

STRAIGHT TALK

The recent reorganization of the Young Men's Republican club prompts the suggestion that in the desire to effect harmony a certain party overplayed his hand. A glance at the personnel of the advisory committee named speaks for itself. Among the gentlemen honored by appointment to this committee are Callister and Spry, Armstrong and Sutherland, Barnes and Devine. We take it that the function of this particular committee is to counsel and advise with the officers of the club in their effort to promote the general welfare of the organization. This in turn involves the harmonizing of all faction in the party. Since harmony is essentially the object of the club's endeavor, the advisory committee as now constituted possesses unlimited possibilities. The results in sight will depend absolutely on the angle from which one chooses to view the situation. If President Jensen is able to hold this six-horse team in line as he has hitched it up, and drive it in a certain direction, he will have solved the problem which is now puzzling the Republican party.

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When Salt Lake City's annual spring clean-up campaign ended Monday night of this week it was voted by those in charge to have been one of the most successful of these campaigns ever carried on here. As a result the back yards, alleys and vacant lots present a spick and span appearance such as has never before been known in the history of the city.

The campaign was conducted by the health department with the assistance and co-operation of the Commercial club, the Women's Civic club, the Real Estate association and various other organizations. The active part of the work, however, was assumed by the children of the public schools and it is largely due to their efforts that the splendid results were achieved.

The children of each school were divided into district squads under the leadership of a captain and each squad was charged with the cleaning up of its own district, including the vacant lots and alleys. The squads accomplishing the best work in each school are to be given a "squad prize," the winners to be determined by a committee appointed by the Parent-Teachers' association of each school. These prizes have been donated by different organizations of the city.

The school making the best showing will be given the city school prize, the winner to be determined by a committee consisting of Mrs. J. T. Beless, J. Leo Fairbanks and Dr. A. A. Kerr. This prize will be donated by the Commercial club.

The interest displayed by the children in the clean-up campaign has aroused and developed sentiment in favor of continued efforts along these lines and a determination in many sections to continue the work through the summer, the citizens having been aroused to the desirability of the more sanitary conditions which will obtain.

During the campaign the health department removed all restrictions as to the kind of garbage hauled and in addition to the 570 loads of regular garbage hauled 122 extra loads. No little credit is due the inspectors of departments who displayed keen desire to have their district make a good showing. The members of the Real Estate association responded readily to the request of Mayor Ferry that they remove weeds from the properties for which they were agents. The railroads running into the city joined in and agreed to remove weeds from lots owned by them.

Not only will all this make a good impression on tourists visiting Salt Lake City during the summer but it will make for better health conditions for the residents themselves and the efforts of those who conducted and who took part in the campaign should be appreciated by all.

The web-footers dropped in from Portland early in the week and proceeded to trim our little ball team in a couple of the fiercest exhibitions ever seen on the local grounds. The excuse of the boys for their poor playing before they went away was that they were soft and had not had sufficient time to train. In view of the performances Tuesday and Wednesday one wonders just how long it will take them to get to some degree of efficiency. It was positively awful.

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There was considerable comment preceding the recent fight at the Auditorium, in which some misguided individuals matched the poor Gilbert boy with the seasoned Wolgast. The comment was on the subject of fighting in general and the number of rounds to which contests should be limited. Omitting the pros and cons in regard to the fight arrangements and the changes made, the most detrimental feature of the proceeding in view of the representative citizens, rounders and rabble present was the appearance of two little kiddies of very tender years who battered each other around the ring, with an officer of the law, the third one on the canvas.

The comical Mr. Mabbutt, plain clothes man, police official, was there to referee the bout, and must have had official sanction to be there. The appearance of the children on such an occasion, together with an official representative, should never have been permitted, and it was disgusting to every thinking man in the hall. The same copper officiated in other bouts, while a score of stalwarts in uniform were lined up against the wall to preserve order, and incidentally were interested spectators.

