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THE SENATOR FROM UTAH.

Under the title of "The Senator from Utah," the Boston Transcript, one more of the influential newspapers of the country, expresses the growing and prevailing public sentiment concerning Utah's senior Senator. It will be observed that the Transcript, like other leading journals, has been somewhat misled as to the action of the committee of investigation. No such vote as that telegraphed from Washington (eight to five) was taken when the word "was sent out. It was estimated that this was the probable status of the committee on a resolution introduced but not acted upon. The purported "vote" supposed to have been taken of "alliance to the Mormon Church in conflict with loyalty and full duty to the country," is another error popularly entertained but having no foundation in fact. There is no such oath in this church and no evidence has been adduced during the examination that proves its existence. But it is interesting to note the position taken by so many leading publications in relation to this matter, even when they regard the story as correct. It takes time for the truth to come uppermost and for justice and fairness to prevail. But they are bound to win in the end. When the excitement raised by prejudice and false reports is dissipated, the right eventually rules. The Boston Transcript says editorially:

The case of Reed Smoot, senator from Utah, is at least nearing a critical stage. We forget how many years or miles of petition have been piled up demanding his official decapitation, but the amount is something formidable. Perhaps never before in the country's history have so many subscribed to a demand that a respectable man should be deprived of his official position, and that demand has evidently had its effect. Petitions are judged as a rule not so much to their own reasonableness as by the amount of parchment or paper that is covered with the names of freeborn electors of those who have influence with freeborn electors. In this instance, we believe, the women are more generously represented than the men in the far-flung list of signatures.

Three years ago, last March Mr. Smoot was brought before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections to show cause why he should not be denied the privilege of occupying the seat to which he had been elected. The case has dragged through half his term. Perhaps the committee received the benefit of these petitions at the outset. It might have decided promptly, but being slow then it elicited no convincing response when asking "what evil hath he done?" Now, under pressure, the committee has voted (eight to five) for his expulsion, and a resolution to that effect will be offered for action by the whole Senate in a couple of weeks. Mr. Smoot has served out more than half his term. He has been an intelligent, hard-working member of the Senate, especially for a new man.

His private life is as correct as his public service is exemplary. One wife suffices him, and in other respect, so far as any evidence has been made public, he has been not only a respecter of the laws and wholesome social conventions, but a loyal citizen of State and nation. The somewhat questionable foundation of the committee's finding is that his oath of allegiance to the Mormon Church prevents his giving full allegiance to the United States. But the manner in which he has manifested his allegiance to the latter hardly affords ground for criticism. Who can tell how he construes his oath, and whether in his construction it is at all in conflict with his loyalty and full duty to his country?

In the various comments upon the latest heresy tried it is held by many churchmen of high standing and authoritative position that there is no necessary inconsistency between the acceptance of the terms of the creed and a denial of their literalness at many points, but in this connection they may be correct. But why not exercise as much charity toward Mr. Smoot when there is an apparently irreconcilable conflict between his vows of Church and his vows of State, especially when the issue is not one of eternal salvation, but simply the business of correct legislation to which he seems to be faithfully and properly attending. If there is a genuine desire to purify the senate it seems to us that more promising opportunities are afforded it than in the expulsion of Mr. Smoot.

HOBSON'S IDEA.

Lieutenant Hobson has received the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Sixth Alabama district, and his election is considered assured.

The importance of this announcement lies in the fact that he believes this country needs a navy large enough to overcome, if necessary, every navy in the world. He considers two billion dollars about right for ships, and he thinks that \$250,000,000 ought to be appropriated as a starter. If elected, he will go to Congress. It is asserted, with the firm determination of working for this plan.

There can be no doubt of the sincerity of the hero of the Merrimack incident of the Spanish war. As an officer of the navy he undoubtedly believes that a gigantic fleet is necessary for the preservation of peace and the maintenance of commercial supremacy. But the trend of public sentiment is not in the direction of the increase of military burdens. The aim now is to secure peace by means of court decisions. Our navy is now well to the front. If we continue building, other countries will do the same; and the increase of the navy abroad must have an effect upon our own. Congress today proposes to authorize a \$10,000,000 battleship because England has just built her Dreadnaught, and when ours has been begun France and Germany will feel obliged to construct leviathans on similar lines. The peace

that can be secured by holding over the heads of other nations a "big stick" in the shape of tremendous fighting machinery is delusive. It is a will-o'-the-wisp, and not a light by which to be guided through dark and dangerous places.

SOME VITAL STATISTICS.

