

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 21, 1907.

DECIDED ON ITS MERITS.

The effort to make it appear that the result of the vote on the case of Senator Smoot was due to political considerations is futile. The decision of the Senate rested entirely on the merits of the case. No valid ground was found on which to base adverse action, and this became more and more apparent as the agitation proceeded.

We notice that some busybodies are already anxiously inquiring whether Senator Smoot will be re-elected. That is, it seems to us, a question of no immediate importance. It is not necessary to discuss that matter at this time.

THE MEANING OF THE VOTE.

Senator Reed Smoot is vindicated. After a searching inquiry conducted by the most skillful inquirers that immense wealth could buy and keen-sighted hatred find, and extended over years, no crime was found against him except his religion.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is vindicated. The fight against Senator Smoot took the form of a vicious assault upon the religious denomination of which he is an honored member and official.

In a broader sense, Christianity is vindicated. The exclusion from the Senate of Senator Smoot for his membership in the Church, would have created a precedent that might, at some future time, have operated against every member of Christian churches in either house of Congress.

Still more, The Constitution of this country has been gloriously upheld by that vote. The conspiracy against Senator Smoot was a masked assault upon that wonderful instrument of freedom.

There is cause for rejoicing in every truly American home today. For a million souls and cause the death of thousands. Now, reliable reports from the stricken districts say that 15,000,000 people are threatened, and that death by starvation will be the lot of possibly 4,000,000 souls.

victory for the freedom of conscience has been won that is worthy of being recorded among the epoch-making events of history. All honor to the worthy Senators who dared to do their duty and uphold the laws of the land, notwithstanding the tremendous pressure that was brought to bear upon them to consent to the proposed crucifixion.

NOW LET US HAVE PEACE!

For four years turmoil has reigned in Utah. That is enough. Now let us have peace. The situation demands it. No possible good can come of a continuation of the strife. Infinite harm can result.

We grant that it is antagonistic to the maxim that "Peace rules the day when reason rules the mind." But it has fought its fight, and it has lost. It was vanquished by an honorable foe. Only clean weapons were used against it. A great principle was involved, and that principle has triumphed over all.

THE WOMEN ANGRY.

Some of the women of the country pretend to be very angry at President Roosevelt, because the United States Senate did not declare Senator Smoot's seat vacant. But they are not angry. Bless their souls! They are not one of them that would not be "de-lighted" to accept an invitation to the White House and then declare that President Roosevelt is "just too cute for anything."

Contrary to general expectation, Senator Smoot has lived long enough to see the end of the Smoot case. Rev. Dr. Paden's influence on the Senate to stay progress was about the same as that of the fly on the wheel.

Perhaps the reason the "American" party does not hold a justification over the vote in the Smoot case is because it is the Lenten season. Mr. Jerome's irritability might be explained on the ground that it is a cross-examination were it not that he was just as irritable in the direct.

The President has written a letter in favor of playgrounds. As Switzerland is the playground of Europe why not make Utah the playground of America? "Heroic battle waged by ten million American women for purity of the nation's homes suffers a temporary defeat," says the anti-Smoot organ.

Senator Hansbrough is one of the class of politicians who believe that in state affairs there is a "higher law" than the Constitution. In his bitter speech against Senator Smoot's right to retain his seat he said: "The higher law should be invoked—the unwritten law embraced in the inherent duty of every citizen of the republic to defend the written instrument from the assaults of those who would destroy it."

THE FAMINE IN CHINA.

When the "News" responded to the call to receive contributions for the benefit of famine sufferers in China, it was estimated that the calamity would affect

a million souls and cause the death of thousands. Now, reliable reports from the stricken districts say that 15,000,000 people are threatened, and that death by starvation will be the lot of possibly 4,000,000 souls.

The correspondent of the Christian Herald gives some vivid pictures of the conditions in the affected regions. He says in part: "Little more than an hour ago I saw two women, presumably mother and grandmother, wailing over the tiny coffin of a child that had been part of grim famine's daily toll. It is all so horrible, so overpowering, so haunting, so heartrending, that one cannot write of it in orderly fashion. It seems as if only the repeated cry of 'Help! Help! Help!' can be fashioned for the ears of the prosperous American people to whom God has given a year of plenty, while the poor of China perish from want."

Another eye witness to the sufferings of the poor in the famine district says: "All is peace and quiet in the vicinity of Shanghai at present, but in the province to the north of us there is a dreadful sight. The country for miles was inundated; the land is lower than the river so the water does not drain off as it should and people have to wait for it to evaporate to plant their crops. Their mud huts have been swept away by the flood and they have sold their clothes for food. Mr. Caldwell, a missionary from the district, was here the other day and said the Chinese officials have organized some relief camps and are doing what they can to feed the starving, since otherwise they might riot and be a danger. It is estimated that five millions of more are starving than the Chinese would care to admit."

Cases of cannibalism have also occurred. It is evident that the situation appeals strongly to the sympathy of the generous of mankind. Some are having the mumps and some are having the dums. The breath of spring is in the air. It is next to the breath of life. Sweetenham's resignation instead of Sweetenham seems to have been recalled. No matter how short the orange crop there are always enough lemons to go round. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw finds no difficulty in understanding the prosecuting attorney's icy stare. The London suffragettes have been released from prison. Not jailbirds but birds of freedom are they.

