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MR. CONDIE'S ATTITUDE.

PETER S. CONDIE, street supervisor, has laid off sixty of his employees in order to put Mayor Morris in an embarrassing position in his fight with the Davis gang of councilmen. So far as the public is concerned, Condie might have laid off his entire department, including himself, without being missed. The streets of Salt Lake have not shown any evidence of attention since Condie took office, and probably will not so long as he continues to draw pay in his official capacity.

Being a politician first, Condie's city business is incidental to his real occupation, and one needs only to walk three blocks in any direction, either down town or in the residence district, to find demonstration of the man's unfitness for any job under the city.

If Mayor Morris needed any recommendation, Condie's opposition would furnish it in abundance. As for the discharge of the employees under the pretext that they could be reinstated on a request from Morris, everybody knows that the mayor is acting on the advice of the city attorney, one of the best lawyers in the city, and that he will make no appointments without authority of ordinance by the council.

Condie's move can only make an inefficient department worse. It is a fair example of what Davis tactics have brought to one of the most important branches of the city government, and of what may be expected in other departments if Davis is permitted to continue his obstruction with the assistance of his Republican followers.

Y. M. C. A. SCHOOL WORK.

INTEREST in the educational work of the Young Men's Christian association has been revived by the visit of George B. Hodge, international secretary of the organization's department of education. Those who are unfamiliar with this feature of the association's work will be surprised to learn that it is considered as probably the most important feature in the Y. M. C. A. efforts to improve the moral and physical condition of young men and boys.

The night schools of the Young Men's Christian association have given education to thousands of young men throughout the country. They are specially designed to train those who, starting with a rudimentary education, desire to learn along special lines of practical knowledge. There are classes in bookkeeping, in mathematics, in electrical work, and in many other branches. Boys and men who are compelled to work during the day have the opportunity in these night schools to gain ideas that will fit them for something better than ordinary day labor.

As to the necessity for such schools: It is reliably estimated that in the city of Salt Lake only about 3 per cent of the children of school age graduate from the eighth grade. Sixty per cent of that 3 per cent are girls. Thus it may be said that very little more than 1 per cent of the boys of Salt Lake get as high as the eighth grade in their public school studies. They leave school because they must do something to help support the families, because they are tired of school, because they want to be making their own way in the world.

And whether they are driven by necessity or desire to quit the public school, a large percentage of them will attend Y. M. C. A. night schools. This is because the Y. M. C. A. night school, though it is thorough in its training, is more pleasure than work. There are two hours or so of study or recitation, followed by an hour in the gymnasium, the swimming pool, the reading room or in recreation of some other character, and the student goes home refreshed physically and mentally.

The local branch of the Y. M. C. A. proposes to devote a good deal of the space in its new building to educational work. It should have all the moral and financial backing it needs from Salt Lakers.

POST CHECK CURRENCY.

THE HERALD has pleasure in again commending the post check currency bill to the attention of the Utah delegation in congress, and to the national lawmakers generally. The measure is now in the hands of the house committee on postoffices and post roads but a favorable report on it is expected within the next few days. A poll of the house shows a majority in favor of the bill so all that is necessary to secure its passage is to get it before the house.

It is very much to be doubted if a more generally approved bill has been introduced in congress in recent years. There has been and is no party alignment on the question, for it has nothing to do with politics. It is, on the contrary, a measure whose sole and only design is the facilitation of the transfer of money in small amounts with absolute safety through the mails. The simplicity of the proposition makes it easily understandable.

It contemplates the issuance of currency in denominations of one, two and five dollars. This currency is to be so printed that a bill can be changed with a minimum of trouble and expense from a legal tender note to a check payable only to the individual in whose favor it is drawn. All that is necessary to convert such a note into a check is for the holder to write on its face the name of the payee in a line set apart for that purpose, affix a 2-cent stamp and cancel the stamp by writing his initials across its face.

The note, or check, may then be enclosed in an envelope and sent through the mails with as much safety as an ordinary bank check. Post check currency will, of course, be circulated as ordinary bank notes are circulated until it is transformed into checks. When a payee receives a check he merely deposits it in his bank. The bank, after it has accumulated a number of them, sends them to the nearest sub-treasury free of express charges and receives in exchange a corresponding amount in fresh, new notes, the old ones being canceled.

The post check bill should be enacted into law, first, because it will save the public time and money and inconvenience, and second, because its passage will insure a continuous supply of clean paper money.

IMPORTANT PASS DECISION.

THE GREAT ARMY of railway pass fiends will be deeply interested in a decision handed down by the supreme court of the United States on Wednesday in the case of the Northern Pacific Railway company versus Louis E. Adams and Frank E. Adams, heirs of Jay H. Adams. In 1898 Jay H. Adams was killed on the Northern Pacific railway while riding on a pass. On the back of the pass was a contract signed by Mr. Adams specifically releasing the railway from all damages he might sustain while riding on the pass, this exemption being a consideration for the pass.