A writer in a Berlin paper has been studying the latest statistical tables of the German government. He finds, among other interesting facts, that the mortality returns show a constant decrease during the last ten years. This is an indisputable evidence of the progress of civilization, for it is due to a better understanding of the laws of hygiene, and increasing faithfulness in the observance of those laws. At the same time the birthrate, as is well known, has decreased to such an extent as to cause concern in some countries.

Japan, we are told, is the only country in which the birthrate shows an increase. There it has advanced from 25.5 to 32.5. In Russia it has remained stationary. In Germany the decrease in the rate is 2, in Austria 3, in Hungary 5, in England 2 1/2 per 1,000 inhabitants. Much has been written concerning the conditions in France, but it is found that the decrease there for the period covered by the statistics has been only 0.5 per 1,000. But the birthrate had already reached a low mark there, and it is now said to be thirteen per cent below that of Germany. By way of comparison it is shown that the excess of births over deaths, during the last year reported on, for Germany amounted to 149 per 1,000 inhabitants, while France had only 15.

It is further shown that the German population is rapidly filling up the country it inhabits. Shortly after the war with France, Germany had only 76 inhabitants per square kilometer. Now it has 112. The United States has, according to the same source of information, only 8.22 inhabitants per square kilometer, only a fourteenth of the proportion in Germany. Russia, which exceeds Germany in the total of its population, remains, with regard to the density, at a level of only a fifth as many as Germany per square kilometer. Countries with a density about equal to that of Germany are Italy, with 113, and Japan, with 123 inhabitants per square kilometer. Germany is only exceeded to any large extent by England, among the great powers.

The moral of this is that Germany is under the necessity of extending her boundaries by means of colonies in all parts of the world, where there is room for a surplus population. The time, it seems, is fast approaching when the great nations of the world must either fight for the possession of land in which to locate, or amalgamate and take possession of all the earth for the benefit of all mankind. The latter alternative will eventually be adopted as the only effective and rational solution of a difficult problem, but perhaps not until a devastating war has demonstrated the folly of fighting for that which is more easily obtained by friendly agreement.

MRS. CHADWICK AGAIN.

A report from Columbus, Ohio, has it that Mrs. Chadwick is about to make a "statement" of her transactions. Was not a full "statement" made during her trial? It is claimed that her intention now is to "drag into the limelight attorneys, bankers, business men and others who stood willing to share the profits but take none of the blame or burden which she has been forced to carry." She says: "There have been so many false statements and unfounded reports circulated about me that I have concluded that the time has come for me to make full statement to the press for publication. It will clear up the mystery of my case and give my side of the affair. Every person connected with my transactions, including bankers, attorneys and business men, will be made known." Does she mean to insinuate that lawyers and bankers were not her dupes, but accomplices in her financial transactions, and shared the profits? Or, is it merely her intention to enter the field of fake journalism?

CAUSING TROUBLE IN CHINA.

Some time ago the Chinese commissioners who were sent to this country to learn all about America, were entertained by the missionary boards, and the speeches made on that occasion naturally turned upon the missionaries in China. One of the commissioners delicately intimated that it would be to mutual advantage if the missionaries were restrained from undue interference with the Chinese laws and customs. One of the boards has now decided to instruct its missionaries in China to interfere with the courts only when so authorized by the mission station to which they are attached.

This peculiar decision is, we presume, taken in the interest of justice and fair play, and for the protection of converts who may become the objects of persecution, but it proves, nevertheless, that the charge made by the Chinese officials as to interference with the administration of their laws is well founded. It may be true that some of the Chinese laws are unjust, if judged by American standards, but the indignation of the educated, intelligent Chinese is none the less justifiable. What need we, Americans, do to China who should come here with instructions to interfere with our court proceedings?

China is awakening. She is adjusting her educational standards in accordance with the requirements of advanced civilization. She is arming her young men, and drilling them in modern tactics. In a comparatively short time she will have an army as efficient as any nation under the sun. China will be strong, and there is no reason to doubt that she will use her newly acquired strength in the defense of her own institutions and principles.

The hatred that has been engendered against foreigners, on account of their lack of consideration and tact, is likely to become the most formidable obstacle to China's conversion. It is undoubtedly true that the Chinese are superstitious. They believe in "lucky" and "unlucky" burial places, and are indignant at the disturbance of the graves of their ancestors by railroad builders. They consider church stoves dangerous to the communities to

which they are built, and therefore objectionable. But the only Christian way of overcoming such superstitions is by patient and kind teaching of correct principles. And until the Chinese become more enlightened, they are as much entitled to their prejudices as other nationalities are to theirs.

EARTHQUAKE FAKERS.

