

The Salt Lake Herald.

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY BY THE HERALD COMPANY.

ONLY ONE SCHOOL QUESTION.

THERE IS ONLY ONE QUESTION involved in the school legislation now pending, and that question is whether or not Salt Lake shall be compelled to close its schools in April, disorganize its teaching force, cripple the whole educational system of the city and compel the children to lose that much time out of their life education—time they can never make good.

An effort being made by the Republican organ to inject a political color into the issue. It suggests that Democrats wish to see an additional levy made for school purposes so that later on they may accuse the Republicans of extravagance. There may be Democrats mean enough to prefer a party advantage to the welfare of the schools, just as there are Republicans small enough to wish the schools were a party machine. But the Democrat or Republican who talks politics in connection with public education has no opinion worth considering or discussing seriously.

The Herald believes that an enormous majority of Salt Lake's citizens favor the completion of the school year; it believes that the party which obstructs this consummation will suffer for it, as it should. Still further, this paper gives the Republican members of the legislature credit for such a genuine desire to see the schools protected that they will do everything possible to maintain their efficiency.

As The Herald said on Sunday, this is not a partisan question and no party can afford to drag it into politics. The talk about poor financial management by school boards in recent years—talk for political purposes only—will not affect that main question at all. It needs only a study of the school reports to show the futility of such charges.

The school board of 1892-93, when Colonel William Nelson was president, gave an admittedly efficient administration. There was no suggestion of extravagance or mismanagement in its record. During that administration it cost \$12.21 per pupil for tuition and supervision, while the same feature cost \$13.69 per pupil during President Wilson's administration. The average cost for all expenses except permanent improvements during the Nelson regime was \$20.51 per pupil, as compared with \$17.58 during the Wilson administration. There is no political significance in the figures at all. Both boards were efficient, honest, and non-political. Both were bent on getting the best possible service in the schools for the minimum expenditure, just as the present board is.

The early school administrations had the burden of construction and initial organization to meet, and they did it well. The task of more recent years has been to keep the system of instruction up to its high standard, carry the interest on bonds issued for building purposes, meet the sinking fund obligations, and all the while provide for a rapidly increasing school population.

The difficulties of the task have been heavier than is generally understood. They have resulted in the necessity of this year for raising more funds or closing the schools. Impartial, public-spirited citizens will have no difficulty in reaching the conclusion that the schools should be kept open; that the city cannot afford to have them close.

BRUTAL, BUT REFRESHING.

THE SLUGGING DEBATE in Louisville the other evening between Messrs. Thomas Ryan and Thomas West, while not exactly the ideal, contained all the elements that have made prize fighting what it is and has been. Of course the ideal prize fight would be one in which the contestants managed to kill each other, but, like all other high ideals, this is beyond the hope of the most sanguine. The Louisville function came as close to this as one can reasonably expect. Compared with the innocuous side-stepping, pussycat-like-corner performance by Professors Corbett and McCoy, the Ryan-West festivities were refreshingly brutal.

Both gentlemen came into repeated and violent contact with the carpet. In the seventh round Mr. West split Mr. Ryan's lip, while Mr. Ryan closed an eye for Mr. West, opened a gash in his forehead and shattered his nose. The decorations in Mr. West's corner reminded one of the reporters who attended the function of a slaughter house at the close of a busy day. Connoisseurs of prize fights in Louisville claim that it was the most desperate and bloodiest affair ever privileged to come off in that city.

It is a long time since prize-fight devotees have been treated to anything so really prize-fighty in all its phases. In fact, so gentle and void of pain were the contests becoming that there was a tendency to class them along with such sports as tiddledewinks and putting the bean bag. This was deplorable, for it was giving the public a false idea of the prize fight, and served to keep many people away who would have attended had they been convinced that the contestants were anxious to do murder or maim. It is, therefore, to be hoped that future contestants will follow the noble example set them by Messrs. Ryan and West, and punish one another to a pulp's finish, for this is what the patrons of prize fights pay to see, and what the principals ought to receive. It will also serve to remove from the authorities the idea that they are simply licensing boxing matches.

PASSES AND PETTINESS.

