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POLICE INCOMPETENCY

WHILE PETER MORTENSEN is under suspicion of a dastardly crime, and there is no desire to shield him if he is guilty, there can be no two opinions about the treatment accorded him by the police under the charge of Chief Hilton.

As pointed out by Mr. Varian in his strong communication to The Herald yesterday, the constitution accords definite rights to every prisoner, rights which cannot be abridged without violation of the very law the police are supposed to enforce.

Apparently it was hoped that he would break down under the mental and physical strain to which he was subjected. Yet, aside from its illegality, the method of handling the prisoner was stupid beyond belief, because it was calculated to defeat the very end sought—the conviction of Mortensen.

From the chief of police who has had charge of the case down to the mutton-headed guards who tortured Mortensen day and night with continued questioning without system or sense, every man who has had to do with the case has given an exhibition of blundering incapacity that ought to earn his removal from the public service.

There is a right way to pursue and punish crime, and there is a way that infringes on constitutional guarantees, brings justice into contempt and cultivates sympathy for men who deserve none.

THE EMIGRATION CANYON CUT-OFF

SALT LAKE CITIZENS should do everything in their power to secure favorable consideration of the Emigration canyon cut-off by the Union Pacific management. The advantage to this city of having the overland connections center here are so obvious as to need no emphasis.

It is known that the engineering problems alone are in the balance, and if Chief Engineer Berry reports favorably on the new route, it is certain that the change will be made as soon as money and men can accomplish it.

Russia and England are squabbling over the question as to which of them prevented European intervention during our war with Spain. All we've got to say on the subject is that if Europe had interfered she would have been given a worse licking than ever befell a gentleman who tried to prevent a husband from beating his wife.

SOME REALLY WEIGHTY BUSINESS

THE HERALD MUST CONFESS that it is losing the profound respect it has been entertaining for the Associated Press as a mighty gatherer of the news of the country. We had supposed the Associated Press covered in its dispatches all the important happenings of the world, and especially the important business transacted by congress.

In that easy-going and esteemed contemporary, the Congressional Record, we find nearly five full and voluminous pages devoted to a discussion of the advisability of appointing Democrats to places in the rural free delivery systems which are being established in the district of Representative De Armond of Missouri.

The Missouriian started the row by rising to a question of privilege. He desired to say that certain gentlemen whom he denominated specifically as liars, had charged him with holding up the establishment of free rural delivery routes. This, in itself, was most appalling and well worthy of the serious and absorbed consideration for De Armond's colleagues.

The house sweated with astonishment which bordered on patriotic hysteria. Whether was the country drifting if such things could be? True, Mr. De Armond explained that if it hadn't been for his absence in the Philippines, where he went to give light to the natives, the postmaster aforesaid would not have had the temerity to commit his culpable act.

He had the clerk of the house read a lot of letters he had written to the postoffice department and a lot of the postoffice department had written him. Several low-down Republicans, men who couldn't appreciate the danger that threatens the nation, tried to cut De Armond off with points of order, so the house could go on with some little inconsequential thing like national irrigation, Philippine tariffs, appropriations and the like.

They couldn't down De Armond. In spite of in-

terruptions and fierce cross firing he kept bravely on through his five pages, representing some sixty minutes of time. As it only costs a trifle of about \$3,500 an hour to keep the house in session, it will be seen the money was well expended.

SENATE SHOWS SIGNS OF PROGRESS

EVEN THAT DIGNIFIED, sedate and sleepy organization known as the United States senate is showing symptoms of progress. The other day one of the new members, Mr. Clapp of Minnesota, offered a most interesting resolution.

Mr. Clapp has not been in the senate long enough for barnacles to grow on him, as is the case with so many of the others. He knew his resolution would startle his colleagues mightily, but he insisted that he had not been actuated by any spirit of levity.

"While I am willing to concede with the American public that an executive session partakes largely of the nature of a joke, I disclaim any intention of that sort in the introduction of this resolution.

"While my service here has been brief, I have lived in this country a great many years, and I know that the people of this country regard the executive sessions of the senate largely in the light of a farce; and, Mr. President, there is a reason why they should so regard them. The reason is that, except in some great crisis where congress is warranted in sitting in secret, there is no occasion for secret sessions.

"I realize, Mr. President, that this resolution will undoubtedly be defeated by an overwhelming vote; but I have the satisfaction of knowing that the time will come when tradition, that finds little consideration save in antiquity, will become part and parcel of the rubbish that marks the progress of this great people of ours."