A short time ago we briefly referred to the colossal falsehoods that have been circulated as incidents of the recent San Francisco calamity. A correspondent of an Omaha paper seems to be the unapproachable Murchausen of the fraternity of earthquake fakers. He tells of the murder of 350 patients in a hospital, because they could not be removed alive. As quoted by the Los Angeles Express, he says:

"I was with the Red Cross and have my badge now. We were in Mechanics' pavilion, and when, Friday, after the quake, the fire came so close that we saw it must go, all people that it was thought could recover were first taken away. There were not wagons enough to take away the worst injured people—those with mangled bodies or broken or burned limbs, and they begged to be shot to ease their misery and escape being burned alive. Three hundred and fifty in the pavilion were chloroformed by doctors and nurses and some Red Cross men, and shot by the soldiers. It was done as an act of humanity. It is doubtful if they would have recovered even if the fire had spared the building. But there were 350 in that building alone. In the flat building on Golden Gate avenue I saw 40 bodies taken out."

The modesty of this manufacturer of falsehood is seen in the fact that he limited the number of murdered victims to three hundred and fifty. He might have increased the horror by multiplying that figure by ten, or a hundred, and asked a proportionally higher price for his lie. No word of evidence of such falsifiers is too strong.

The originators of falsehoods intended for public consumption and sold as truths, are simply thieves of the lowest type. But they are not the only ones deserving censure. What of the journals that publish their efforts, thus perpetrating a fraud upon their readers? And what of the public that supports the faking journals, even when their true character is abundantly established? Ultimately, the blame is upon the readers. If they would exercise the censure it is their duty in a free country to apply to the literature offered them, the journals would soon become models of accuracy and reliability. In this country we do not have government censorship. It is the business of the people to exercise that function. But that duty is neglected when support is not withdrawn from concerns that unscrupulously endeavor to flourish on deception.

See Bernhardt and cry!

Let us have a reverent Memorial Day and a sane Fourth of July.

Dowie has no "little game." If he has had any it has been a big one.

"Blessed is the face-maker," as the girl said when she put the powder on.

There has been no sale of the street railway. Only a case of Hope deferred.

The police appear to be very poor judges of speed when automobiles are racing.

Coal dealers say a coal famine is coming. So is summer which softens its terrors very materially.

No matter how old the juvenile court may grow it will never attain years of discretion.

Instead of giving his people partial amnesty on his birthday, the Czar gave them complete disappointment.

Omaha is not a good place for crows. See what a time Pat had, and now ex-Postmaster Crow has been indicted.

The Kaiser's latest fad is said to be collecting picture cards. Does his majesty intend to build a house of cards?

Stripped of verbiage and the "in its judgment" clause, the principal purpose of the rate bill seems to be to beat the railroads.

The U. boys didn't win, but Utah is proud of them. It is to be feared that it was not so much the altitude as the other fellows that beat them.

Great as is San Francisco's calamity, she can boast that it took an earthquake to bring it about and that it was not due to the kick of any common cow.

What with the statements and counter statements, explanations and counter explanations the Congressional Record of last week contains, it looks decidedly like a "scrap" book.

The Saturday Review sneeringly calls women who advocate women's rights "suffragettes." It should carefully read what Campbell-Bannerman had to say to the delegation that waited upon him.

"A story is told of the discovery of a live terrapin in a heap of ashes in one of the ruined buildings in this city," says the San Francisco Chronicle. Now if it had been a salamander instead of a terrapin people might have believed the story.

"Should war break out within the next few years the condition of the navy will be such as to lead to disaster," is the statement made by Rear Admiral Mason, chief of the bureau of ordnance, navy department, in a statement to the secretary of the navy, calling attention to the reduction in the estimates for the bureau of ordnance made by the department and the house committee on navy affairs. How the big navy jingoes do love to sound the alarm. To their ears it is the sweetest of music. Such talk as the above sounds to the laymen, and they have pretty good sense, like nothing but silliness. The jingoes forget that the country has lived through some pretty trying times without them or adopting their theories.

THE WORLD WITH ENGLAND.

Louisville Herald.

In the matter of her occupation of Egypt the world is with England. She has in that long-oppressed region,

dome marvels for a whole Continent. The reclamation of the Nile valley for civilization could not fail to affect the whole of Africa. The early construction of a complete line of railway from the Cape to the Nile delta is certain. Much of the route has been already covered by railway construction. The railway, as one of the foremost agencies of civilized commerce, is certainly the foe of barbarism. But to protect commerce and its agencies there must be a strong government. England offers that guarantee. The Suez canal, practically an English channel of trade, but open on equitable terms to all the world's commercial activities, is cut through Egyptian territory, now happily under a British protectorate. Necessary for the safeguarding of the canal is, of course, the possession by Britain of the approaches thereto.

WHY SHOULD WE LEAD?

New York Evening Sun.

