

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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FALL FARMING.

Contrary to an ancient adage and to the general impression of the people, the fall is not a period of completion, but is the beginning of our year's work.

While the spring marks the bursting forth of the buds into blossom, these buds were made ready for the process during the previous season.

Schools and colleges open in the fall. Meetings and conventions suspended during the warm season resume their sessions. Festivities of the cold season are approaching. The people are getting ready for the winter's work and social activities.

The recent change in farming methods brings into a clearer light the necessity for autumn's work in general and for agricultural fall work in particular.

When a farmer supposes that he should not begin farming operations until the spring opens he is making a great mistake. The fall work of soil preparation is almost essential to the best agriculture, especially within the Rocky Mountain plateau.

A Wisconsin farmer, W. D. Neale, points out that fall plowing, for instance, gives the farmer plenty of time to do his work in the spring of the year. He may spend much of the time in repairing his fences and out-buildings instead of plowing in the field. Then, too, he is almost certain to get into his field earlier, and while his neighbor is plowing his ground, he may be planting his crop, and it is the early crop that usually yields the most.

Especially during such a fall as we have had this year, many of the weed seeds will sprout after the soil has been turned over them by plow and harrow. Most of these weeds will then be killed by the winter frosts, and the farmer will thus be relieved in advance of one great source of loss and labor.

Just now the various agricultural experiment stations are calling the attention of farmers to the advantages of plowing their land in the fall.

In winter climates the advisability of fall plowing is said to depend on the soil and the season. If the soil is a clay or gumbo, fall plowing will not be beneficial, for during the freezing and thawing period it will run together again and be about as firm as before plowing. If the soil is a firm, dark kind, fall plowing will be helpful to it, as it will be mellowed by the thawing and freezing during the winter. Spring grain grown on such will secure a better and an earlier matured crop than when the land is broken in the spring.

So, too, there is little gained by fall plowing if the winters are not cold enough to freeze the ground to the depth of several inches. If there are frequent rains during the winter and no freezing, the soil is likely to pack and become hard.

Few of these conditions apply to the semi-arid West, where the average soil is most likely to be improved by any sort of stirring in the fall. The main object here is to put the land into the condition of a sort of reservoir to hold the winter and spring rainfall. And since the vast majority of our land areas are too dry, the precautions against fall plowing apply only to wet lands.

Of course, for dry farming, land must be plowed either in summer or autumn; otherwise it will not contain sufficient moisture stored away beneath its surface to support a paying crop the next season. And in view of the fact that so much has recently been discovered about the possibilities of our Western farming, we should think that small trials of a variety of methods would be made by intelligent farmers in order to ascertain just what is the best way of treating their fertile heritage.

BOSTON'S NEW RULE.

In the city of Boston two schemes for a new system of government were submitted to the voters recently, and what is known as Plan 2 was adopted by a plurality of about 4,000. Party leaders are said to have opposed it, but the people generally were tired of party strife in municipal affairs and adopted a plan by which it will be abolished. It is thought, it is probable that other cities, weary of grafting officials and bottomless indebtedness, will turn to the Boston plan for relief.

According to this plan a mayor is elected for years, and his salary is \$10,000 annually. He is nominated by petition and the signature of not less than 5,000 registered voters are required. Any party designation on the city ballot is prohibited, the intention being to eliminate partisanship from municipal administration. No primaries, nor caucuses are to be held.

There is a unique feature in the Boston plan. In the Mayor's second year of service at the state election in November, ballots will be provided with this question printed upon them: "Shall there be an election for Mayor at the next municipal election?" And this will be answered by "Yes" or "No." If a majority of the registered voters vote "yes," then there must be a new election, and unless sustained by the people the mayor must step out. If the "noes" win, then he can conclude his term of office without interference. Members of the city council and school board must be nominated in the same way. "No voter may sign more

than one paper for mayor, nor more than nine for council for the first election, and for three candidates thereafter, and not more than two papers for the school board when there are two members to be elected." Aldermen will receive a salary of \$1,500 each. In the election next January "the voters may vote for nine candidates, and the nine receiving the highest votes will be declared elected. The three highest will have three-year terms, the three next highest will serve for two years and the next three for one year each. Each year thereafter three candidates-at-large will be elected, and the voters may vote for three. All members of the city council will be elected at large, and there will be no ward members of the body."