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Those tons of petitions can be used again against some other senator by charging the caption and raising the date. Mr. Hearst is urging the passage of a law to prohibit the use of money in elections. Isn't there a saying something like this, Set a thief to catch a thief?

The President has written a letter in favor of playgrounds. As Switzerland is the playground of Europe why not make Utah the playground of America? "Heroic battle waged by ten million American women for purity of the nation's homes suffers a temporary defeat," says the anti-Smoot organ. And chief among these ten millions is the Rev. Dr. W. H. Paden.

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Dallas to Sherman. A trackless plan of greater extent is on hand in Georgia, combining two divisions aggregating 178 miles of practically continuous electric railway, with Macon as the junction point of the divisions. One of the most ambitious schemes in that of a South Carolina corporation which plans to build about 325 miles of electric railways connecting many important points in South Carolina, and also reaching to Augusta, Ga. Besides the new lines projected, various extensions of old lines are proposed or under way.

X-RAY FOR SMUGGLERS.

Philadelphia Ledger. Even such tricks as hiding jewels in hollow shoe-heels or swallowing diamonds cannot longer be depended upon to cheat the customs officials. In the French government tests of the X-ray apparatus, as reported in Paris, persons representing smuggling passengers have been examined without removal of clothing or any indignity except being detained a few moments before the apparatus. It is the process that 157 persons received attention in forty-five minutes. On these individuals were articles of many kinds, variously concealed. Watches were revealed in the lining of a man's coat, rings in the hem of a woman's skirt, a tiny pocket under a man's tongue, watch chains and a bracelet in the coils of a woman's hair, carcases in a man's shoes, and even buttons—proving the presence of gloves—under the clothing over a man's chest. Tried on postal packages, without breaking seals or untying strings, all kinds of articles were shown in the most innocent and unlikely hiding places.

COYOTE AND MAN IN DUEL.

New York American. A remarkable story reaches Boston from Burley of a fight between a man and a coyote at the bottom of a forty-foot mining shaft. The man was Nephi Birch. He had occasion to visit his claim in the mountains south of Burley. His mission took him down the shaft on the ladder. This did not reach quite to the bottom, so he dropped from the end, two or three feet. He was immediately made aware that the narrow space was occupied. A wild animal sprang at the ladder as though to climb out. Falling in this, it turned upon Birch and jumped at him. Birch, however, did not flinch. It sprang at his throat, but missed, and in a second spring grabbed the collar of his coat, to which it hung. A fierce battle ensued for a long time Birch held his fists to beat the head of the animal, his hands being badly injured. Finally he found an old drill and with this beat the animal off and then killed it. Lining a candle, he found it to be a coyote.

A WOMAN'S STYLE.

Woman's Life. It is just as easy to face the world and its people with a smile as with a frown. The cheery woman finds that this is the best way to comfort and do good service in various helpful ways, social, personal and charitable. Mothers soon learn that she is one of their faithful aids. Little children love her, as she enters the room with her eyes, she pathizes with their small griefs. Young men and maidens confide their petty secrets to her discretion, and older people prize her delicate attentions she delights to bestow.

JUST FOR FUN.

A Royal Joke.

Spain's twenty-year-old King is still, it seems, very much of the boy. Every one in who he drops unexpectedly into the unconventional in a way productive of much embarrassment to his entourage. His latest prank was played in the great cathedral at Leon, to which, with his Queen, he recently paid an unofficial visit. He had gone, alone, into the organ-loft, and had begun to play a hymn. Alphonso's education has made of him an organist of ability as well as a linguist—when with no warning whatever he switched off into a sharp military march, at the same time calling out in a loud voice: "Attention! Quick step! Forward!" "Priests and suite were for the instant too surprised to do anything but gasp—and the next minute there was the solemn strain of the march, led by the laughter of the King heard beneath it.—Harper's Weekly.

Fixing the Woman Folks.

"Do you always take home six copies of the paper?" "Not always." "Then why now?" "Because I want to get a chance to read about that murder trial myself."—Washington Herald.

Present and Future.

"What shall we do with our ex-presidents?" "Hah!" shouted an Ohio Senator, who had chanced to overhear. "It keeps some of us busy to know what to do with them earlier in the game."—Philadelphia Leader.

Courteous Retort.

"They were quarrelling over their children." "Well," she exclaimed, spitefully, "it is certain John has your temper." "Well," he replied, quietly, "it is also certain he hasn't yours, because you've got it all yourself."—Harper's Weekly.

Experience.

A certain member of the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange has set his nephew up in business three times, but the young man lacks something essential to success in the line elected for him, and has failed with each effort. When he recently appeared before the uncle with his fourth request, the latter said: "You must learn to lean on yourself. I can't carry you all my life. I'll tell you what I'll do. You owe me a great deal as the result of your last failure. Pick up on your own hook and go. It alone fill you pay off those debts. When you've done that, I'll give you a check for what they amount to. Such an experience will do you more good than all the money I could give you now." Two months later the nephew walked in with every claim checked in full, and the uncle was so delighted that he gave the promised check. "How did you manage it, Howard?" he asked, after an expression of consternation. "I borrowed the money," replied Howard.—Harper's Weekly.

SALT LAKE THEATRE. TONIGHT. ISABEL IRVING, Susan in Search of a Husband. WILLES-HORNE DRUG CO. The Best Remedy. For your ailment is the one your doctor prescribes. Pure drugs, graduate pharmacists, extreme care, reasonable prices, have made our prescription trade what it is today.

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