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP of young Mr. Axton, the house yesterday sat down upon the bill forbidding judges to accept passes from railroads. This was to have been expected, albeit there were some very strong reasons urged for the passage of the bill. The courts are handling cases every day in which the railroads are deeply interested. At the same time there are judges who are doing extensive traveling on passes. A pass to a man who is about to make a railroad journey is equivalent to so much money. No one can accept such a favor without being under obligations to the donor, and it is certainly very bad policy, to say the least, to have the judges of courts in which railroads are constantly appearing as litigants under obligations to those roads.

But, unfortunately for the success of the bill, the judges are not the only offenders in the matter of accepting favors from railroads. The legislators pass upon matters of the utmost importance to railroads, and they also have a love for passes. If they should approve of a bill making it felony for a judge to ride on a pass, it might establish a precedent for the introduction of another, making it equally offensive for legislators to go junketing and making journeys that cost them nothing. Sauce for the goose is generally considered fair diet for the gander. Hence it would be hard to reject such a bill. The better way would be not to establish the precedent by rejecting such a bill. But this, of course, had no effect in causing the bill to be squelched. It was killed merely because, as Mr. Axton put it, it was petty. This is refreshing. It is at least cheering to know that an assemblage that has been industriously devoting its time to squabbling over fountain pens, vindictive Bill Glassman and arranging for free rides into adjoining states, has at last found something petty enough to make it balk.

CARTER'S \$50,000,000 ORATORICAL GEM.

IT IS A LONG TIME since a senator has used the closing hours of his term of office to such good advantage as did Mr. Carter of Montana when he talked the river and harbor steal into a death-like trance. The value of a good pair of lungs and a ready and sturdy jaw was never before so clearly demonstrated. Among the ancients speech was looked upon as silver and silence as golden, but the Greeks might have changed their minds had they lived to see thirteen hours of jaw product save the public \$50,000,000. This is what Mr. Carter did, and while his speech may not be worth the perusal, it deserves to be classed among the most treasured gems of oratory. Mr. Carter made no claims for his speech from an oratorical viewpoint. His idea was not to argue the bill into submission, but simply to follow the plans of a certain class of mothers-in-law, custom politicians and book agents, and simply to talk the bill to death by sheer force and endurance of the human jaw. At 11:40 in the evening Senator Carter trained his jaw on the bill and began. At 6:25 next morning he was still talking, and announced that if his strength held out he would not let the bill become law, adding that he was in excellent physical condition at that moment. The remainder of the senate was not braggart. The bill itself was beginning to look groggy. From that on the senator and his good jaw never faltered, and when the fifty-sixth congress expired the river and harbor bill was in a state of coma, while the senator's jaw was as sprightly as a trip hammer.

Mr. Carter's speech stands without a peer in the realm of oratory. Webster, Burke, Demosthenes and others have done wonders and covered themselves with fame by their eloquence, but in the closing hours of his senatorial life Mr. Carter has wrapped himself in a blaze of glory which will shine eternal for all time to come, the mere weight and endurance of his jaw.

McKinley said in his inaugural address that he did all that he could do in honor to avert the war with Spain. Quite true; and if he had made half the effort to avert an unjust war that he expended in trying to prevent a just one, there would not now be bloodshed in the Philippines.

If "sweetness of the lips increaseth the learning," President McKinley is in a fair way to become one of the most profound sages of his day and generation.

It was very thoughtful of Mrs. Nation to keep quiet long enough to give the inauguration proceedings a chance to get on the front pages of the newspapers.

On the pass question the legislators evidently believe that people who live in railroad cars shouldn't put logs on the track.

In the kidnaping case the detectives continue to be the ones that are doing most of the napping.

In the suburbs Senator Shoup's name is now spelled without the "h."

AMUSEMENTS.

The continual drain of the last few weeks on the playgoer's pocket book contributed chiefly to the falling off of business at the Theatre last night. It was the lot of Eugene Blair and her company to suffer this effect of recent conditions. While it was not by any means a disastrous one, it was a serious performance. Manager Pyper had doubtless expected a greater turn-out for this attraction than there really was.