The only senator who supported Mr. Clapp was Mr. Mason, the irrepressible William E. Mason of Illinois. He said that the newspapers, "with the enterprise characteristic of them," had already published all of the treaty and all of the debates.

Of course the resolution was defeated. That is to say, it was referred to the committee on rules for interim purposes. Nevertheless the day is coming, though still far distant, when executive sessions will be abandoned. When over ninety men know a secret, some one or more of them will tell it to outsiders, and it inevitably gets into the newspapers if it is worth printing.

AT OUR OWN COST

(Philadelphia North American.) The Philippine tariff bill agreed upon by the house committee on ways and means is drawn in harmony with Chairman Payne's general policy of "let well enough alone."

The Philippine tariff bill agreed upon by the house committee on ways and means is drawn in harmony with Chairman Payne's general policy of "let well enough alone." Its chief purpose is to restore the status upset by last week's decision of the supreme court in the "fourteen diamond rings case."

When Senator Lodge introduced a similar bill in the senate it was described as a temporary expedient. A vague promise was held out that in due time congress would pass a permanent measure designed to promote American trade in the islands.

At a time when we are talking of building up our foreign trade and merchant marine by means of reciprocity and ship bounties, the Payne Philippine bill is a sad misfit. Here is a rich territory which the supreme court has decided belongs exclusively to American ship-owners, yet the first desire of congress is to encourage foreign competition in domestic waters.

If this arrangement goes through the people of the Philippines will be no better off, and the people of the United States will continue to pay the bills without hope of compensation.

A portrait of Kit Carson in the Colorado capitol building is going to be removed because the scout is portrayed in the act of wearing a necktie. The picture certainly ought to be taken away or the tie painted out. Carson probably wouldn't have known one of the things if he had met it in the wilderness.

So Maclay is going to fight to stay in. We rather imagine that by the time President Roosevelt gets through with him there won't be enough of the young man left to make a blot on one of the pages of his history.

Why not let Spaulding and Freedman settle their little differences with five-ounce gloves. This bare-knuckled controversy is becoming positively brutal.

An Ohio man was electrocuted the other day while attempting to turn on an incandescent light. This is an argument in favor of using candles.

Jockey Reiff has married a Miss Rowell in San Francisco. Well, if anybody needs a Rowell, it's a jockey.

Have Senators Tillman and McLaurin signed a protocol? There have been no open hostilities between the gentlemen for at least a week.

Society

Salt Lake has been the scene of many a brilliant function during the past year, but the beauty and elegance of last night's reception at the "Amelia palace" has seldom been equaled.

The entire passageway from the carriage steps to the door was enclosed with an awning strung in electric globes, and as one entered all thoughts of the storm were left behind in the radiant scene within. The magnificent floral decorations blending tastefully with the rich furnishings and the gorgeous attire of the ladies presented a scene which will long linger in the minds of those present.

Mrs. J. S. Bransford wore an elegant imported gown of white corded silk, brocaded with delicate shades of heliotrope and pink. The trimmings were of spangled chiffon and Point Venise lace. Her jewels were diamonds, emeralds and amethysts.

Mrs. J. S. Bransford was attired in white satin trimmed with rare old Saxony lace.

Miss Holmes was charmingly gowned in pink crepe, with trimmings of cream lace, and Miss Olive Holmes in white crepe trimmed in real lace.

Mrs. Sara Bransford's dress was an imported white silk covered with an embroidered spangled net in black. She wore diamonds.

Mrs. W. G. Lamb wore a handsome brocaded yellow satin with cerise lace trimmings embroidered in gold.

The gown of Mrs. J. T. Harris was of white brocade cloth, beautifully embroidered in pink and silver chrysanthemums. The trimmings were of real lace.

Mrs. J. S. Bransford wore an ecru tulle silk with brown velvet and white point trimmings.

The entire residence was thrown open to the guests, and Huddart had converted every room into a bower of floral beauty. The hall was filled with palms, ferns and rubber trees, and the balustrade was wreathed with smilax.

The dining room was exquisitely done in red. In the center of the table was a huge French vase reaching almost to the ceiling, and over the edges nodded nearly 100 American Beauties.

The rooms were also charmingly decorated, the ladies being yellow roses and the gentlemen in variegated carnations. Fully 300 guests enjoyed the hospitality of Colonel and Mrs. Holmes.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Richards of Idaho are guests for the holidays of Dr. and Mrs. S. L. Richards.