The members of the street commission and the department heads will be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the civil service commission. The municipal year will begin on the first Monday in February. Such are the provisions of the Boston plan. It is intended to give the city a business administration.

BIBLE AND PROHIBITION.

The liquor interests are flooding the country with literature in defense of the saloon traffic. We have before us the galleys proofs of an editorial that is to appear in the November number of "Our Country," a magazine published at Louisville, Ky.

In this article the "Biblical World" is quoted as follows: "How can we teach total abstinence from a Bible which represents Jesus as partaking of wine at feasts, and which even tells how he miraculously produced wine from water on one occasion when the supply fell short?"

And "Our Country" comments, in part: "The question puts the matter squarely before the Christian. He must choose between the Savior and the Anti-Saloon league. He cannot uphold an organization that is anti-Christ, unless he is willing to sacrifice his Christianity."

The "Biblical World" is published by the Chicago University, endowed with millions of dollars by John D. Rockefeller, and the liquor men evidently consider the question quoted from that publication, a regular "corker," for they are mailing it to 45,000 ministers, as utterly unanswerable. And yet, there is not a question more easily answered than that.

In the first place, it must be admitted that our Lord, according to the gospel narrative, produced wine at the marriage at Cana, and only by a most violent exegesis can it be made to appear that the "good wine" of the Master was unfermented. The very expression of the "ruer of the feast" seems to contradict that idea. The Master was not an ascetic. He did not belong to the Essenic order, as alleged. On the contrary, His enemies referred to Him as a glutton and a wine-bibber, a friend of publicans, and "sinners." But, notwithstanding this, we can consistently teach total abstinence from all intoxicants from the Bible.

It will be admitted, we hope, that the Apostle Paul understood the teachings of the Bible, and the doctrines of Christianity. It will be admitted, we hope, that he is an authority on such subjects. Hear him then. He says: "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or made weak." (Rom. 14: 21.) According to this doctrine total abstinence should even be extended to the eating of flesh, if such eating proves an offense to a weak brother. That is Bible doctrine, well established. Paul repeats it in his first letter to the Corinthians. He points out that eating, in itself, makes no man neither better nor worse, and yet he cautions his readers against using their liberty to eat as a stumbling block "to them that are weak." This he applies particularly to the sacrifices offered to idols. If, he argues, those who are weak take offense because of the exercise of your liberty, "through your knowledge shall the weak brother perish." And then he adds: "But when ye sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ." And this consideration prompts him to the conclusion: "Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth." (1 Cor. 8: 1-13.)

If this doctrine is carried out in practice total abstinence from intoxicants will be the consequence, for there is no greater stumbling block in our age on the road to eternity than the liquor traffic.

It must be remembered that at the time of our Lord, there was, in Palestine, no liquor traffic, properly speaking. There were no saloons opening their doors wide to perdition. Bread and wine, real grape juice, were articles of food. Today different conditions confront us. There is a saloon problem that does not seem capable of any solution but that of the sword of prohibition. The saloon has become a menace to the home, by absorbing the wages of the laborer and tempting the boy by its allurements. The saloon, the ally of the gambling den and the brothel, has become a menace to the community in which it is fostered. And by its corrupt methods the saloon in politics has become the curse of the state. There is no institution that causes more poverty, more crime, more misery, tears and sufferings than the saloon. And there is no greater fraud perpetrated upon the people than the liquor sold by the saloons. If money ever was obtained by false pretenses, the liquor sellers are guilty, when they sell all kinds of fraudulent compositions under the name of "beer," or "wine." The modern liquor traffic finds no parallel among the Jews of antiquity. But the law that was given from the Mount amidst manifestations of the Divine Presence, thundered forth its edicts against stealing and murder, and by so doing branded as unlawful any business that has for its aim the robbing of fellow-creatures and the destruction of their bodies and souls. The modern saloon traffic is thereby prohibited.

Are the Maritans as big fools as these mortals?

If all depends upon what one is en-

gaged in whether he should be a quitter.

Judge Devall does not seem to be a merciful judge.

Boarding house guests are overlaid by cabbage and not by abundance.

Deafness has its compensation. Those who suffer from it do not suffer from bores.

Those who talk of the "paltry dollar" generally do the most paltering over the change.