Mr. Adams' heirs promptly filed suit for damages. In the federal circuit court they were awarded $14,000, regardless of the exemption contract. The circuit court of appeals affirmed the judgment of the lower court, but the supreme court has set aside the verdict. The opinion, which was handed down by Justice Brewer, seems logical enough. In substance, the court holds that the duty of the company to the heirs of Adams was no greater than its duty to Adams himself, and that there is nothing against public policy in a contract exempting a carrier from liability when carrying a passenger who pays no fare.

The deceased voluntarily accepted the pass. Indeed, the chances are that he sought for it, because railway companies are not going around with bunches of passes forcing them on every one they meet. Having accepted the pass, Adams also accepted the conditions attached to it. He agreed that the company should not be held liable for injuries to himself or damage to his baggage. It has been contended that such a contract is abrogated by the death of the man who signs it and several courts have held this contention to be correct.

They have declared that a man cannot bind his heirs as he could bind himself. The supreme court's opinion may be said to be final, however. It will be accepted as a precedent throughout the country and will have the effect of putting an end to many suits for damages instituted by men and heirs of men who ride on passes. We hardly believe, though, that it will cause a serious diminution in the never-ending line of pass fiends. They will be just as numerous, just as persistent as ever.

Of course that report of the sinking of four Japanese warships and several torpedo boats by the Russian fleet turned out to be a canard. On its face the story was false, for it said the Retvizan, which was practically put out of commission some time ago by the Japs, did nearly all of the work. And speaking of this reminds us that the lifting of the Russian censorship, if it has been lifted, has only resulted in the release of a lot of yellow lies about the doings around Port Arthur.

Don't dodge when you see United States Marshal Heywood approaching. It is barely possible that he hasn't a subpoena for you. Besides, this is a rather pleasant time in which to visit Washington, provided, of course, that you don't really know anything about the Smoot case.

President Roosevelt is still short two members of the canal commission. Still, we do not believe he will have any difficulty in finding men to fill the vacancies. If he does, let him speak to our own Senator Kearns.

"Peace on earth and good will among men depend on good ships and good guns," says Representative Grosvenor. However, if the angels who first promulgated the doctrine wore six-shooters and bowie knives, the Bible chronicler failed to record the fact.

Those of us who don't like tea anyway will have sufficient reason for quitting the habit now that the war has kited tea prices.

This is the unsatisfactory season, when you are obliged to buy both coal and ice.

THE MUNICIPAL BLOCKADE.

To The Salt Lake Herald:

Your editorial of yesterday morning on the peculiarly disgusting councilmanic fight against the mayor of this city has my hearty commendation.

I was a Republican before most of the Republicans of Utah were born, and many years before any of them were aligned with that party. Therefore, I have the right of age to speak.

The Republican party was born of the desire of a part of the people of the United States for equal rights and justice to all. Its first representative in Washington, with power to act, was Abraham Lincoln, the second "Father" of the nation. He had his backbiters and maligners, but he saved the Union in spite of them. He was the chief executive of the nation.

From the president down we have the same policy through governors of states and mayors of cities. Our policy is uniform. If a part of the city council of Salt Lake can destroy the office of the mayor of Salt Lake, then a part of congress can destroy the office of president.

If the integrity of a city cannot be maintained under its chosen head, then the integrity of the nation is worthless. The action of the majority of the city council of Salt Lake is as surely treason to Salt Lake as would be the action of a majority in congress that would make null and void the functions of the president of the nation.

As a Republican I ask this blockade majority to consider for what the Republican party was born; what it has done for the progress of the United States, and what that majority is doing now to destroy the principles of the party to the injury of this city and state. Respectfully, CHARLES ELLIS.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

Spends His Money Himself.

There was a man in our town,
And he was wond'rous hot,
He thought his light was costing
A heap more than it ought;
And so he took the meter out,
A coal oil lamp he got,
He had good light and presently
He sought and bought a yacht.

Log of the ex-Jim Jammers.

BY EX-J. J. NUMBER ONE.

While I was still on earth several years ago a bunch of us used to meet in a place kept by a German, where we could drink a few bowls and play a little cheap poker every day. We usually met there about two hours before dinner time and would stick it out until about 6 o'clock. One of the gang, whom I will call Tom, was something of a joker and occasionally he would get off something on Fritz, the proprietor. Fritz was afflicted by falling out of the hair, a circumstance which caused him much misery. He bought a new kind of shampoo one day and was so tickled with it he could not help telling everybody who came in all about it. Tom concluded to try this thing one day, and, sneaking the bottle out of Fritz's bed room in a little room back of the bar, gave Fritz's cat an elegant shampoo, turning the critter loose in the bar room, where it raised a great disturbance. It made Fritz pretty hot. He was that kind of a German who can't understand a joke, and he swore he would get even. A few days later Tom came in with four dozen eggs, which he was taking home to his wife. He put the eggs down behind the bar and broke into the game. Fritz watched his opportunity and put all the eggs into the hot water can on top of the stove. He left them there about half an hour and then put them back in the sack to cool off. Tom was not on to the thing at all, and so innocently took four dozen hard boiled eggs home for his wife to make cake with. Tom, of course, was wise to the thing, but he never chirped. The next day he came into the saloon, and while Fritz was busy at the bar Tom slipped back into the bed room again. He poured all the shampoo out of the bottle and filled the bottle up with some shellac he had brought with him. Shellac, you know, is the stuff they put on the stocks of guns, so you know how it hardens. Well, Tom got his revenge. The next day when he stuck his head in the door he had to run a foot race with a full beer bottle Fritz started at him. Tom broke for safety, Fritz after him. The chase lasted for two blocks. It took Fritz six weeks to get the shellac out of his hair. Their friendship was never renewed, but the gang always felt that Tom got the good end of the joke proceedings.

