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HALF A MILLION LEFT.

In spite of the fact that the figures are easily available and that there should be no occasion for mistakes, the Tribune has repeatedly set forth as truth a misleading statement of the condition of the water bond funds.

The misrepresentation is not surprising, nor would it be worth considering seriously, if it did not reflect on the city's solvency and give the impression that the present administration has dissipated the water bond fund.

A complete statement in detail of every cent spent or contracted for is on file in the auditor's office. It is open to the public, it is so simple a child of ten ought to be able to understand it, and this statement shows that \$475,000, nearly half a million dollars, remains in the bond fund to be turned over to the Ezra Thompson administration, free of all obligations of any sort.

Table with columns: Amt. on hand, Paid, Contracts. Rows include Water exchange, East Jordan canal, Twelve miscellaneous items, Total, Paid, Total paid and contracted for, Balance unappropriated, Total water bond fund.

That is to say, only 44 per cent of the \$500,000 realized from water bonds has been spent or contracted for, while Mayor Thompson's administration will have 56 per cent of the total at its command. The money spent has been appropriated, as indicated in the statement, for the various contracts let, such as the Big Cottonwood contract, the exchanges with farmers for Big Cottonwood water, the purchase of shares in the East Jordan canal, and the general improvements in the water system, all of which have been published by all the Salt Lake newspapers, and all of which are matters of official record, open to the public.

THE WEATHER BUREAU.

The annual report of Willis L. Moore, chief of the United States weather bureau, has just been received in pamphlet form by The Herald. The report contains little that is not of a routine character, but it serves to call attention to the splendid work that the weather bureau is doing. There may have been a time when people of some intelligence looked upon the money expended for and by the weather bureau as money wasted.

The weather bureau has abundantly justified its existence. Every year it saves to the farmers, the fruit growers, the livestock men and those who are engaged in lake, river and ocean commerce, hundreds of thousands of dollars. Many a ship has been prevented from sailing out to certain destruction through a timely warning from a government weather observer; many a stockman has had warning in time to save his cattle and his sheep, many a farmer has saved his tender young trees and his early vegetables.

It is impossible to estimate this saving in dollars. We only know that the men whose property is saved might have lost it and their lives with the property and we know that the money value must run into many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Perhaps the best test of the weather bureau's efficiency is found in the fact that there is no thought of abolishing it. On the contrary, the effort now is to give it more funds in order that it may increase its efficiency. Why, a suggestion that the bureau be discontinued would be met with a wave of protest that would sweep from one end of the land to the other.

Weather forecasts, when the bureau was first instituted, something like thirty years ago, were more or less guesswork. Sometimes the observers were right, sometimes they were wrong. And it must be said that in the early days they were often wrong than right. Today a forecast that proves to be incorrect is widely commented on. The hundreds upon hundreds that are right are not talked of for the good and sufficient reason that they have come to be expected.

The science of forecasting the weather cannot yet be called an exact one, but even that time is rapidly approaching, thanks to the many improvements in the instruments in use and to the new instruments that have been installed in all important offices. As Chief Moore says:
"The progress of every branch of science is necessarily slow. Four hundred years of unremitted observation and study were necessary in order to bring astronomy up to its present high standard of accuracy and it must be expected that the complex problems of meteorology will require time for their elucidation. The last thirty years has witnessed such remarkable progress in new branches of science that fields of research formerly closed to the meteorologist are now open to him and justly can not be neglected."

The department is entitled to and should be given every encouragement to its work.

THE NEW YORK ROW.

The nice little row that the Republicans of New York have stirred up among themselves is most interesting. The Democrats of the country and of New York will, however, be able to view the battle with perfect equanimity. Former Governor Odell charges President Roosevelt and Governor Higgins with deliberately attempting to wreck the Republican party in New York in order to further their own personal ambitions. Mr. Odell seems to regard this possibility as a catastrophe too great for words.

We must say that we cannot agree with him. It is our opinion that the country would get along very nicely, thank you, if every Republican in the great state of New York should make a solemn vow to vote the Democratic ticket from this time forward. Indeed, it is our judgment that the country would be very much better off, for control of New York state would almost surely give the Democrats control of national affairs, and we would regard that as an altogether unmixt blessing.

Mr. Roosevelt and Governor Higgins cannot meddle too much in New York politics to suit us. The more they mix things the better we will like it. Mr. Odell's indignation is, to be sure, to contemplate, and we sympathize with him deeply, of course, but we have so many troubles of our own that we cannot be expected to lie awake at night worrying about Mr. Odell's troubles. The whole trouble seems to have arisen from a conflict of bosses.

