

HE BLEW UP A MAIL BOX Lawless Act of Young Celebrator.

Drops a Cannon Cracker
Into Receptacle for
Letters.

The Box Was Ruined, and the Authorities Are After the Man
Who Did It.

ONE OF the most reckless and wanton acts of Fourth of July vandalism yet recorded was that perpetrated yesterday afternoon when an unknown young man blew up with a "cannon" cracker the United States mail box at the corner of South Temple and First West Streets. The act was witnessed by a number of persons, but none of them knew the young man and he got away before the matter was reported to an officer. Fortunately there was no mail in the box at the time of the explosion, but the box itself was badly wrecked.

Several boys from 14 to 20 years old were standing in front of Peck's store near South Temple and First West streets about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon when two rather badly dressed young men walked past, one of whom had in his hand a large red firecracker about four inches long.

"Let's throw it over the transom," remarked the one with the cracker, as he noticed the transom of the store standing open.

His companion dissuaded him from doing this and then the smart young man caught sight of the mail box and a new inspiration assailed him. Lighting the big cracker he went over to the box, deliberately pulled down the sliding lid and inserted the questionable emblem of patriotism. In a moment there was a muffled report which fairly shook the surrounding buildings, while the heavy iron letter box was not only shaken but shattered. While the box was not released from its fastenings it was loosened in all its joints and a piece was broken from the bottom of the front side, which left an aperture large enough to admit of letters being extracted from the box.

Had there been mail in the box at the time it would probably have been completely destroyed, and that there happened to be none in a mail box on so important a thoroughfare is peculiar when it is considered that no collection had been made since 11 a. m. The fact that no mail matter was hardly to be expected, however, in the event that he is apprehended. The penalty for wantonly damaging Government property of this character is very heavy.

When the blowing up of the mail box was reported at the postoffice last evening by a representative of The Tribune Foreman Wiley of the city carrier service went at once to open the box and make an examination. He found a number of letters in the box which had been placed there before the explosion and the minute remains of the exploded giant cracker, which gave an idea of what would have happened had the letters not been in the box at the time.

The act was witnessed by J. R. Howells of 37 North Third West, and W. E. Barnett, 25 South Third West, and Arthur Garrett, Rio Grande avenue. They reported it to Patrolman Price of the South Temple police station, as well as the postoffice authorities, are working on the case.

City and Neighborhood

WITH great ceremonies Rocco Broggio, a miner from Mercer, was buried yesterday by the Christopher Columbus society, of which he was a member. Broggio died early Saturday morning of pneumonia. The funeral was held from the undertaking parlors of Ed O'Donnell, headed by the band of the Twenty-ninth Infantry the procession went up to the Calvary cemetery, where the remains were interred. The Rev. Padre Cassetto of Mercer officiated at the grave.

A LARGE party of tourists from Bloomington, Ill., registered at the hotel yesterday, being en route home from a pleasant trip through the Yellowstone National Park.

BOYS with firecrackers started a blaze in the frame barn at 74 West North Temple street. Hose wagon No. 2 responded to the alarm and the fire was extinguished without loss.

ROBERT JACK, who was fined \$30 in Judge Diehl's court for assaulting Manager J. E. Langford of Saltair on the night of the real estate celebration, yesterday succeeded in raising the amount of his fine and was released from the county jail.

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DR. UTTER URGES A MORAL INSTINCT

Rev. David Utter of Denver delivered a discourse at Unity hall yesterday morning on "The Lame Leg of Progress." The distinguished clergyman found the subject of his sermon in the lack of moral integrity in all affairs which seem to accompany the wonderful progress of the world, both material and in the development of the intellect. After telling what nature has done for us in the matter of transmitting to each new generation something of the gains made by former generations, Rev. Mr. Utter spoke of what we have done and may do for ourselves, guided by our own reason, ranging the under the heads of "Education," "Government" and "Art."

Speaking of the evils and opportunities of government, the speaker said: "Each generation leaves something to that which succeeds it in the way of government. Almost any sort of government, be it the best or the worst, yet everywhere the chasm between the ideal and the actual is wide. Between too much government and too little, the pendulum forever swings in all countries where men are alert and trying to follow reason toward better ideals. Tyranny, revolution, liberty, license, anarchy, then a republic, a dictator and a tyrant again. Through the centuries the game has often been played."

"Perhaps Pope was right: 'For forms of government let fools contest. What'er is best administered is best.'"