Mr. Harold Eldredge has returned from New York for a month's rest from his musical studies. He was accompanied by his brother, Guy, who will spend the holidays in Salt Lake.

Mrs. Sal Szeleg entertained informally at dinner on Wednesday.

The marriage of Miss Elma Coffin of Boise, Ida., and Mrs. James E. Clinton, Jr., of Salt Lake City, was solemnized at 8 o'clock at the elegant home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coffin.

The bride wore a charming creation of white French crepe trimmed with real lace. The long tulle veil was clasped with a beautiful pin, the gift of the groom.

The rooms were attractive in Yuletide decorations, holly and evergreens being used with artistic effect.

The bride is one of Idaho's fairest daughters, and the groom a prominent young business man of Salt Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hampton of Scofield are visiting friends in this city.

Mrs. Mary Judge and Miss Judge have returned from their California trip.

Mr. Benjamin W. Siegel, who is at Phillips school in Exeter, is spending a part of his vacation with relatives in Baltimore and Philadelphia. He will pass next week in Camden, S. C.

Mrs. M. Barnes leaves this morning for Center, Utah, to be the guest of Miss Charlotte Ajax for a week.

Miss Lillian M. Young, daughter of Mr. Royal B. and Emmie R. Young, was married to Mr. Thomas R. Conova of Sandersonville, Fla., at 11 o'clock yesterday by President John R. Winter.

A Dead Disappointment. (San Francisco News.) Even into a coroner's duties there are times when gleams of humor penetrate the gloom, although they be as superficial and as gressow as the wit indulged in by the two grave diggers in "Hamlet."

Mr. O. S. Williams, manager of Walker's shoe department, was presented on Christmas day with a handsome silver smoking set by the members of the department.

The Council of Jewish Women met at the B. B. lodge rooms yesterday afternoon and enjoyed an interesting programme.

Mr. R. L. Fowler of Castle Gate is spending the holidays in Salt Lake City.

Mrs. S. C. Adams, who has been the guest of her mother, Mrs. H. G. McMillan, has returned to her home in Denver.

Mr. C. S. Knight has returned from Nephth.

Colonel and Mrs. Shaughnessy leave in a few days for California, to be gone two or three months.

Dr. and Mrs. S. L. Richards entertain this evening.

Mr. J. W. Sherman of southern Utah

is visiting friends in this city during the holidays.

Mr. George W. Snow departs this morning for Clear Creek.

The field musicians of Fort Douglas held an enjoyable hop last evening.

This evening at the home of Mrs. H. P. Mason, 1123 East Sixth South street, will be given the reception by the Unitarian church. All friends and members are cordially invited.

The Red and Black give a dance at Christensen's hall this evening.

Professor John J. McClellan is a guest of Colonel and Mrs. N. W. Clayton.

Miss Rosemary Glosz was the hostess of a delightful musicale at the home of her parents, 407 East Fourth South street, last evening.

Those who assisted in the entertainment were Mrs. Osborne, Miss Dwyer, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Copley, Mr. Winslow Smith, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Ashworth. Miss Glosz is a newcomer to Salt Lake. She has an enviable reputation in the operatic field and has but recently released the prima donna role in "Evangelina" at the Columbia theatre, Boston. She possesses a beautiful soprano voice, and during the course of last evening rendered several operatic numbers, to the delight of her guests. The young woman will make Salt Lake her home in the future.

While "A Wise Woman" kept an audience of doubtful size in fairly good humor at the Grand last night, the farce certainly suffers by comparison with its predecessor, "Whose Baby Are You?" and seemed just a little flat.

It lacked the gingersy essence that patrons have grown used to applaud in "A Wise Woman." "A Wise Woman" has some bright lines and some rather clever people, but that is not all the public demands in the present day.

The farce will run for the remainder of the week at the Grand.

At the other house William Collier is creating an uproar of enthusiasm that threatened to engulf the whole community, and the Jap is still asking, "When is the world coming up?"

"On the Quiet" is one of those pieces that can be witnessed a dozen times with pleasure, and in the audience last night a good many of the first-nighters were noticed.

Mr. Shesgreen of the Modjeska-James combination arrived in town yesterday and managed to keep his head above water in the affairs of Waghenals & Kemper.

Mr. Mulvey turned the key in the entrance of the new Grand for the last time last night. Today the new owners, Hammer & Jones, take charge of the property, the former becoming manager.