Our government naturally regards the declaration of the British House of Commons, made yesterday on the subject of disarmament, with sympathetic interest. But, according to the dispatches from Washington, the United States will not take the initiative in this matter at the Hague conference. For one thing, it would be a case of interfering in the affairs of the nations of Europe. For another, it would be absurd for us to advance a theory and not act upon it ourselves. Yet, as a matter of fact, considering the extent of our territory, the length of our coast line, our scattered possessions, the volume of our commerce, our navy is not only not too large, but much too small for our vital needs. As for our army, it is only a skeleton organization that would constitute simply a nucleus in the time of need. So we should be justified in strengthening both arms, even if the other great powers cut down their military establishments.

THE DOUMA.

If the Douma is undeniably meeting under a cloud, it falls nearly in the realm of political miracles that it should be meeting at all. Whoever, three years ago, had dared predict that a Russian Parliament was to assemble on any terms, would have passed for a lunatic optimist. Accordingly, it is the part of wisdom not to dwell too much upon the nigardism of the new fundamental law, nor even upon unseasonable criticism of the fact that a popularly elected legislature is actually in session in St. Petersburg today.

THE BIGGEST SHIP.

United States Consular Report.

The German bark R. C. Rickmers, which was launched in Germany in February was to sail from Bremen to New York to load a full cargo of coal oil for Japan. She is a five-master, 441 feet in length, with a width of 54 feet 3 inches and a draught of 25 feet 3 inches. Her displacement is approximately 13,350 tons, giving a gross burden of about 8,900 tons. She is a sailing vessel, but is fitted with triple expansion 1,000 horse-power engines, which under favorable circumstances, even when fully loaded, will enable her to make from six to seven knots under steam. It is announced as the largest sailing vessel in the world.

JUST FOR FUN.

Reform.

From Puck.

The bill was in danger, and the general counsel of the corporation which it was designed to enrich hastily called in his legislative agent, stating that "All the reform elements are against us," he said anxiously. "How are we going to beat down such formidable opposition?"

"Don't try to beat 'em down. Pay 'em what they ask," said the legislative agent, who in his day had seen a number of quickenings of the public conscience.

That's What Caused It.

"What did they finally decide was the cause of the California earthquake?"

"Why, if I understood right, the scientists said it was due to the breaking of a link in a mountain chain."—E.S.

Puckering.

From Puck.

Politics is a facile means of making real enemies and false friends.

We all agree that a painting may be guilty of so many crimes against good taste that hanging is too good for it.

Superlative fame is where a man has not only forced his name into everybody's mouth, but has kept it there until the first class newspapers are spelling it the same way every time they mention it.

Did His Best.

Goodman Gongrong, who was lounging in the corner grocery, offered to eat four dozen raw eggs at one sitting if anybody in the crowd would pay for them, and the man with the ingrowing chin took him up.

He started in bravely, but gave it up when he had eaten a dozen.

"You'll only have to pay for one dozen, mister," he said, slipping out of the front door and disappearing around the corner.

"Why," asked the judge, "did you deliberately get in the way of this man's automobile?"

"Because," muttered the wrinkled crone, "I wanted to be described as being young and pretty once more before death."—Louisville Courier Journal.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The following is the list of contents of Gunter's Magazine for June: "The Girl on the Saguaro," "The Duke of Spades," "The Deuce of Spades," "The Pitfalls and Triumphs of Mining Speculations," "Hobart Austin," "The Best-Laid Plans," "Lida P. Wilson," "Twixt Sword and Glove," a novel, Archibald Clavering Gunter; "Won't You Believe," a poem, Josephine Curtis Woodbury; "Fighting the Tiger," Richard Henry Savage; "Dun and Blizz," Philip Loraine; "Joey Moore—The Autobiography of a Boy," Cal Johnston; "Sheep Fold by the Evening Fire," Jack Stockton; "Book Notes," Grace Parker; and "Plays of the Hour," Mrs. Dore Lyon. Many of these stories are heretofore illustrated.—Home Publishing Co., 3 E. Fourteenth St., New York.

"The Game and the Lady" is the title of the complete novel in Popular Magazine for June. The author is Charles Kroth Moser. This is followed by a complete story by George Brownson entitled "The Boy," and "The Malefactor," by E. Phillips Oppenheim, is continued. There are many other stories of considerable merit.—Street & Smith, 79-89 Seventh Ave., New York.

The June number of the Red Book has a very pretty cover design, suggestive of the season. The photographic illustrations always form a quite attractive feature of this magazine, and those in this number are no exception to the rule. There are a dozen short stories of considerable merit, and the number closes with "The Day," a novel. The Red Book is always an attractive publication.—164 State St., Chicago.

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