"But, 'Lord, give us men!' is the fervent prayer that goes up from a million hearts daily in America. 'Thank God for Theodore Roosevelt, and Taft and Root and Tom Johnson and Folk of Missouri. And there are thousands, millions, as honest, living in mute, inexpressive privacy, that I have no doubt. But why? Why can't we get them in the places of honor and power? The Lord has given us men, it seems, but we prefer too large a proportion of knaves and fools—usable fools—to even approximate the ideal state that we think we deserve, that we know we ought to build. We are in the condition we are because of selfishness and greed. It is the moral element that is lacking. Men used to have consciences, generally, but surely now they lack them. Is it worse than ever before? I verily think so. . . .

Americans have reached that dangerous stage of ethical growth where instinctive integrity is replaced by reasoned integrity."

But Dr. Utter's sermon was not all pessimistic. He attributed the evils of which he spoke to the fact that the progress of the world in the arts and sciences, in making use of the gifts of nature, had been so great that man's moral nature had become dazed by the transformation, as is the case, in some instances when an individual becomes suddenly very rich—he is confused and bewildered. But he believed that civilization, with the aid of advanced education, would overcome these evils and that man would become more competent to utilize to his own good the abundant riches which have been poured into his lap by means of new discoveries, new inventions and new methods.

"But ought not morality to be taught directly to the people? In the common and secondary schools, I think almost all is being done that can be done. At least there is nothing new in kind that would be worth while. For with immature minds, the whole matter should rest upon the aroused sense of nature, upon the instinctive feelings in regard to right and wrong, controlling them and attaching them to ideals. . . . There isn't a time-honored moral precept there isn't a principle of honor or deed of self-sacrifice, nor a feeling of generosity or love, that cannot be triumphantly justified on purely scientific grounds, if one will hold to the faith that life is or may be good."

MUCH SMOKE, BUT LITTLE FIRE IN DOOLY BLOCK

Prospects of a genuine sensation fired the hearts of the Sunday crowd in the business district yesterday afternoon when a small boy ran from the alley near West Temple and Second South streets crying out that the Dooly block was on fire. Officer Barlow, who happened to be near the corner, turned in an alarm, and in an incredibly short time Chief Bywater and Assistant Chief Wood were on the scene, accompanied by steamers 1 and 3, hose wagons 1 and 2, truck 1, and the chemical engine. Burning rubbish was found on the floor of the engine room in the basement of the building, and the fire was out and the excitement was over before either had time to assume alarming proportions.

It was found that the janitor had piled several bushels of rubbish in the cement floor directly in front of the furnace, and had set fire to it, thinking the smoke would go out the furnace. But for some reason the draft from the open windows was stronger than that from the furnace, and volumes of dense smoke began pouring from the windows. It really looked from the outside as though a serious fire was raging in the basement, so that the alarm of a fire boy and others who saw the smoke was not without ample foundation.

