during a period which was
one of gloom to the Church and of se-
vere trial to thousands of its most
prominent members throughout the
States of Zion, from 1885 to 1890. But
John Nicholson, whose pen
and voice he preached the policy
of the Church, as a body, never
wavered nor faltered.

"He was not an educated man in the
usual sense, indeed his opportunities
for acquiring an education in youth
were limited. But he possessed a keen,
alert intellect, a good memory and a
very unusual capacity for acquiring
knowledge upon all subjects which
he touched. He was a man of wide
reading, and his mind was well
equipped to associate with cultured
and scholarly men.

"I doubt if his gifts as a humorist
were fully known to many persons, but
in clear and accurate reasoning he was
very powerful. He was intensely re-
ligious and devout, and was spiri-
tually-minded to a very high degree.
When writing an editorial he would
often set his heart and soul into his
work, sometimes to an extent that
made it very fatiguing; and when he
had finished an article he would often
ask some member of the staff to cor-
rect it or suggest improvements. Humi-
lity was so marked a trait of his
nature that he not only was willing to
accept suggestions from subordinates,
but sought them.

"As an editor, his judgment was
quick, penetrating, comprehensive and
almost infallible. As a preacher he
was eloquent, magnetic and convinc-
ing. As a Latter-day Saint he was
true to his faith, and his life was made
for his religion. Occasionally his little
children would visit the editorial rooms,
and his tender and affectionate manner
towards them proved him an ideal
father. I need not say that he was
unbounded, and his loyalty to a friend
was never to my knowledge questioned.
He was free-hearted to a fault. He
was among the early ones to be in-
terested in the divorce issue, and his
pecuniary circumstances forbade such
liberality. I never knew him to refuse.

"He was a humble, faithful, talented
man, and if he had a fault it was
an overreaching virtue. If greatness
is a relative quality determined by
comparison with his contemporaries and
the time and environment, John
Nicholson will always hold a prominent
place among the early journalists of
the Latter-day Saints.

"Some might not think it in the best
place to write in a eulogy of a man
but John Nicholson's death is a per-
sonal bereavement to me, and I feel
justified in telling why. He was my
patron, my preceptor, my friend. After
I had been admitted to the bar, I con-
tinued at newspaper work chiefly be-
cause he advised me to, and told me
that it was my calling in life; and such
poor qualifications as I may have for
present position and vocation, I
probably should not have acquired but
for his aid and counsel. In my regard
he holds a place close to that of my
own father, whom he greatly resembled
in his moral and spiritual qualities.

Sincerely,

"B. F. CUMMINGS"

The man who has little to say hasn't
much to regret.

Strange that the time kills is never
in the limelight.

The jingo thinks he is the most patri-
otic of patriots.

Ten many laws, as well as too many
cooks, spoil the broth.

Slippery sidewalks are responsible for
many a man's downfall.

The lid should be put on the Nevada
and California legislatures.

What Congress wants is not a wire-
less but a wireless message.

Are Kaiser Wilhelm and Cesar Can-
non holding a mum contest?

Be careful that you are not "buff-
faloed" with a "Buffalo ten."

No revolution yet in Cuba. All goes
well in the Pearl of the Antilles.

Wireless Operator Jack Rhins is not
among the "has-beens" and never will
be.

Most people would rather swallow a
hundred pleasant lies than one disagree-
able truth.

Congress probably will make wire-
less education compulsory for steam-
ship companies.

It is the consensus of opinion that
the census veto was the right thing at
the right time.

Good for President Roosevelt! He
vetoed the census bill, the great mod-
ern sports measure.

Student athletes all over the country
are beginning to realize that a little
learning is a dangerous thing.

"The public be —" seems to be the
cry of those who are opposed to the
public demand for prohibition.

Mr. Bryan says that the outlook for
1912 is most encouraging. That settles
it. He will be a candidate again.

At some time in his life some one
must have got the laugh or Judge
Taft, for he always wears a smile.

Congress probably will appropriate
money to purchase the Calaveras grass.
What a lot of big sticks Uncle Sam
will have if it is bought.

"Shakespeare's style is easy," says
George Bernard Shaw. But it seems
to have been too difficult for attain-
ment by Shakespeare.

PROHIBITION AND EDUCATION.

By Prof. Milton Bennion, University
of Utah.

