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AMUSEMENTS TODAY.
Salt Lake—'Glorious Betsy.'
Orpheum—'Maffee and night, vaudeville.
Grand—'The Factory Girl.'

WEATHER FOR SALT LAKE.
Fair

THE METALS.
Silver, 54 1/2c per ounce.
No change in copper and lead quotations.

BONDS AND BUSINESS.

In an editorial on the proposed new issue of bonds by the city, the Tribune urges non-partisan treatment of the subject as a matter of fairness. The Herald agrees that a business matter of this sort should be considered without partisan bias, provided the council assumes the same position. That is to say, the council should not for partisan advantage conceal the true condition of the city's finances. Equitable consideration of any business proposal involves entire frankness on both sides, and, so far, the council has not been frank with the people as to the financial status of their affairs.

If an individual proposes to borrow money of a bank for improvements, he takes it for granted that the bank will call for a statement of his liabilities and assets. He expects to tell all of his liabilities—not a part of them, and he expects to set forth the true value of his assets. He knows further that the bank will consider not only his financial resources, but that it will investigate closely his business methods, his promptness in settling debts, his personal habits. In other words, a bank takes into account the moral risk of a loan as well as the actual financial risk; and very often the man of small means but good character and sound methods has better credit than the man of larger resources who is not so good a moral risk.

The taxpayers are asked to assume the responsibility for a loan of \$500,000, the money to be spent by the city council now in authority. It is not only fair, it is imperative that the taxpayers consider whether the methods of the council justify confidence in its way of doing business, whether the financial statements issued by the council are of the sort a careful banker would accept if he were going to lend \$500,000. Are the men who control the expenditures of the city in the council entitled to the absolute trust which a banker would have to feel before he made such a loan? Have the council's affairs been managed economically, carefully, with regard to nothing but the best service at the least cost?

These are the questions the taxpayers ought to ask themselves when they come to vote on the bond issue, and these questions are the ones that ought to determine the result of the vote. So far, The Herald has not been able to get the information necessary to intelligent, unbiased judgment on the subject of a new loan. The figures furnished by the special auditors and the city officials have not been explicit; certainly no banker or bond buyer would lend money on such data. There has been no statement for months showing the actual indebtedness of the city, its unpaid bills, its outstanding warrants to date and the liabilities to be created in the near future.

No one except city officials knows how much the city's overdraft actually is after trust funds are eliminated from bank balances. No statement has been given out as to the exact amount due to property owners for excess assessments collected on improvements. It is doubted whether a property owner who has paid too much on assessments could hope to get his money back on demand; and it is certain that such property owners have not been advised that money is due them from the city. That attitude on the part of the city government is not of the kind to invite confidence; it is as though a man had overpaid his bill unwittingly and the man who got the money kept it for his own.

The fact that the \$1,000,000 bond issue was supported by all parties is cited as a reason why this \$500,000 issue should be voted for without dissent. The conditions governing the two issues are not similar. The bonds for the purchase of the Big Cottonwood water, the construction of the viaduct and the extension of the sewer system were to meet an absolute necessity of municipal life. Salt Lake had to have the Big Cottonwood water; its acquisition was a prerequisite to any further growth

and progress. It had to have more sewers; it could not utilize the new water supply without the conduit. Times were good, property was advancing in value, the whole people were in position to stand heavy taxation, and no one questioned the wisdom of the bond loan.

As against these conditions the council proposes improvements now which may or may not be absolutely necessary; the people are already carrying a very heavy tax burden; many property owners are struggling with special assessments that are a hardship; many of the people are hard pressed to make a living. Even if it were shown that the improvements are necessary, it still is debatable whether the taxpayers can stand it or not. Every business man has occasions when he would like to make improvements, and knows they would be advantageous, but he cannot afford to assume the added burden of cost; and the people of Salt Lake are in much that position today.

Desirable as it might seem to have rapid and extensive improvements in the municipality, the diminished earning capacity of the individual citizens and the certainty that regular taxes will be heavy combine to make the bond question debatable.

Meanwhile it is incumbent on the city administration to furnish the figures as to the city's finances in such form that the least intelligent citizen will know from them what the future holds for the taxpayer.

A FIGHT TO A FINISH.

The low rumbling noise that has been emanating from the White House of late reached the violent stage on Wednesday, when the president discovered that the house of representatives was making fun of him and his policies. A good many observers discovered weeks ago that Speaker Cannon and his minions had determined to put mustard in the presidential pie, but Roosevelt himself didn't strike the mustard until his battleship bill came out of the house with a joker in it. Two battleships were provided for, but no money was included in the provision. Followed an eruption of wrath that must have made the weaker brethren's hair turn kinky with fear.

Almost as soon as the bill reached him, the president promised to veto the whole naval program, appropriations and all, unless the senate changed the status of things by including proper battleship arrangements in its bill. Just as promptly came the announcement from the senate that it would be good, and yesterday a move was made to renew the fight for four big ships instead of two.

What becomes of the ships is only of minor importance; the real interest attaches to the outcome of the open fight between Roosevelt on one side and the house leaders on the other. So far, Cannon and his followers have had the best of it, but it would be a fair speculation to bet even money that the president will convince them they have had a fight before they get through. Pending the encounter by rounds, Democrats all over the country will recall the grief that resulted from Cleveland's battle with congress which took much the same direction. Ultimately Cleveland managed to disrupt his party, and Roosevelt bids fair to duplicate the performance.

Pat Moran saw the battleship fleet in San Diego and got so enthusiastic about it he subscribed \$500 to the High school cadet fund, and smiled while he drew the check. That might be called practical patriotism.