The Hon. Ezra Thompson, who also had a city council on his hands, is reported to be smiling quietly to himself these days.

M. Bunau-Varilla has again demonstrated his great modesty by publicly explaining that there would never have been a Panama canal had he not given some of his time to the matter.

It would be interesting, in this same connection, to have M. Bunau-Varilla reveal what influence he brought to bear upon the United States senate to induce that august body to pass the canal treaty because, manifestly, the senate would not have presumed to take action without learning M. Bunau-Varilla's views.

The fact that the supreme court of the United States has held that the heirs of a man killed while riding on a free railroad pass cannot collect damages is not likely to make any one refuse to accept a pass hereafter. Death is not sufficient to cure the pass habit.

The case of those railroad laborers at Calientes who had their savings taken from them by hold-ups teaches us that people should spend their money as fast as they get it.

Justice Hill of Sunnyside finds that the Utah fuel camps are quieter when Demolli is in jail, so he sent Demolli and his friend up for thirty days each. This is right. The peace and quiet of the fuel company is of far greater importance than the liberty of an individual or two.

SOCIETY

Mrs. Emma S. Ellerbeck and Mrs. T. D. Lewis were the hostesses at a very enjoyable euchre party yesterday afternoon at the new home of Mrs. Ellerbeck on C street. The house was decorated with the national colors and small hatchets and flags were used as tallies. The guests were seated at eight tables and at the close of the game prizes were awarded to Mrs. Julia Taylor and Mrs. George Ellerbeck. The ladies will entertain again this afternoon at a Kensington.

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Mr. and Mrs. William C. Jennings entertained at dinner last evening, their guests being Mr. and Mrs. William Fish, Mr. and Mrs. Ledyard M. Bailey, Mrs. De Camp and Miss Mary Teasdale.

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The Ladies' Literary club holds its regular meeting this afternoon at 2 o'clock. The day will be devoted to the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, and addresses will be made by Fisher S. Harris and Mrs. C. E. Allen. Mr. Harris will speak on Abraham Lincoln and Mrs. Allen will review the work accomplished by the D. A. R. throughout the country. The music will be of a patriotic order.

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Judge and Mrs. James A. Miner, who have been in California for some time, may sail early in April for Honolulu.

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Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Sherman will leave tomorrow for San Francisco to be gone about six weeks.

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At the regular meeting of Unity club which has been postponed till tonight, Mr. Lloyd Porter will give a paper on "Charles V and the Reformation." Miss Mariza Clay will review the Thirty Years' War and Miss Borkhoe and Mrs. Agnes Osborne will furnish the music from Handel.

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Mr. Dore Austin has returned to his home in Chicago after a pleasant visit with Mr. and Mrs. Ledyard M. Bailey.

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Mr. and Mrs. Graham F. Putnam have moved from Second South and Fourth East street and will hereafter be at home at 629 East Second South street.

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Miss Olive Jennings entertained a few friends very informally last evening at the Fifth East hotel.

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Mrs. J. C. Hooper entertained yesterday at a small and informal luncheon at the Commercial club.

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An important event of this evening is the A. F. Fraternity dance to be given in the museum building at the University. The chaperones will be Mrs. Heber M. Wells, Mrs. J. T. Kingsbury, Mrs. R. K. Thomas, Mrs. Nellie Little, Mrs. Byron Cummings and Mrs. George M. Marshall.

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Mrs. George W. Putnam entertained the members of the Third Street Card club at her home on S street yesterday afternoon.

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Miss Dorothy Kinney left yesterday on the noon train for a visit of some weeks in New York.

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Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Cecil Robinson have returned from their wedding trip and will shortly be in their new home at 665 Second street.

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Mrs. Andrew McClean of Sunnyside is in the city for a short time visiting friends.

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Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Caffey are rejoicing over the birth of a son.

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Mrs. E. V. Silver entertained yesterday at an informal Kensington for Miss Buddemer, who is the guest of Mrs. Oscar L. Cox for a few days.

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Walter E. Westlake, who visited in this city for some months up to last August, is to be married in Denver next Wednesday, the young lady being Miss Louie Fitts of that city.

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The Plate club will meet tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Spaulding, 437 East First South street.

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An important meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union will be held at the home of Mrs. Largent, 734 East First South street, this afternoon at 2 o'clock.