Governor Higgins appears to be desirous of bossing New York himself and, by the grace and influence of Roosevelt, he is in a fair way to accomplish what Mr. Odell would doubtless call his mendacious purpose. Yet it has been such a little while since Odell brutally delirious Platt, since he played, as Platt claims, the traitor to the "easy boss," that most people think Odell should take his medicine with better grace.

Instead of getting out and fighting hard for what he believes to be his own he is squalling like a spoiled child deprived of a large stick of candy. The spectacle is edifying but not impressive. In the meanwhile it is much to be hoped that the Democrats will take advantage of the opportunity that has come to their hands. Let them get together and stick together and the result ought to be the election of the Democratic state ticket next fall and a considerable increase in the number of Democrats in the state's congressional delegation.

CHANGE INAUGURATION DATE.

The Herald has received from the national committee on the inauguration date, a committee composed of many eminent men, a statement to the effect that the members are agreed on one thing. That is, the date of the inauguration of our president should be changed. It is hardly necessary, or at least it should not be necessary, to discuss now the desirability of changing this date.

In a large majority of cases the fourth of March is in Washington attended by weather of the most disagreeable character. There is usually a cold rain or a wet snow falling and the air is always damply cutting. If it were possible to trace them we have no doubt it would be found that hundreds of cases of disease and death have been caused by exposure incident to attendance at inaugural ceremonies.

It may be said that nobody except the president and the chief justice is obliged to be present at the inauguration of a president. This is, strictly speaking, correct, but there are hundreds of individuals, such as members of congress, diplomatic representatives of foreign countries, new cabinet officers and the like who would feel that they would be guilty of a grave breach of ethics if they failed to attend. So they go, even though they know they are running the risk of serious illness and possible death.

These are some of the reasons why the date should be changed. There is none why it should not be. The committee is disagreed only as to the new date. Some favor April 30, the date on which Washington was first inaugurated. There is a pretty sentiment in this, one that would be well worth considering if it were not for the fact that April 30 will some day fall on Sunday, thereby causing some embarrassment. This is a disadvantage not possessed by March 4, which never falls on Sunday in an inauguration year, a fact that was taken into consideration when the date was named.

Another, and it seems to us a better, suggestion is for the last Thursday in April. By that time the weather in Washington is usually fine and there would be no risk of exposure to be considered by inauguration attendants.

The provision in the articles of incorporation of the new Smoot paper for the publication of all addresses delivered by stockholders at an annual Lincoln's birthday celebration is liable to cause a rush for stock. It was a foxy man who inserted that article.

Just about the finest Christmas present Salt Lake is going to get will be delayed until a week from tomorrow. That will be the New Year's Herald, issued from The Herald's new press and the new quarters of the paper in its brand new building.

Still, even at 15 cents per smoke, the smoking of opium is about the most expensive habit anybody could contract.

Society.

The first big High school dance of the year was given last evening at Unity hall. The affair was under the management of the senior class, but every class in the school was in it. The bright, cheery hall was hung with red and black streamers and pennants and flags. Christmas wreaths hung from each chandelier and a Christmas tree stood in the alcove beside the musicians. The two new pictures presented yesterday to the school, that of the victorious team and of their coach, D. A. Callahan, were hung in conspicuous places. The affair was under the management of the senior class, but every class in the school was in it.

Miss Agatha Berkel will leave Monday for the east. She will stop in Chicago for a short time as the guest of her former teacher, Madame Anselma M. Fox, and while there will attend the annual reunion of Madame Fox's pupils. From there she will go to New York to enjoy the season of grand opera and will do some study under Madame Gerique Mott. She will be away about six weeks.

Colonel and Mrs. Benjamin C. Lockwood entertained a few friends at a dinner last evening, the table being decorated in the red and green of the Christmas time. The guests were Captain and Mrs. H. B. Perry, Captain Frank D. Ely and Lieutenant Rifenerick and Lieutenant Gruber.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis S. Cates will leave this morning for New York and Boston to spend a short time.

Dr. and Mrs. J. N. Lyman of Hastings, Neb., and their son, Elias B. Lyman of Albany, N. Y., will be in the city tomorrow morning to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. John Pearl and Mr. and Mrs. John J. Judson.

Rev. Frank P. Eddy and Mrs. Eddy will observe next Wednesday afternoon and evening and the last Wednesday of each month as an at home day for the benefit of members of their congregation and their friends in general, at their apartments in Progress flats.

Miss Florence Hall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hall, is home from New York, where she has been engaged in literary work since her graduation from Holyoke in '04, and will spend the remainder of the winter with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Scarff are here from Chicago and are at the Kenyon for a short time. They will visit friends here.

Charles Tuttle, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Ira Tuttle, will be home today from a military school in California to spend the holidays with his parents.

Mrs. F. E. Stroup of Bingham spent yesterday in the city shopping.

Miss Minnie Kiesel of Ogden is in the city for a short stay with friends.