No man liveth to himself alone. Every
act of his life has its influence upon
other lives. A man can not claim a
moral right to do anything that may
result in injury to his fellows. Indi-
vidual pleasures and unrestrained ac-
tivities must always be subordinate to
the general good. These are axioms
in moral theory. Parents, teachers,
and preachers seek to impress these
principles upon youth, and to train
young men and young women in a self
mastery that will enable them to live
above selfishness with its attendant so-
cial indifference.

The people of Utah pay annually
millions of dollars in support of schools,
churches, and libraries for the purpose
of making honorable, upright, efficient
citizens of the new generation. At the
same time they license saloons to un-
do the work for which they pay their
millions; and some citizens imagine
that the public cannot get along with-
out the saloon license revenue. If
office holders had a commission on all
the money that passes through the
public treasury it would no doubt pay
them well to multiply saloons. Here is
a kind of perpetual motion that the
anti-prohibitionists have overlooked.
For every dollar received from the
saloon license there is used of ten for
additional public and private charities,
and an unknown quantity for divorce
court proceedings, detention homes for
minors, and other sundry purposes.
Evidently this is a method of increas-
ing public misery; but who pays for
it all? And what are the consequences
of this multiplying temptations for
the purpose of raising revenue to sup-
port divorce courts, police courts, and
houses of correction, and to furnish
them with plenty of material with
which to do a thriving business?

Who among heads of families would
like to have a saloon next door to his
residence, or to his place of business?
How much would the advent of such
a neighbor increase the value of his
property? Yet I was told recently by a
state official that if a prohibition bill
should be passed of such value of prop-
erty in the state would decrease one
half, and the state would not be able
to support its schools. A timid supporter
of prohibition, who had been inoculated
with this politico-financial germ, ex-
pressed his sympathy for the prohibi-
tion movement, but was afraid to have
it come now because she thought
that with the saloons vacated there
would be an over abundance of real
estate available for legitimate business.
As well might the owner of a farm
petition the state and federal govern-
ments to discontinue irrigation and
drainage developments on the ground
that the addition of so much waste land
to the tillable area of the country
would depreciate farm values.

But loss or no loss financially, this is
primarily a moral question, and must
be settled as such.

Can father pray, "Lead us not into
temptation," and at the same time be
a party to the establishment of sal-
oons and brothels to tempt and de-
bauch his sons and daughters? Let
every voter realize that if he votes for
lawmakers and public officials that
provide for the licensing of saloons,
he is a party to their establishment
and must bear a portion of the respon-
sibility for the evils they bring.

Temperance, like all virtues, is a
matter of education; but that edu-
cation is brought about by a co-opera-
tion of inner and outer forces. Homes,
schools, and churches are, in respect to
the individual, outer influences seeking
to develop inner moral impulses. The
inner forces themselves depend upon
the individual alone. It is the business
of the multiplying temptations for
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with this politico-financial germ, ex-
pressed his sympathy for the prohibi-
tion movement, but was afraid to have
it come now because she thought
that with the saloons vacated there
would be an over abundance of real
estate available for legitimate business.
As well might the owner of a farm
petition the state and federal govern-
ments to discontinue irrigation and
drainage developments on the ground
that the addition of so much waste land
to the tillable area of the country
would depreciate farm values.

But loss or no loss financially, this is
primarily a moral question, and must
be settled as such.

Can father pray, "Lead us not into
temptation," and at the same time be
a party to the establishment of sal-
oons and brothels to tempt and de-
bauch his sons and daughters? Let
every voter realize that if he votes for
lawmakers and public officials that
provide for the licensing of saloons,
he is a party to their establishment
and must bear a portion of the respon-
sibility for the evils they bring.

Temperance, like all virtues, is a
matter of education; but that edu-
cation is brought about by a co-opera-
tion of inner and outer forces. Homes,
schools, and churches are, in respect to
the individual, outer influences seeking
to develop inner moral impulses. The
inner forces themselves depend upon
the individual alone. It is the business
of the multiplying temptations for
the purpose of raising revenue to sup-
port divorce courts, police courts, and
houses of correction, and to furnish
them with plenty of material with
which to do a thriving business?

Who among heads of families would
like to have a saloon next door to his

halt the chorus for him to insert his
mighty strophe, and the saints delay
the rite to catch his casual whisper.
His visits to this stricken planet are
never ill-timed. Dante as bitter bread
where Aristophanes would have been
enthusiastic banquets. Kindly, the
fate of Rabelais, Chaucer, Dickens, and
Cervantes—to be both glorious and
happy—to reveal truth and gain wel-
come.—Editorial in Collier's for Janu-
ary 16.

War Ships The greatest single piece