Tearing a leaf out is not the kind of browsing among books that should be encouraged.

"Don't forget Philadelphia," says an exchange. Certainly not. "Dead but not forgotten."

Politics doesn't make half such strange bedfellows as a municipal lodging house does.

That Colonel Roosevelt has not been heard from for a week is truly remarkable if not alarming.

After completing his thirteen-thousand miles trip, President Taft says "There's no place like home."

Those Spokane starvation strikers are striking neither for home nor country. They must hunger for fame.

Thank a man graciously for his advice and he will be as well pleased as though it had been acted upon.

Mr. James Jeffries has had another operation performed on his nose and

once more breathes the air of freedom and defiance.

Having voted for Major McKinley, Hon. Judson Harmon may as well lay aside all presidential aspirations, unless they be for the Republican nomination.

The fifteen professors, seven from universities and eight from high schools, who are to undertake the task of "reforming" geometry and making it "more practicable," seem to ignore the words of the wise man that "there is no excellence without labor." This is plain.

Speaking at St. Louis of currency reform, Senator Aldrich said: "Indeed, if I should be delegated today individually and personally to prepare a scheme for a new system of finance for the country, I should be at a loss to know how to proceed." Evidently the Senator is on his way but doesn't know where he is going.

Dr. Cook will submit his data and records to the National Geographic society, after they have been examined by the University of Copenhagen, on condition that Commander Peary will submit his data and records to the University of Copenhagen for examination. The proposition surely is fair, for what is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander.

Raising the price at which government coal lands shall be sold will not prevent them falling into the hands of monopolists or monopolistic syndicates. The blow must be struck directly at the creation of a monopoly. The Northern Securities case showed that the monopolies can be killed when the government is determined.

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

THE STONE EAGLE THAT DEFEATED SENATOR HALE.

By E. J. Edwards. This daily series of anecdotes and incidents that throw new, interesting and frequently dramatic light on famous events and personalities of the past have been eagerly read by more or less intimate acquaintance with many of the country's leaders since the Civil War. Each anecdote or incident is fresh from Mr. Edwards' notebook, and either in whole or in part, it constitutes the news of yesterday gathered from the men who made the news—the history—or from equally authoritative sources. As important contributions of the "Human Interest" sort to American history, these articles have a distinctive value all their own.

Just because Eugene Hale, senior senator from Maine, seems pretty much to have his way in things political these days, and especially when a tariff is in the making, you shouldn't get the idea that he has never known political defeat. He was defeated once—and it was a stone eagle that did it, too.

Those ancient inhabitants of the Pine Tree state whose memories go back vividly to the year 1873, will tell you that then it was that "Gene" Hale was unexpectedly defeated for Congress by an obscure stonecutter of the name of Thompson H. Murch, a young fellow who had espoused the cause of Greenbackism, and on that issue had laid low the brilliant representative from Maine. "They'll tell you that, and in good faith, too. But Murch himself, when I called on him a few weeks after his election, gave me an altogether different version of the cause of defeat of his nationally famous opponent.

"Have you ever noticed the granite eagle perched high above the main entrance of the New York postoffice building?" Murch asked me. "It isn't much of a work of art; in fact, it is a pretty crude piece of sculpturing. But whatever it is, I am responsible for it. I learned the trade of a stonecutter, and had some knack for the better kind of work with the chisel, so that I was permitted, while working in the quarries on the island yard off our Maine coast, to do some figure cutting.

"The contract for the granite with which the New York postoffice building was to be constructed was awarded to my employers, and I was told that I was expected to carve out of a solid block of granite the eagle which was to be used as an ornament high up above the main entrance.

"Well, I felt highly honored to be picked out for the job, and as I was slowly outlining the eagle's form, there began to dawn upon me all that it symbolized. With the coming of that feeling I began to realize my own limited education, and I made up my mind

to study as much as I could of the history of our country.

"I got a copy of some of Webster's speeches, and I remember that Mr. Hale sent to me at my request the document in which the speeches and proceedings of Congress are reported each day. As I read and studied, I tried also to use good language, and began to see what I could do with my pen.