Those who attended the play were apparently undecided how to take it. "A Lady of Quality" is a play which many in the audience and to them it was doubtless perfectly plain. To others, a pantograph with which to trace out the plot from scene to scene would have been an adjunct of inestimable worth. Perhaps the dramatization is not so good as it is made to appear. Until the woman kills her betrayer with a riding whip, the play lacks interest for this reason. Miss Blair does some clever scenes previous to this which cannot be appreciated. Miss Blair is one of the few actresses entitled to the name of artist who have visited Salt Lake this season, and she has selected a great character in which to display her histrionic qualities. The transition from the delicate and evil-tongued Clo Wildairs to the woman who refuses to be a fool, like other women, is admirably presented on her part. She has vivacity, fire and strong emotional qualities.

Outside of the star, there is not a single member of the cast who rises above any height. In fact, for an organization of such pretensions, it is something of a disappointment. The oft-invidious enunciation of the leading man, James Carey, seems to have been copied by nearly all members of the company, and in spots their work becomes a bore. The piece is beautifully mounted. The costumes are among the finest seen here in a long time, and the scenery is magnificent. "A Lady of Quality" will be repeated this afternoon, and "Carmen" is the bill tomorrow night.

"El Capitan" was again presented by the Grand Opera company the other evening and will be the bill for the matinee today and again tonight. The double bill of "El Capitan" and "Cavallera Rusticana" which was presented here this afternoon, was abandoned, the management states, because of the demand for "El Capitan."

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KING EDWARD AS HE IS.

A Contemner of Royalty Thinks Well of Him. (London Truth.) The Egyptians sat in judgment over their kings after they had died. Had such a court been instituted in the diet in favor of Queen Victoria would have been unanimous. King Edward VII is on the throne. What will the verdict on him, when he too passes away, will depend upon his reign. Apart, however, from the courtly adulation that will be heaped upon his reign, we have, I think, fair grounds for anticipating that he will tread in the steps of his mother. An heir to a throne occupies a position which is not that of a monarch, but that of a public official. The late queen's dislike of the paucity of a court, and the comparative retirement which she lived, threw upon the Prince of Wales many of the ceremonial obligations incident to sovereignty. In all these he acquitted himself admirably. The criticism is presumed that he had his own opinions like other Englishmen on political issues, and that they were never allowed to transpire. He was on cordial terms with political leaders of all shades. He showed his readiness to sacrifice to the public interest, and by his presence and by his advocacy associations to promote art and charity, and to better the condition of the masses.

He has traveled much and been brought into close contact with all sorts and conditions of men. He is a thorough man of the world, with an exceptional measure of that fact which goes to the making of a great ruler. He is a man of Charles II that he never said a foolish thing and never did a wise one. King Edward has done many wise things, and no one can say of him with any truth that he is a fool. He has, indeed, a curious happiness of expression on a great and small occasion. While he has made many mistakes, he has no enemies. He is neither a bookworm nor a prig, and he possesses the civility which is so essential to a monarch. He is a man of the world, and he is sympathetic, because he always seems to enter into the occupation of the moment, and to like the law with Abraham Lincoln, tells this attractive bit of anecdote: "All cases are brought to me with 'Old Abe' as their lawyer they would win their case." "If it was not for me, it would be a waste of time to take it to him. After listening some time one day to a would-be client's statement, which he read in the bill, he swung suddenly round in his chair and exclaimed: "Well, you have a pretty good case in technical law, but a pretty bad one in fact and justice. You have to get some other fellow to win this case for you, I couldn't do it. All the time while standing talking to that jury of thirty, I thought, 'Lincoln, you're a liar, and I believe I should forget myself and say it out loud.'"

Why Lincoln Wouldn't Take Case. (Success.) General John H. Littlefield, who studied law with Abraham Lincoln, tells this attractive bit of anecdote: "All cases are brought to me with 'Old Abe' as their lawyer they would win their case." "If it was not for me, it would be a waste of time to take it to him. After listening some time one day to a would-be client's statement, which he read in the bill, he swung suddenly round in his chair and exclaimed: "Well, you have a pretty good case in technical law, but a pretty bad one in fact and justice. You have to get some other fellow to win this case for you, I couldn't do it. All the time while standing talking to that jury of thirty, I thought, 'Lincoln, you're a liar, and I believe I should forget myself and say it out loud.'"

Reflections of a Bachelor. (New York Press.) Her religion is almost as close to the average woman as her union suit. Some time some smart woman will invent a new costume that will be worn only to fall in love with. When she is mending her heart a woman uses her sense for a needle, but her sentiment for her lover. An old maid is as proud of her broken heart as a baby photograph of her husband. If a man has got used to having his wife around him, he will be sure his wife had presumed on his good nature.

