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SALT LAKE CITY, DEC. 26, 1907.

FOR THE DEFENSE.

By the vote of a large majority of the citizens of Worcester, Mass., that city has been enrolled on the list of "dry" communities. No saloons will be licensed there. The vote is especially worthy of note, because of the size of the city.

The result of the vote may not be due to a sudden and overwhelming change of sentiment in favor of total abstinence from intoxicants, but rather to the fact that the decent citizens of nearly every community find themselves under the necessity of combining for defense against the arrogance of the saloon business.

Salt Lake needs a revolt against the tyranny of vice that has reared its throne in the very heart of the City. It needs a return to the morality of the olden days, when it presented a pattern that elicited the admiration of visitors.

As an illustration of the conditions prevailing formerly, we quote from an article in the Nineteenth Century, by James W. Barclay, member of the British Parliament. The article was reprinted in pamphlet form in 1884. Mr. Barclay says, referring to certain official statistics:

"These figures conclusively prove that the Mormons are a sober, law-abiding people, and singularly free from the grosser forms of vice, whatever may be alleged to the contrary by ignorant or prejudiced enemies. Of the 200 saloons, billiard, bowling alley, and pool-table keepers, not a dozen even profess Mormonism, and from all I could learn, the following trenchant extract from a Mormon publication in 1878 may not be far from the truth: 'Out of the twenty counties of the Territory, most of which are populous, thirteen are, today, without a dram-shop, brewery, gambling or brothel-house—yet these counties are exclusively Mormon.'"

We need a return to such conditions, as far as they can be established, for there is no doubt that the liquor traffic, which is not satisfied to operate within the legal boundaries, is a festering sore that calls for heroic treatment.

CHRISTMAS WITHOUT CHRIST.

According to a local item in the Los Angeles Times, the city schools there had their Christmas celebration without reference to the Redeemer of the world. This was in obedience to an order by the Superintendent of schools. According to his instructions the teachers were to make the occasion one of good cheer only. Christ was not to be mentioned, for fear of offending someone. One teacher said to the Times: "We had a Pagan Christmas at our school today, owing to the orders that we were to leave Christ out, but we deemed it better to have some sort of a Christmas exercise rather than set the children wondering why not, and sending them home disappointed."

If the Superintendent hoped by this order to increase his popularity, he is evidently doomed to disappointment. For many complaints have come from both teachers and parents of what they termed an unwarranted interference with a universal custom. One little girl, it is said, went home crying, and said to her mamma: "We're not to sing anything about Christ; there might be some little children there who do not believe in Christ, and so we're not to sing anything about Him."

As near as could be learned, the paper says, not one school in the city celebrated the day as the birthday of Christ, but necessarily resorted to all sorts of pretexts to avoid the very event that gives the joyous anniversary its name.

This anxiety to meet every possible objection, no matter how unreasonable, is laid policy. If there are ligate so narrow-minded as to object to the recitation of the simple but sublime story of the birth of Jesus, once a year, they are not entitled to the consideration they demand. They should be instructed. Jews and gentiles, pagans and infidels, as well as Christians of all shades, must admit that no man had more influence upon the events of history than Jesus of Nazareth. All should be willing to join in commemorating His birth, if only as a tribute to the work of emancipation that He accomplished. For what would have become of liberty, enlightenment, reason, without the battles fought for the redemption of the world by Him and His faithful followers? Has any other religion brought a part of the human family as near to the ideal conditions as His has? Look at Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism, Mohammedanism! And at the status

of the civilizations that flourish in the countries they cover! Even those who regard Jesus only as a man, if they are not ignorant bigots, should be willing to reverence His memory, and teach their children to pay homage to His name. When bigotry demands, not only the elimination of sectarianism from the schools, but also the exclusion of all reference to the existence on earth of the Greatest of Men, it is ripe for a stinging rebuke.

HISTORY OF PANICS.

Some students of the history of the finances of nations maintain that panics come and go with the regularity of sun spots. They even fancy that there may be some connection between the storms on the heavenly orb and the disturbances in our mundane sphere. Whether there is sufficient ground for this supposition or not, it is clear that the run of each individual flurry in financial circles is so nearly like every other, as to suggest that they all are the results of the operation of one law, and not of chance.