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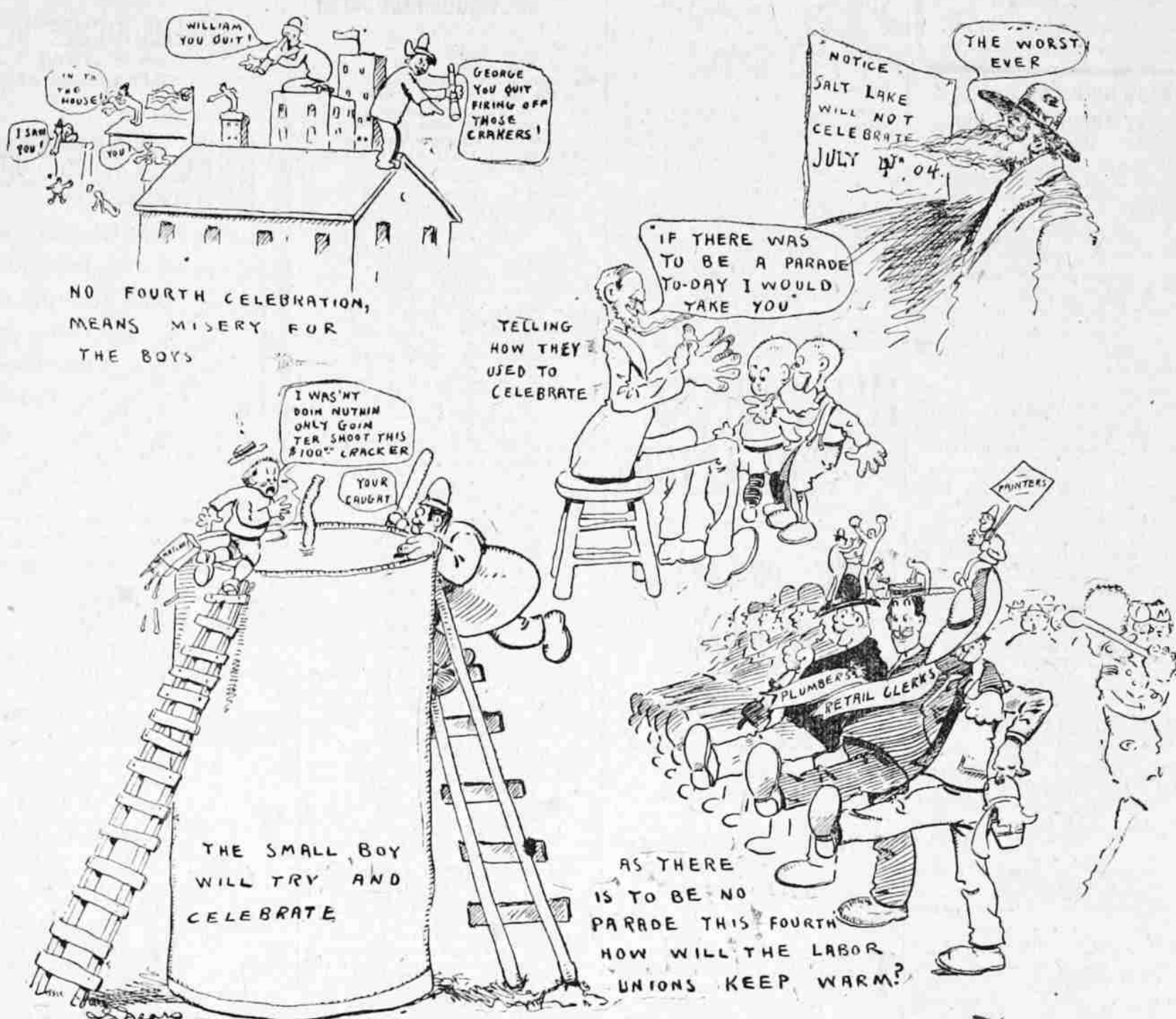
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Independence Day in Salt Lake City

What it Was, What it Will be and What it Might be, Told in Picture and Story



FILL YOUR EARS with cotton this morning before leaving home and take a generous portion of some good nerve tonic. Today is the Fourth of July, and unless you seek some secluded spot in the mountains, you will need both before and after the Fourth. The usual amount of dynamite, torpedoes, bombs, skyrocket, giant-crackers and other nerve-racking inventions have been distributed among the small boys of this city, and the youngsters will do their best to make the Fourth anything but a quiet holiday.

Salt Lake is to have no formal celebration. This does not mean, however, that there will be "nothing doing." There no doubt will be many celebrations much too informal to please some of the older and more cultured residents, many of whom fail to appreciate the fun in exploding a bomb as big as a plug hat on the parlor table. Despite the fact that there will be no Fourth of July parade, with a Goddess of Liberty, Independence day will be well observed in this city.

Thousands of Salt Lakers will seek the pleasure resorts. Down at Calder's park a racing programme will be pulled off, and most of the horse-lovers of the city will be there. Five events are on the card, and with fair weather, one of the best meets ever held in the State should occur.

Those who like baseball will have an opportunity of seeing an exhibition of the National pastime long to be remembered. At Walker's park the Elks and the Commercial club aggregations will battle for supremacy, and the probabilities are that there will be something doing every minute. Both teams have been in active training for more than a month past, and neither nine will admit the possibility of defeat.

In the evening one of the best programmes of the season will be given at the saucer track. The feature of the meet is a three-cornered, motor-paced race for five miles, in which are entered Chapman, Downing and Samuelson. Several open amateur and professional races are also on the card.

Lagoon and Saltair will no doubt have their share of patronage. The beautiful resort near Farmington is very popular with the middle class on holidays, and is perhaps the most heavily patronized family resort in the State. Saltair will attract the younger persons, many of whom journey to the beach for the sole purpose of enjoying the dancing.