A Congressman's Story. (Washington Post.) Representative Henry C. Smith is opposed to railroad postal cars which will be maintained. It is like spending 75 cents to have a 25-cent coat cleaned and pressed. "It reminds me," says Mr. Smith, "of the lawyer who said to the judge, 'It costs me \$6,000 a year to live.' Well," said the judge, "I wouldn't pay it; it ain't worth it."

Would It Fit Hay. (Omaha World-Herald.) If Mr. Hay is thinking of adopting a coat of arms we suggest a canal passing through Wyoming and Colorado which will oblige us by reporting that fact.

A Little Behind. (Kansas City Times.) A clever story was told in the cloak room of Judge Rucker at the expense of one of Judge Rucker's constituents who had voted the ticket straight since Andrew Jackson's day. He never visited a large city or attended even a state convention of his party. So Judge Rucker decided to take him to the Democratic national convention at Kansas City. When he reached Kansas City the veteran Democrat insisted on getting a room near the depot, and Judge Rucker treated him at a hotel on Union avenue.

The city, with its big convention, was too much for the old man. The continuous noise of the wagon from the wholesale district prevented him from sleeping. At the second day he asked the porter to go home. Judge Rucker took him to the train, and as he started to leave, asked how his friend liked the city. "Oh, 'like all right,'" answered the Jacksonian, "but the people up here seem to be a little behind in their heads."

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Hears to Alison.

What the deuce, Ed? Why are you all the time kicking at Alison? What have I done? Ain't I been voting? And all the rest of the boys Ever since I got down here and jumped My togs? Ain't I been in on everything that was good? You know blame well I have. And you know I've been For the boys that put me here. Now, ain't I do my best to be no Statesman. But the boys does Mark, Nor Perry, Nor any of the boys that are right. Like Hoar and Morgan, Go against that game, And it doesn't pay. Ain't I held up the dignity Of the sovereign state of Utah? I have. And I paid good hard coin for them. Do you suppose Miles would be more nearly paid the Reception committee. If I hadn't been there With the studs and the delusate? If you'll just trot down here And see the way I got From the real people. Moby. Don't change your tune And say: "Well, All your Uncle Tom isn't so poor."

A PLEA FOR THE SCHOOLS. To the Editor of The Herald: It is much to be regretted that any party should be so nearly paid the Reception committee. If I hadn't been there With the studs and the delusate? If you'll just trot down here And see the way I got From the real people. Moby. Don't change your tune And say: "Well, All your Uncle Tom isn't so poor."

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Careful Baking

HUSLER'S FLOUR will make good bread 365 days in the year. That's the combination that doubles the use of Husler's Flour from year to year.

SALT LAKE THEATRE. Geo. D. Pyper, Manager. Special Matinee Today 2:15 Engagement Extraordinaire. EUGENE BLAIR, DIRECTION HENRI GRESSIONT. Presenting the Distinguished New York Wallack's Theatre Success, Matinee today and last time tonight.

"A LADY OF QUALITY," By Frances Hodgson Burnett and Stephen Townsend. Tomorrow Night "CARMEN," A Romantic Drama in Four Acts. Gorgeous Costumes, Magnificent Scenery. Arrangements, 19:30 p. m.

"NEXT ATTRACTION"—Friday, Saturday and Saturday Matinee, March 8 and 9, Charles Frohman presents "The Little Minister," By J. M. Barrie. First time in Salt Lake. Seat sale today.

NEW GRAND THEATRE. M. E. MULVEY, Manager. JULES GRAU'S OPERA CO. MATINEE TODAY. Last Performance Tonight. "EL CAPITAN," Thursday and Friday Nights. "Isle of Champagne."

TABERNACLE, Thursday Evening, March 14, at 8:15. Sembrich OPERA COMPANY. Under the direction of C. L. Graff, in Gounod's FAUST. MADAME SEMBRICH and COMPANY. Grand Orchestra.

Some people pay more for coal than others, though it is sold at the same price. Seems inconsistent, doesn't it? But then you must remember that "some" trade anywhere and the "other" trade with a Bamberger, 1st Main.

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