"Then, one day, while I was clipping away at the eagle, there came to me the thought that Congress is open to anyone, who is 25 years of age and an American citizen, if he can persuade the people of his district to vote for him. I wondered whether it would not be open to me, and as I was finishing the eagle I was also deciding to do what I could to fit myself for Congress if an opportunity ever came to me to be a candidate.

"Next, I found that I understood what skilled workmen are looking for when they join labor organizations. By this time I had come little faculty for writing, so I started a paper for workmen, and was for a time both stonecutter and editor. Then there came this sudden excitement in Maine over greenbackism, when everything seemed to be turned topsy-turvy, and labor party men and greenbackers came to me and asked me if I was willing to run for Congress against Eugene Hale.

"Well, it was no little honor to be a candidate for Congress against Mr. Hale, even if I was defeated. So I told them that I would be a candidate, and the Democrat supported me. Looking at the island yard where I was working, I found that the dream the stone eagle had made me dream while I was carving it had come true at last."

Gentle reader, the next time you find yourself in front of the main entrance of the postoffice building in New York City, glance upward. Perched high above you, you will see the granite bird of freedom that administered to Eugene Hale, senior senator from Maine, the only defeat he has suffered during his 52 years in state and national politics. (Copyright, 1909, by E. J. Edwards.) "The Diplomatic Note That Discovered a Great Trade Secret."

THE MAN AT HAVANA.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

President Gomez's message to the Cuban congress which reassembled this week may be considered in the nature of an answer to those who have been inclined to cause mischief for the new government. The Cubans have been governing themselves now some nine months since the end of the last provisional government. The president's communication indicates that the islanders are doing much better than their best friends believed they could. Says the executive, order prevails from one end of the island to the other. Crops are abundant and industry stable. Immigration is increasing, and the public health shows little deterioration since the end of the intervention. On the financial side Cuba shows a balance in the national treasury of well over \$1,000,000, which is a considerable sum for a country so small. Collections for the past eight months exceed those for the same period of last year under the Washington government.

GOV. HUGHES AND THE BENCH.

Boston Herald.

It is not surprising that Gov. Hughes is mentioned as a possible successor to the late Justice Peckham on the Supreme bench. New York will argue strongly for the elevation of the chief justice, which has been its honor, with the exception of but few years, since the beginning of the government. And Gov. Hughes, if not the greatest lawyer of the State, stands high in the profession, as he does in his citizenship and public service. His appointment to the Supreme bench has been suggested previously. But New York can ill spare him for the bench. She needs him as governor for a time, and later, if she should send him to the Senate as a colleague of Senator Root, she would render to a faithful official honor that is his due, and set direct his services in the channel in which they would be of greatest value.

LONGEVITY OF OLIVE TREES.

Dundee Advertiser.

The longevity of olive trees is extraordinary. In Syria recently have been found some remarkably ancient olive trees whose ages are established beyond question. A trust deed exists which relates to an orchard covering 400 trees near Tripoli, Syria, the trust deed having been issued 452 years ago. Though the trees looked aged, they still bear fruit of fine quality in abundance, and are likely to maintain their

productiveness for many hundreds of years yet. An olive grove near Beirut is admitted to be the third largest olive farm in the world. Syrian fruit farmers are extending olive culture with much zeal and effect. One planter recently set out 200,000 trees in a block for commercial purposes. Under European system of culture the Syrians make the olive tree bear each season, while in the old days one crop in three years was thought to be all that the trees could produce. The low cropping capacity of the trees was due to the native method of thrashing the fruits from the branches with sticks, which seriously injured them. The method of grinding the olives for oil and picking the fruit are peculiar. Neither the grinders nor pickers received wages, but are paid on percentage. The pickers receive 5 per cent of the actual fruit picked and the grinders get 10 per cent of the fruit ground.

ANOTHER CENTENNIAL.

Boston Transcript.

The Gladstone centennial will be among the last to be observed this year, Gladstone having been born on the twenty-ninth of December, 1809. Thus far the program for the observance has not gone beyond preparing to place wreaths on his statue in London, with which duty the National League of Young Liberals has charged itself. There may be other wreaths, as an effort is making to have the Liberal party generally deposit garlands, and a banquet is talked of. Gladstone was one of the most useful men of the nineteenth century. Yet his career does not lend itself readily to song or story, and it is speech-making. A realization of this circumstance may account for the somewhat languid interest the observance program has thus far evoked.

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