Hundreds of parties left Saturday night for the mountains, preferring to spend the holiday in the cool and invigorating air of some of the adjoining canyons. Quite a number went to Brighton and many to Wasatch, while others sought camping places in Parley's and East canyons.

The city's population is swelled considerably today by large numbers of visitors from the smaller towns of the State, who took advantage of the excursion rates and came to this city for their Fourth of July celebration. Large crowds of miners and other laboring men came in from Bingham, Park City, Eureka and other mining camps for a brief sojourn in the metropolis.

No doubt there will be the usual number of accidents, fires and other incidents; but these are to be taken as a matter of course. Everybody is supposed to have his fire insurance policies in good working order and the hospitals are amply prepared to care for the injured. The police and fire departments will work overtime today and tonight in preventing conflagrations, bloodshed and disturbance. Everything is in readiness for the biggest celebration of the year.

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AN INCIDENT OF
A FORMER FOURTH

It was on the night of July 4, 1899. The little ball spun merrily around the groove of the roulette wheel and the operator raked in the money of a dozen men or so who placed their chips on the losing numbers. Men stood three deep around the faro tables and, with tense muscles and anxious faces, watched the dealer turn the cards. It was a busy night in one of Salt Lake's most popular nightclubs.

Little notice was attracted by a stranger who entered the place. He walked up to the roulette device and, before his presence was observed, he had placed a lighted boom upon the end of the table. Such a firecracker had never been seen before, nor, doubtless, since. It was fully three feet long and six inches in diameter. The fuse made an awful sputtering. The spitting fuse and size of the boom were all that was needed to clear the house.

Men scrambled in every direction and knocked one another over in their mad rush to get out. Even the proprietor and help ran with the others, leaving thousands of dollars piled up on the tables.

Outside they waited in breathless suspense for an explosion. Little soon the report came—"Pop." Some heard it, but the majority did not.

The practical joker who had brought the bomb in then explained his contrivance to the proprietor of the club. His bomb was a length of ordinary stovepipe, covered with bright red paper. Inside he had placed a miniature firecracker, scarcely an inch in length, with a big fuse attached which protruded from the end of the pipe.

One of the proprietor's friends suggested that they take the big false-

alarm bomb to a rival club and there make a scattering. This was assented to by the practical joker, and off they started. On the way to the house, the practical joker slipped a real bomb, about a foot long, into the stovepipe.

When they arrived he suggested that the other carry it in and do the touching off. The proprietor's friend was willing. The sight of the spitting fuse on the roulette table produced the same hasty exits as in the previous case, but imagine the consternation of the man who applied the match when the report came. It sounded like a Japanese cannon, as described in the press, and blew out every window in the house. The roulette wheel and table were ruined and chips and silver dollars were scattered all over the place. The practical joker, however, dug up like a man in settling the damages.

HOW THE SOLDIERS
WILL OBSERVE THE DAY

The troops at Fort Douglas will hold their annual Fourth of July celebration at the post today, and, beginning with the playing of National airs at reveille, the day will be observed in a glorious manner. Field day sports will be conducted, beginning at 9 o'clock, and some spirited ball playing will be done. A large crowd is expected from the Twelfth and one from the Twenty-second batteries will take place in the afternoon. The troops are in excellent condition for the events to come off, and a large crowd is expected. In order to promote athletics, the commanding officer has decided to give the winner of the individual events a three-day furlough and a twenty-four-hour infantry band will render music during the day.

WHEELER WILL ENTHUSE
IN THE CANYONS OF UTAH

Many people know Col. Dan Y. Wheeler, who has been coming to Salt Lake for these numerous years in the interest of a stricken public, Col. Dan being a wholesale druggist. But, owing to the fact that he was at one time a Colonel of the One Hundred and Sixth Missouri Infantry he is imbued with the true fire of patriotism, and when the Fourth comes around he is right to the front. This year he has put up a great scheme. With a wagon filled with fireworks he left several days ago to get ready a canyon retreat of a hundred miles from Salt Lake. Following him yesterday were divers chaparrons, young ladies and one or two young men, not enough of the latter to prevent the Colonel from being the hero of the occasion. He proposes to make the canyon ring with loud reports and to have at night to glow with a thousand rockets. When he returns to the Knutsford he will be tired and happy as he will have celebrated the day in regular style.

ST. LOUIS EXCURSIONS

Via Oregon Short Line.

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