This fact is strikingly apparent in the following enumeration, by the New York Evening Post, of the main events in the several panics of this country:

- "First, the failure of an important bank or institution—the Ohio Life and Trust in 1857, Jay Cooke & Co. in 1873, Mitchell's bank, and the Erie railway in 1893, the Knickerbocker trust company in 1907.
"Second, a run of depositors on the banks.
"Third, a day of outright and hopeless panic—October 13, 1857; September 20, 1873; July 26, 1903, October 24, 1907—when bank officers acted in as much a fright as bank depositors, and when leading institutions refuse credit for a few hours to interests who are entitled to it, and who cannot survive the day without it.
"Fourth, partial or complete suspension of payments by the banks—refusal to cash notes in specie in 1857, and withholding of full cash payments to depositors in 1873, 1893 and 1907.
"Fifth, hoarding of money in large amounts, by savings banks, out-of-town institutions and individuals, leading, along with the restriction of cash payments to depositors, to offer of a premium on currency, paid in bank checks. In 1857 this took the form of a discount on bank notes.
"Sixth, very large import of foreign gold, bought at a premium and paid for by sale of securities and commodities to foreign markets at a heavy decline of price. We brought in \$15,000,000 of gold in 1857, \$25,000,000 in 1893, and something like \$90,000,000 this year.
"Seventh, demands on the government to 'do something.' This resulted, in 1857, in Fernando Wood's proposition for extravagant public works in New York city, to employ workmen out of a job; in 1873, in Secretary Richardson's illegal issue of \$25,000,000 canceled legal tenders, and this year, at the same point of the series of events, in the treasury's note and bond issues.
"Eighth, a sudden improvement in the situation, due to receipt of foreign gold in quantity and to wanting panic, accompanied by rapid recovery on the stock exchange and by numerous public statements by financiers that all the trouble was past, that the panic was a mere flurry, and that business conditions will be in a month or two just what they were before the panic.
"Ninth, a flood of propositions from everybody to reform the currency and prevent future financial reaction by act of Congress. No such legislation, barring the repeal of the silver purchase act in October, 1893, was ever passed in the session following the panic.
"Tenth, realization by the whole community that an era had been closed in American finance, and that a long period of reaction must be undergone in preparing for the process of reconstruction. Labor disturbances invariably accompanied this stage of the episode."

Then, the account goes on to say, after the more or less prolonged period of liquidation, readjustment, debt-paying, economy and invention of labor-saving devices, a time has come—several years after the panic day—when America suddenly discovered that its newly accumulated capital and its vast resources had once more placed it in control of the international markets. It was after that discovery that we witnessed 1865, 1879 and 1897.

From the figures presented it seems to take about four years to fully recover from the shock of a first-class panic, unless some great national disturbance, like the Civil War, prolongs the agony. It remains to be seen whether this rule holds good this time.

THE JUVENILE.

The Juvenile Instructor for January comes in an entirely new dress and with a splendid list of contents. This magazine is well known to the reading public. It has been a welcome guest in thousands of homes during the forty-two years of its existence, and the good it has accomplished is beyond calculation. In its new costume it is entirely up to date in every respect and it will undoubtedly prove more acceptable than ever to its readers and friends. In the editorial announcement we find the following from the pen of President Joseph F. Smith:

"We commend the Juvenile, then, not only as a necessity to every successful Sunday school worker, but, as we believe a powerful assistance for good to every home in the Church. May its helpful and guiding mission among the young continue unabated, and may those who have the responsibility of training the boys and girls—our parents and Sunday school teachers—find it a most powerful aid in their effort to make brilliant the souls of the 'Jewels' given us by our Heavenly Father."

Among the features of the January number we notice very good half-tone pictures of the First Presidency, and of the members of the Quorum of the Twelve. There is a biographic sketch of President George Reynolds, very instructive, also "Short Stories From Church History," and other features of interest. We heartily recommend the Juvenile to all who love good language literature.

AMERICAN COLLEGES.

A brother of the late Leland Stanford, residing in Australia proposes to establish for Australian students eight scholarships in the California university. Those who avail themselves of the opportunity must pledge themselves that they will return to their native country. It is not usual for foreign born students to seek the benefit of American college training. Cornell's recent college training. Cornell's recent college training. Cornell's recent college training.

It is generally believed that the Rhodes scholarships were inspired by the thought of the venerable institution at Oxford needed an infusion of new blood for its own improvement. The gain to the individual student

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

(For the "News," by H. J. Hagwood.) Honesty is the best policy. Many honest men have sounded the sentiment of Archbishop Whately, who said that a man who "acts on that principle is not an honest man." And Coleridge put the case a little stronger by saying that "no honest man ever lived according to that rule."

Honesty may be the best policy; but it is more than the best policy—it is the highest good. A time may come when to be honest will require sacrifices. It will mean the loss of some thing immediately desirable, and it may for the moment seem to you that honesty is not the best policy. What then?

Be honest, always, even when it isn't the best policy. It is a good game and it pays even when you lose. I have always instructed my employees never to lie or to misrepresent anything to anybody. This rule is to be carried out even at an apparent loss of business, for no relation between being honest and working good at your work can be seen. One belongs to the field of ethics and should be considered entirely separate and apart from business. Success is not the reward for honesty; but is rather the result of work plus brains plus luck. Honesty has its own peculiar reward—in fact it is a reward in itself. Don't expect to be paid for being honest. Honesty is the ultimate good and should be pursued for its own sake—not because it is the best policy, but just because it is honest.

Having surrendered the role of Mother of Presidents, Virginia is becoming the mother of triplets and quadruplets.