The Glee club concert by the Colorado college boys comes off this evening at the First Congregational church. They have been winning the brightest kind of press notices on their tour, and a fine programme may be expected this evening.

(George Crampton, well-known as a baritone in Colorado, is down for two solos.

His Fluent Fount of Tears. (Edinburgh Scotsman.) There are funny incidents in the life of a photographer. A man came in the other day and looked over all the samples, asking the price of each.

"Do you want a string?" I asked. "I don't see nothin' like what I want," he replied.

"I told him if he would indicate what he wanted, that I might arrange it. 'I don't know as you can,' he said, 'for I don't see nothin' at all like what I want.'"

"I repeated what I had already said. He asked me to sit down and he began, 'I had a girl that I loved, and we were going to get married. She was a beauty, and we were all but ready when she was taken ill and died. And what I wanted was a picture of me sittin' on her grave weepin'.'"

"I was touched at the homely story of grief, and told him I could send a man with him to the grave and have the picture taken as he desired.

"It's some distance," he said. "It's over in Ireland, I expect, and I cost a lot to send over your traps for what I want?"

"I said it would." "I thought," he answered, "that maybe you could rig up a grave here in your shop and I could weep on it, and it would do just as well. It's no trouble for me to weep anywhere."

The Wit of the Little Ones. (London Amusee.) Dr. Macnamara, M. P., has a fund of good stories of children's witticisms. "Last Christmas," he says, "I was at a meeting of school children in Kensington. Before going away I said to them: 'Now, boys, mind you don't get into mischief or trouble between Christmas and Christmas.' To which the children replied: 'Same to you, sir!' To a question as to whether the Nile rose, one answered: 'In Mungo park.' Another child was asked: 'Where are the most famous volcanoes in Europe?' to which he replied: 'In Sodomy and Gomorrah.' Definitions given by some of the little ones were well worth preserving. Here are a few: 'A pessimist is a man that attends to your feet, and an optimist is a man that attends to your eyes.' This is what a little girl wrote of the Sallie law: 'Edward III would have been king if his mother had been a man. Again: King Henry VII liked plenty of money and plenty of wives, and died of ulcers on the legs.' 'Grass,' answered one little child, 'is what you've got to keep off.' Another wrote: 'The marriage custom of the ancient Greeks was this, that a man married only one wife, which was called a monotomy.'"

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F. AUERBACH & BRO. Our Shoe Department. Special Attractions! Special Prices! Ladies', Misses', Boys' and Children's Shoes, Slippers, Etc. Lowest Prices in the City.

GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS. What a dandy storm! Just the one we've been looking for for many a day. Just the one, too, to make you want more winter things. Maybe Suits you've been thinking of for some time. There's a great line here—from \$5.00 to \$30.00. One line at \$7.50 of fine black chevrot that is a great value. We know you cannot duplicate it anywhere else for less than \$10.00. The material is all wool—the coat is made in round-cut and square-cut styles. The lining is of a good quality of Italian cloth. The padding, canvas and tailoring are as good as you'll find in most \$10.00 and \$12.00 suits. We've another line of black chevrots at \$10.00. They're great values, too. Round-cut or double-breasted style of coat, fine linings and tailoring. Overcoats, if you want them—\$6.00 to \$35.00. One Price. J. P. Gardner. 136-138 Main St.

EARLY IN JANUARY, Immediately after finishing our inventory, we will have A SALE of Hardware, Stoves, Ranges, Cutlery, Chafing Dishes, 5-o'clock Tea Pots, etc., Crockery, Lamps, Glassware that will interest you. "A word to the wise is sufficient." Wait for it. SCOTT-STREVELL HARDWARE CO.

SALT LAKE THEATRE TONIGHT, And Tomorrow Matinee and Night, WILLIAM COLLIER presented by MARIE LAMOUR, Ethel Balch, Frederick Murphy and a competent cast. "ON THE QUIET" Management of JACOB LITT. Direct from a Six Months' Run at the Madison Square Theatre, New York City. Prices 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50. Saturday matinee, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00.

IF YOU HAVE A FRIEND To entertain, take him to dinner at The Tavern. You know he couldn't be in a better restaurant, and he'll know it, too. THE TAVERN.

COMING Toward the Close of the Year We find that there has been a most satisfactory increase in our business. "That Good Coal" is a magnet that seems to be almost irresistible to coal users. Bamberger, 161 Meighn.