The limitation of the number of rounds at a boxing contest is not a matter of half so much importance as some other needed reforms. The management of the affair is not to be congratulated any more than those who permitted some things which should not be allowed. That spectators who did not buy ringside seats should have been allowed to occupy them after all the sucker money had been taken in did not appeal to those who paid for the choice places. And there were unnecessary delays which never occur when Hardy Downing runs an exhibition. One can set his watch by Downing's schedule always.

But to revert, some action should be taken immediately to leave the kiddies out of it, and unless the bouts are being staged by the city government, police officers should not be allowed to officiate in the ring.

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Christ was crucified on Calvary, and the Christian religion was born. Since that momentous day in the world's history the faith has become divided in many sects and creeds, but the insignia that has led men to better and nobler lives has been the cross. It is the emblem that is working through the centuries for the uplift of Jew and Gentile alike, of Mormon and Catholic, of Protestant and unbeliever. It is to date the most potential factor in the so far feeble efforts to end the stupendous massacre of humans that is going on over European battlefields.

Recently the Mormon church asked permission to erect a cross on Ensign peak to commemorate the arrival of the pioneers in this wonderful valley of Eden. Fanatical protest has been made against the city giving its consent to this monument. Logically there is no religious sect in Utah which has a better right to build a lasting memorial to its founders.

However, the question of permission for the erection of a cross on Ensign peak is a vastly broader one than the question of the petty jealousies of men who tarry in this life but a little period at the most. Civilization has come to believe that neither creed nor sect make much for salvation in the hereafter. Each man follows the bent of his conscience whether he be a member of a

religious sect or not, and in all the Christian world a cross is symbolic of that hour from which no man has ever returned. Whether it be Gentile or Mormon only small and narrow minds could object to the erection of such a monument. There should never have been any hesitancy among the city commissioners in giving instant permission. The cross means larger and better things than we mortals of present civilization will ever realize.

The protest is small town stuff anyway. There are always just so many too willing to stir something up.

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The arrest of Arthur E. Lewis as a suspect in the Bingham bank robbery case caused a veritable sensation among his friends here who don't believe that he had anything whatever to do with it. He was released later in the week on a bond of \$3,000, the bondsmen being F. G. Fell, Ray E. Sermon and R. G. Halloran. He and his friends say that he will have no trouble in proving his innocence. The charge made against him is alleged complicity in the alleged embezzlement of \$3,800 from the Copperfield State Bank by A. W. Koehler, cashier. Mr. Lewis is very well known locally, having been a stock salesman here for some time, and being one of the most successful of those who placed the shares at the time of the organization of the Farmers & Drivers Company, which has offices in the Newhouse building.

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One was remarked, upon reading that there were 7,000 pipes in the new organ at the tabernacle, that that is nothing when it is considered that another organ half a block below has 7,000 pipes a month.

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DeWitt Foster who attended the G. A. R. meeting on Wednesday in a repertorial capacity did not stay very long, because after one of his remarks it was suggested that he depart. A grizzled veteran met him at the door, and asked him if he fought in the Civil war. "No, he replied, but my grandfather did, on the Confederate side, and I understand he put up a pretty good fight." Exit De.

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Stirred by the successful revolt on the Philippines bill and by the rejection of the government-owned nitrate plant which the army bill proposes, administration leaders in congress are now attempting to modify the provisions of the shipping bill so as to avert another defeat for one of the president's pet measures.

There is good ground for the fear which this course evidences. The same men who were most active in opposition to the Philippines bill are opposed to the shipping bill. Their opposition is not so much with reference to details of the measure as to the underlying principle of government ownership—and it is doubtful if they can be won over to support the proposition in any form. However, the sub-committee which has the bill in charge is now endeavoring to tinker the project so as to make it applicable only for five years, at the end of which time the government-owned ships are to be sold, and if no customer appears they are to be withdrawn from operation.

In this form the measure would be a mere makeshift and a costly one at that. It might "save the president's face," but there is no warrant of law for expending millions of public money for that purpose. Moreover, it is extremely doubtful if the shipping bill can command a majority of the house no matter how it is tinkered. There is suspicion of the bill's origin in Washington which cannot be lulled—and if the administration leaders who are now taxing their brains with the problem really wish to do something effective with the shipping bill they will forthwith abandon it utterly.