A. V. Calaghan left yesterday morning for the coast to spend the holidays with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Wyck will be in the city today to spend a few days on their way to New York.

Mrs. B. F. Bauer and Miss Ethel Bauer entertained some friends Thursday evening with "500."

Mrs. W. H. Alexander and her sister, Mrs. Parker, of Chicago, will spend Christmas in Los Angeles, where they are staying.

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Nye and son arrived yesterday from Denver and will spend the holidays with the Webster family.

Miss Annie Sterling, who was expected to spend the holidays here with friends, will go to her home in Kentucky instead.

HOLIDAY RATES TO DENVER, Via D. & R. G. R. R.

On December 23-24, the D. & R. G. R. R. will sell tickets to Denver and return, limited to January 10th, 1906, good for stop-overs in both directions, at rate of \$22.50.

Cherry will loan you Christmas money on your salary. 407 D. F. Walker Bldg.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

- 1513—Walter E. Dodge, Rawlins, Wyo.
1514—Marie Field, Rawlins, Wyo.
1515—William H. Dixon, Salt Lake City.
1516—Margaret Dickson, Salt Lake City.
1517—Charles E. Smith, Provo.
1518—Mary P. Addins, Salt Lake City.
1519—Jonathan Gillgren, Dalton & Lark.
1520—Hannah Pettit, Dalton & Lark.
1521—Andrew C. Nelson, Brigham City.
1522—Caroline C. Nelson, Brigham City.
1523—Edward Barnett, Salt Lake City.
1524—Elizabeth Williams, Salt Lake City.
1525—Elinor Duncan, Heber.
1526—Magie Lovell, Oak City.
1527—James B. Gleason, Farmers.
1528—Clara M. Schaeffer, Payson.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S RATES.

Via Oregon Short Line. Tickets on sale December 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 1905, and January 1, 1906. Final limit January 4th. See O. S. L. agents for particulars.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

- Arthur Meads to Grace P. Backman, lots 13 and 14, block 2, Langton park, \$1,000.
William Quick, Martha B. Jennings, part lot 6, block 47, plat B 2,555.
Glenn R. Botwell et al. to Elizabeth P. Edgar, part lot 6, block 15, plat A, \$25.
Lulu Hempstead et al. to T. D. Lewis, land, section 33, township 2 south, range 2 west, \$490.
William O. Newbold to William Newbold, land, section 22, township 3 south, range 2 west, \$1.
O. R. Cannon to Adolph Holme, part lot 12, block 18, plat J, \$20.
Lorenzo Snow to Wm. Whittier, part lot 6, block 15, plat A, \$250.
Mary Ann Bridge to the Oregon Short Line Railway company, lot 19, block 1, Jones' subdivision, \$450.

Ask your grocery for Vienna bakery bread.

It Makes a Pretty Good Scrap. (Atlanta Journal.) Secretary Taft and Senator Foraker seem to be having a regular Theodore Roosevelt-Henry M. Whittier time over the question of who started that railroad rate row in Ohio.

It Will Be a Hothouse Soon Enough. (St. Louis Globe-Democrat.) If Senator Cannon can have his way about it there will be no flowers on the desks of members at the opening of congress.

It is to Laugh. (New York Herald.) Whisky trout induces the Sugar trust to "bunco" it. Shark against swordfish!

Maybe He Borrowed the Money. (New York Mail.) Although President Roosevelt paid \$500,000 for a couple of buildings there seems to be no immediate desire to mortgage or investigate the White House.

Keith-O'Brien's FINAL CHRISTMAS WORD
The day before Christmas has arrived.
A vast volume of buying will be done today.
It is a habit of men to defer their Christmas purchases until the last day.
To these men invitation is extended to visit this great gift-giving store.
The things offered are representative of the newest styles, of lasting qualities and of remarkable values.
Men who are in doubt will be assisted by one of the many trained shoppers.
The task will be simplified and selection made easy.
Our prices will be found to be reasonable.
The magnificent stock of toys which has been heavily drawn upon, is still in excellent condition.
Many reductions upon slow-selling articles have been made.
The North Main aisle presents inducements in appropriate gifts--many 25 per cent discounts.
Printed signs indicate reductions in most of the sections.
Furs are lowered one-fourth.
Long coat suits at half-price today.
There is great selling in ladies' handkerchiefs.
Umbrellas are always splendid gifts.
A box of gloves is most appreciable.
Toilet articles are popular.
Stationery has been in unusual demand.
Burnt wood work has been going fast.
Fancy work is particularly a good seller.
Dainty neckwear is going in greater quantities than is usual at holiday time.
Silk undershirts become a fine present.
Holiday hose is selling well.
Smoking jackets make admirable presents.
We believe our showing of men's neckwear, for the money, is the prettiest in the city.
Christmas slippers make an economical and desirable present.
Christmas waists are calculated to delight any woman.
Boys' and girls' sweaters have been selling finely.
Special prices are offered today in millinery.
Linen affords a most sensible present.
A waist or skirt pattern would please the most fastidious bit of femininity.
Rugs have sold well this season.
In the basement are curtains and other furnishings.
Vases are a delightful gift.
China ware and such articles are always appropriate.
But it is best to come to the store and look around. Shop early this forenoon.