Evidences multiply that the voyage of the fleet to the Pacific, possibly around the globe, is to be one grand, sweet song.

"What is a bourgeois?" asks the New York Evening Post. A gentleman who unwittingly talks prose and poetry alternately.

San Francisco wants to annex Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda. If the cities across the bay are wise, they will say, "Nay, nay, Pauline."

It has about been determined that the man who fired the bullets at Brownsville is the same person as the man who struck Billy Patterson.

"Why is the President opposed to Governor Hughes?" asks the Boston Herald. But is the President opposed to Governor Hughes? That is the question to be first determined.

Is it not simply rank nonsense to say that it is necessary to cut a man's body all to pieces to determine the cause of death when it is known that he fell across live wires and death was instantaneous?

It has been suggested that companies for insuring bank depositors against loss be formed. A policy in such a company might be a very good thing, but tier all the best policy against loss is honesty.

"We are ruled by uncrowned Caesars," says Bourke Cockran. And here all the time the American people thought they were self-governed. How great is their capacity for self-deception if not for self-government.

Budding.

Norah—An' phwere do your mistress be goin' tonight?

Bridget—Shure, she didn't inform me, but I'm the looks iv her. O! take it she be goin' to wan iv thin comin' out parties.—Harvard Lampoon.

Accepted Without Comment.

"I broke a record today. Had the last word with a woman."

"Didn't think it possible. How'd it happen?"

"Why, I said to a woman in the car, 'Madam, have my seat.'—Philadelphia Ledger.

Excuse for Him.

"Young Van Stoo is going to be a drunkard, I fear."

"Well, so is his father. He drinks like a fish."

"Oh, well, his father has a lot of stock in a distillery, and he has to do it to make his dividends as large as possible."—Cleveland Leader.

Giving Quickly.

"See me next week about it."

"But he who gives quickly gives twice."

"That's just the point. I don't care to be held up later for a second subscription."—Pittsburgh Post.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The December issue of Charities and the Commons marks its tenth anniversary. In it appears the final chapter of Emily Greene Balch's notable series, "Our Slavic Fellow Citizens." Fittingly enough she has reserved the "Question of Assimilation" until the last. "Wherever in the world there are people crying, 'we are oppressed,'" Miss Balch says, "here you are likely to find another set of people protesting, 'this is no oppression, it is assimilation—benevolent assimilation.'" She insists that the process of Americanization, so long as it really comprehended, is seen to be a process of "assimilation" not without its signs of difficulty, and apprehension and opposing purposes. Miss Balch has interpreted her perplexing and mooted subject with a rare and characteristic understanding, and with such fine sympathy as to make this chapter easily the best of a splendid series. Sharing in importance with Miss Balch's article are four thoughtful discussions of the almost ominous question of industrial accident insurance, and there are many other features of interest.—195 East 22nd St., New York.

Popular Mechanics for January has about 150 terse, entertaining articles, illustrated with 24 splendid pictures, every one of special and peculiar interest. The leading feature for the month is a description and discussion of the Lakes to the Gulf Deep Waterway, a project every American citizen should be informed on. Women will read with interest the article on electric household utensils, which are eliminating the unsightly features of housework. The Shop Notes department is, if possible, better than usual, while the amateur mechanic who makes one of the inexpensive lensless microscopes described in his special department, will be delighted with the result.—Chicago.

THE INFLUENZA GERM.

Atlanta Journal. The fact of influenza having made its appearance among us again tends to revive interest in the microbe that is responsible for this exceedingly distressing complaint. A few years back our knowledge of the organism was almost nil. But the ravages of the disease put the bacteriologists on their toes, and the result is that today they know more about its habits and life history than is the case with almost any other pathogenic germ. In appearance the influenza germ very much resembles a sheep tick, only, of course, he is many thousand times smaller. His goal in life is the human throat or nose. As soon as he settles there he proceeds first to envelop himself in a shell, and in a very few minutes he separates into two parts. Each of these parts resolves itself almost instantaneously into a perfect microbe, and these two full-fledged microbes start at once to swell and divide on their own account. In this way, in the course of a few hours, the original microbe will have surrounded himself with some 16,000,000 microbes—his children, so to speak.

JUST FOR FUN.

Infantile Politeness.

Tommy had been invited to dine at a learned professor's house, and his mother was anxious for his good behavior at table. She gave him elaborate instructions.

"Well, Tommy, how did you get on?" she asked on his return. "You are quite sure you didn't do anything impolite?"

"Well, no, ma—at least nothing to speak of."

"The mother's anxiety was aroused. 'At least, there was something wrong? Now, tell me all about it, Tommy.'"

"Oh, it wasn't much. You see, I was trying to cut my meat when it slipped off the plate on to the floor."

"Oh, my dear boy, what ever did you do?"

"I just said, sort of carelessly, 'That's always the way with tough meat,' and went on with my dinner!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

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