

STRAIGHT TALK

W. R. (Spinach) Wallace is now in control of the Salt Lake Evening Telegram and the acquisitive one celebrated his arrival in the journalistic field by slashing the payroll in every department, cutting off thirteen heads in the business office, the mechanical department and the editorial rooms. Strictly speaking, this is not his initial entry into the newspaper business. He was an original stockholder in the reorganization of the Telegram and since then has made various contributions when the grass was a little short, until now he is dictating the policy of the paper if it has one, and the original intent to make a fearless, independent journal dominated by no interest or individual has been lost in the shuffle and it is now merely the mouthpiece of Spinach and those closely associated with him.

In fact the consensus of opinion among those who know how strong he is and who are also aware of how he likes to spend his money is that he is the straw and not the goods and that very probably the real producer of the money is someone at present in the cellar whose identity is not generally known.

Of course Wallace is the Democratic-prohibition candidate for governor and among his other various needs preceding the time for nominations, is a newspaper that may be depended upon to do his bidding.

It will not be surprising if within a short time the announcement is made that the Telegram will not receive liquor or tobacco advertisements just as the News refuses some of them at the present time, for Spinach is absolutely the whole thing and nobody else has anything to say regarding the policy of the paper or any great question affecting the city or state.

You didn't notice anything (did you dear readers?) in reference to the work of the sneaks who control the university when they appointed a new president the other day; you haven't noticed anything appearing in the once fearless columns of that journal which might reflect on any of the men or the interests with which Spinach Wallace is affiliated or who might harm him in his futile attempt to be governor. Furthermore, you won't notice anything of that kind.

The Telegram is no longer either fearless or independent and it cannot possibly be so long as the present state of affairs continues with the joker of the state Democracy in control and running wild in a game that will finish with that political card in the discard.

The news of the Wallace dominance will be read with sincere regret by the host of friends won by the Telegram and its manager in the past; substantial friends who flocked to its support in the belief that this city was to have one daily paper at least upon which the people could depend and which was to be conducted along fearless and independent lines irrespective of who might advertise and who might not, without fear or favor, uncontrolled by petty politicians or affiliated interests. We fear it is going to be a sad year for Editor Wallace and one filled to overflowing with indoor sport for the newspaper men in the town. Not only in the town, but throughout the state for the toes that Spinach has trampled upon since he began to attempt to dictate to the untirred after emerging from years of hibernation, still show the scars and their owners are not forgetful and neither are their friends.

In the meantime, Editor Wallace has just as much chance of being elected governor of Utah as Fat Schuler would have of being president of a Sunday school union.

News comes from Seattle that three millionaires, whose homes were recently raided by Sheriff Robert Hodge under the new prohibition law of

that state, have announced their intentions to move to California and make their homes in San Francisco. An excerpt from a dispatch from Seattle, reads as follows:

"W. E. Boeing, whose fortune was acquired in lumber, and who has recently become an aviation enthusiast, is one of those declaring his intention to move to California. From his cellars the Sheriff took \$10,000 worth of rare vintages, some of which had been acquired originally by Boeing's father.

"D. E. Skinner, whose house was raided and \$6,000 worth of wines taken by the sheriff, is another who says he will not continue to make his home here, but will move to San Francisco.

"Skinner is the owner of the Port Blakely mills, the largest lumber mills on the coast. He had made all plans for the construction here of two new lumber carrying steamers. He announced today that he would not build the vessels here, but would take up the matter of their construction at San Francisco. Skinner formerly resided in San Francisco, but more recently had built a \$50,000 house here. After the sheriff's raid at his new home, he declared that he preferred San Francisco.

"J. C. Eden is the third millionaire to declare his intention of moving to San Francisco. Eden's apartments at the Rainier club were recently raided and \$2,000 worth of choice wines taken by the sheriff. Eden is the president of the Superior Portland Cement company and a man of high financial rating.

"It is the claim of Boeing, Skinner and Eden that the wines taken from their cellars had been purchased long before the prohibition law went into effect in the state, and that their property was taken from them without due process of law.

"Sheriff Hodge has search warrants which gave him authority to enter the homes of half a dozen more men of wealth in this city, but he happened

to hit upon those in his first seizures who had no business ties which compel them to continue to live here. They say they had chosen to spend their money here, but that they are independent and do not prefer to remain in a community which countenances such actions.

"Sheriff Robert Hodge today filed suit for \$100,000 damages against William E. Boeing, who recently attacked the sheriff in a bill of claim filed in justice court after the sheriff had seized a large quantity of liquor stored in Boeing's home."

The above is a splendid advertisement for Seattle and should serve as a warning to cities contemplating following the example. In spite of its natural advantages and surrounding resources, it will not be long until the same death-like hush that has fallen over Denver, will characterize Seattle's business district.

That a sheriff should confiscate vintage wines which were purchased long before the law was contemplated and which, should the European war keep up much longer, would be priceless, amounts almost to a sacrilege and it is no wonder that those who can get away are going. Personal liberty in this country is something enjoyed by very few, though unquestionably the beginning of a great reaction is noted in those states where the lily whites have been holding sway.

On the front page of Thursday's Telegram it was urged that B. F. Grant be named as judge in place of the late Judge McMaster, and the argument was indicative of the fear that comes to some when the real editor is in charge of the payroll as well as the editorial policy.

To quote the article it said: "It was because Chief Grant had a longing to reform those taken before him instead of punishing them, that opposition first arose to his police administration."

We have seen some weak and vacillating arguments in our time, but to have a paper like the

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