Six hundred thousand dollars may not look like much money to the city council, but it appears to be a right tidy sum to the man who has just finished paying special assessments for sidewalks and sewers.

An Indiana man has invented an automatic alarm clock which starts the kitchen fire for him in the morning before he gets up. It isn't hard to guess who bosses that establishment.

Anyway, Utah has something to be duly thankful for: the rain on Wednesday and Thursday was worth about a cool million to the people hereabouts.

The Republican majority in congress has discovered that doing nothing isn't as soft a job as some people suppose.

If Roosevelt doesn't know who threw that brick, he might ask Speaker Cannon about it.

DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN.

(Puck.)
Grocery Drummer (in Yaptown store)—Does the old fossil who just departed always wear a near-silk hat?
Storekeeper—Always since he won fifth prize in a lim-rick contest three months ago.

WATCH THE PROFESSOR.

(The Christian Instructor.)
Lecture upon the rhinoceros.
Professor—I must beg you to give me your individual attention. It is absolutely impossible that you can form a true idea of this hideous animal unless you keep your eyes fixed on me.

ADOPTEE HUNOR.

(Philadelphia Press.)
Miss Gusch—He's so awfully witty; he makes so many original remarks. Don't you think so?
Mr. Knox—No.
Miss Gusch—You don't? Why?
Mr. Knox—Probably it's because I subscribe to the same comic paper that he reads.

QUITE SO.

(St. Louis Republic.)
"I've just been reading about Montaigne."
"What of him?"
"He said that whenever he saw a good thing he annexed it."
"Well," declared the saturnine joke-smith, "he had the right idea for running a humorous column."

SOCIETY

The last literary program of the year at the Ladies' Literary club will be given this afternoon, when Miss Ethel Paul will review "The Fruit of the Tree," and Mrs. Charles J. Freund will read a paper on "The Niebelungenlied and German Folk Lore." The music will be furnished by Mrs. Charles G. Plummer, Miss Lillian Oliver, Miss Hilda Gresson and a string quartet under Miss Maud Williams. The report of the election committee will prove an interesting part of the business.

Mrs. J. C. Landenberger and Mrs. Von Knoblock entertained again yesterday afternoon, this time at a 500 party, at which nine tables were filled with the players. The springlike decorations transformed the home into a perfect bower. The prizes in the game were won by Mrs. Pauline Sands, Miss Trainer, who is a guest of Mrs. James F. Dunn, and Mrs. Frank Johnson.

There will be a regimental parade with the band accompanying this afternoon at Fort Douglas, a band concert at 4 o'clock, preceding the parade at 5. A number of visitors will attend during the afternoon, and there will be an informal hop in the evening, the formal hop having been postponed once more.

Mrs. Frank B. Stephens entertained a "dove party" last evening at a dinner and theatre party, the guests being a number of the ladies whose husbands were in attendance at the Sons of the American Revolution banquet.

Mrs. P. J. Queally, of Kemmerer, Wyo., is in town for a stay of a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Mann of Los Angeles are at the Knutsford on their way east.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Lawrence are expected home tomorrow from the coast, where Mrs. Lawrence has spent the past few months.

Mrs. W. Edward Fife entertains this afternoon at a tea at her apartments in the Bransford.

Mrs. Ralph E. Hoag returned last evening to her home in Ogden, after a two days' visit here.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Alexander are home from a stay of several weeks in the east.

William M. Brown has gone east on a short business trip.

D. R. Gray, who has been in Idaho on business the past few days, will return this morning.

Mrs. Albert R. Nichols of Denver, formerly Miss Georgia Hamlin of this city, is here visiting relatives and friends for a few weeks.

The regular meeting of the Utah Woman's Press club will be held tomorrow evening at 7:30 at the office of the Woman's Exposition in the Templeton building. Original sentiments will be given by the members and a paper will be read by Mrs. Amanda Done. Mrs. M. F. Pye will read an Easter poem, and Mrs. Florence Critchlow will review current events.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

6901—Max Muchow, Salt Lake.
Anna Haupt, Salt Lake.
6902—Ludwick Michlich, West Jordan.
Margaret Petek, West Jordan.
6903—Howard R. Hollenbeck, Salt Lake.
Elvira L. Lewis, Salt Lake.
6904—Richard E. Andrews, Provo.
Eliza R. Barton, Provo.



The Man from Rome

This is the title of a continued story by Marie Van Vorst, starting in this week's issue of THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

An American, rich beyond the dreams of avarice; a young son with pockets bursting with spending money, a daughter spoiled and beautiful; also the man from Rome. These persons act a powerful story, tragic in places, which will be illustrated by A. B. Wenzell and Vernon Howe Bailey.

The title suggests a hinted international marriage—but not this one.

Better begin to read this story now. It is hard to get back numbers of THE SATURDAY EVENING POST. This week's issue is now on sale.

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All the necessary family cooking may be done as well on a New Perfection Wick, Blue Flame Oil Cook-Stove as on the best coal or wood range.
By using the "New Perfection" Oil Stove, the annoyance of an overheated and stuffy kitchen is entirely avoided, even in midsummer. The construction of the

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is such that the heat is thrown directly upward against the kettle or pan upon the stove top, without affecting the atmosphere of the room to an appreciable degree.
You can at once see the advantage of this stove over a great range which throws heat in all directions—it is the ideal summer stove.
If your dealer does not have the "New Perfection" write our nearest agency.
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Good old GÜCKENHEIMER
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Its condition may be likened to that of a man engaged in some exhaustive physical effort, a little too great for his powers of endurance. He must have help.
If troubled with indigestion, partake lightly for a while of solid foods and
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