

Goodwin's Weekly.

Vol. XIII

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, OCTOBER 31, 1908.

AN APPEAL TO VOTERS

It is but three days to election. This election is very important and there must be no mistake. The American ticket should receive every vote of every American and it should be the chiefest anxiety to make sure to cast that vote.

Because of the obstructions put in the way by the so-called Republican party in this city it is going to be difficult for some Americans who are not familiar with the voting machine to cast both the American ticket and likewise to cast their choice for presidential electors.

To them we would say that it is practically understood that, so far as the influence of Mr. Smoot and the Mormon church can go, the Taft electors will be sure of the election on Tuesday, hence the main anxiety of Americans is that the full American ticket shall be cast from top to bottom, from governor to constable.

In our immediate locality the most important feature of the election hinges upon the possibility of carrying the county. That should claim every American vote. It is essential that the county should be in accord with the city; it is essential that the grafting and the incompetency of the county government should cease, and that the county should become American.

The Deseret News and the organ of Mr. Smoot here in this city are doing their utmost to scare the men in the county by predicting all kinds of evil to them and their property in case of an American victory.

The best answer to all that they will find in those same papers, as they have fought the dominance of the American party in this city; as they fought the issuing of bonds to do necessary work for the city; as they have used their utmost exertions for the past three years to fight back the inevitable and keep this region from ever becoming, in truth, American.

It is enough to say that every foreboding on their part, so far as the city is concerned, has been dissipated; every prediction has been falsified; every falsehood has been turned to a boomerang which is smiting them right now.

We ask the men in the county to come and look at the city and note the changes that have been wrought here in three years, to talk with their Mormon friends, whether they have suffered anything from the American administration, or whether, in truth, they have done better during the last three years than they ever did before in their lives?

The difference of it all is as that between the United States and Asia. One stands for progress; one stands for integrity; one stands for progressive government and for the equal rights of citizens. The other stands for stagnation and graft and the deeper enslavement of this people.

In three years the American party has done more for Salt Lake than the dominant church party did for forty years. It has done more for the comfort of the people, more for the prosperity of the people, more for the health of the people than was ever done during all the long years when this power, which has no elasticity, sat like a nightmare on the hopes and on the prospects of the people.

Let our friends from the county come and look for themselves; an object lesson is as good to the white man as to the Indian.

For twenty years in this city the old Liberal party besought those in power to be just to the people, to have a fair distribution of the taxes, to have capable and honest officers to do something, not only for the progress, but for the health of the people. It was all contemptuously derided.

The Deseret News, which claims to be the friend of the Mormon people and the organ of the church, fought back every proposed improvement, no matter how essential. It fought even the sprinkling of the streets.

In one year after the old Liberal party, which was the forerunner of the present American party, took hold, the death rate was reduced 60 per cent. The death rate of children was reduced very much greater.

For forty years after the first settlement here the City Cemetery on the hill had not one flower or shrub planted. It was as terrible a looking city of the dead as was ever seen, and every year there was a row of little children's graves added, which was a horror to mothers. Go and look at it now and see what has been done under Liberal and American rule. And that is but a sample.

In forty years there was not a street crossing made by the city, not a street paved, not a sewer dug. Thousands and tens of thousands of dollars were stolen by the city officers and no restitution was ever required.

The police force was made up of thugs. The fire department was thirty minutes getting to a fire within three blocks of the engine house. There was unequal taxation. Every dollar of revenue was spent on city officers.

Does any one doubt this, let him look around and find one monument to the credit of those who were in power. Not a decent school house; not one sanitary public building; no effort at progressive government. The only effort seemed to be to perpetuate the rule of incompetency and of graft.

Salt Lake is growing as never before. It is time that the prosperity here should extend to the county; it is time the county should have good roads; it is time for the city and county to work together for the good of the people in both city and county, and it at present rests upon the vote of next Tuesday whether these hopes shall be realized, or whether the county shall for four years more be made a drag and a reproach.

Three years ago the county authorities entered into a conspiracy to prosecute and persecute one man. They relied altogether on the testimony of men whom no court would take the testimony of except it might be corroborated. The county was put to thousands of dollars expense. As much shame as possible was cast upon the city government. The whole conspiracy finally broke of its own weight, and then it transpired that the only object of it was, in this persecution of an individual, to make capital against the party to which he belonged.