SALT LAKE THEATRE GEO. D. PYPHER MANAGER.
ALL NEXT WEEK MATINEES MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
Klaw & Erlanger's (Inc.) GREAT SPECTACLE.
BEN HUR
300 PEOPLE ON THE STAGE
Prices, 50c to \$2.00. Sale Now On.
Cepheum
MODERN VAUDEVILLE
ENTRANCE ON STATE STREET. BOTH PHONES 550.
Week Beginning Mon., Dec. 25
LEWIS McCORD AND CO.
In a One-act Play, "THE NIGHT BEFORE."
HENGLER SISTERS
Artistic Singers and Dancers.
GRAND OPERA TRIO
Singers.
LUCY AND LUCIER
Eccentric Comedy Sketch.
NELLE FLOREDE
Comedienne.
THREE JACKSONS
Physical Culture Artists.
KINODROME MOTION PICTURES
Every evening (except Sunday), 7:30, 5:00, 2:30. Box Seat, \$1.00.
Matinee Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, 5:00, 2:30, 1:00. Box Seat, 75c.
LYRIC THEATRE
TONIGHT AND ALL WEEK MATINEE TODAY
MINER'S MERRY BURLESQUERS
SPECIAL MATINEE CHRISTMAS DAY. All seats 25 cents. Night prices, 25c, 50c, 75c.
NEW GRAND THEATRE
DENVER THEATRE CO., Props. A. C. SMILEY, Mgr.
Matinee Today at 2:30 TONIGHT, LAST TIME
Yon Yonson
Sunday Night, "HONEST HEARTS." A try to every person attending Christmas matinee.
PRICES: Night, 25c, 50c, 75c. Matinee, 25c.

MAKE YOURSELF A XMAS PRESENT OF A Better Position.
Save a little money from the holiday rush and begin the New Year with industrious study.
ENROLL NOW.
Y. M. C. A. NIGHT SCHOOL
Call or telephone 2900, Association Office.
Robert C. French, Educational Director.
Visitors always welcome and consultation a pleasure.

100 Fine Pianos Sacrificed This Week.
Carstensen & Anson Co.
TEMPLE OF MUSIC, 74 MAIN STREET.
Perfumes OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY
R. & G. Palmer's, Spielher's, Etc., Etc.
HAVE YOU SEEN OUR ELEGANT LINE OF AUSTRIAN WOODEN BOXES? THEY ARE ACCEPTABLE XMAS PRESENTS.
Presents for Everybody at the HOLIDAY DRUG CO.
Opp. and south Salt Lake Theatre.

Wherever there's Pain There is the place for an Allcock's PLASTER
It does its work while you do yours
Davis MONEY-BACK-SHOES
38-210 MAIN STREET.
REDEMPTION OF CHURCH BONDS, Series A.
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, DEC. 27th, 1905. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the terms of the contract of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Lorenzo Snow, trustee-in-trust, dated December 31st, 1888, there being sufficient money in the sinking fund for that purpose the following described bonds of Series A are hereby called for redemption on the first day of January, 1906, to-wit:
\$500 bonds Nos. 58 to 200, inclusive, \$75,000
\$1,000 bonds Nos. 1 to 100, inclusive, \$100,000
Total \$175,000
Bonds must be presented to the undersigned trustee on or after January 2nd, 1906, at the Deseret National Bank, Salt Lake City, Utah, with coupons Nos. 1 to 22 attached, and interest will cease on all above described bonds on January 1st, 1906.
LEWIS S. HILLS, DAVID ECCLES, Trustees.

OPERA GLASSES
We still have an excellent selection and refuse to carry them over. See display in window marked in plain figures.
Columbian Optical Co
Sole Agents for Kryptok and Toracuscus Lenses.
259 Main St.

Notice.
SPECIAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING. Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the stockholders of the Utah Fire Clay Company will be held at the company's office, 108 South First Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, at 10 o'clock a. m. on January 22, 1906, for the purpose of electing three additional directors to serve until the first Monday in May, 1906, thereby increasing the number of directors from six to nine, as provided for in Article 9 of Articles of Incorporation, and amending said Article 9 accordingly.
By order of the board of directors, T. R. FLEBERGER, Secy. Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 15, 1905.
Herald Want Ads Bring Results.