

The Salt Lake Tribune.

Issued every morning by Salt Lake Tribune Publishing Company. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily and Sunday Tribune, week, \$ 2.50

Business communications should be addressed: "The Tribune, Salt Lake City, Utah."

Where The Tribune is on Sale. Murray, Utah—Excelsior Stationery Co. Ind. phone 177-F. Ogden, Utah—Branch office, Broom hotel.

Tribune Bell Telephones. 8200..... Circulation Advertising 8201..... Bookkeeper 8202..... City Editor 8203..... Manager 8204..... Managing Editor 8205..... Editor in Chief 8206..... Toll Desk 8207..... Administration 8208..... Composing Room 8209..... Telegraph and Art 8210..... Engraving Dept 8211.....

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Tuesday, June 30, 1908.

Knockers are not bonders. Republicans are in favor of tariff revision—again.

Onward and upward speeds the bonding booster.

Castro is discovering that the big stick knows no brother.

To find that the gun was loaded is disappointing, to say the least.

The octopi now have their ears to the ground and their eyes on Denver.

Save trouble to yourselves and annoyance to others by walking to the right.

And if the "Republicans" want a big campaign fund, why not C. Ed. Loose?

It is better to build an aqueduct in Salt Lake than a mission house in Tennessee.

Anyway, we shall have another ex-President after the fourth of March next.

"Club women in Boston," reads a news heading. Pretty near as bad as taking an ax to 'em.

It's a wise tobaccoist that carries the Taft cigar, while keeping an eye out for the Bryan brand.

The hand our hierarchs have in politics is sometimes the glad hand, but more often the mailed fist.

But so far as the Merry Widow hat at the bicycle races is concerned, nobody desires to be "the man behind."

Mr. Taft was in favor of a campaign publicity bill; but the campaign managers sat on him most cruelly at Chicago.

Having sat on the President's left, can you wonder that Governor Cutler could lick the whey out of a mere son-in-law?

However, the title gatherers will protest that they are extremely generous to permit the saints to escape with their lives.

But the small boy fails to see why anyone or anything but the Fourth should lay claim to being the Big Noise.

It wouldn't be a bit surprising to hear the Smoot "Mouth" blame the American party for the existence of the Mormon prophets.

If you like that story told by Apostle Whitney concerning the visitation of angels to the first Mormon prophet, it is yours for the mere taking.

Astronomers foretold the eclipse to the minute of occurrence. But that isn't so much. Prophet Joseph F. could do the same thing, having an almanac, by gum!

Beef prices are so high that there is no longer any dog meat available from that source. Accounting, perhaps, for the readiness with which the canines tackle human beings.

A Wisconsin town board has decreed that the portraits of all toppers be hung in the saloons of the place. So that if they turn over a new leaf, they may sometimes feel justified in turning back to look at the pictures.

It is suggested by the Smoot "Mouth" that if the American party is to have credit for Salt Lake's improvements, it should be charged with the soup-houses maintained here last winter. No, the "hand-made panic"

to which it refers, and which is charged by many to the Republican financial policies, gets the credit for these soup-houses.

PURPOSE OF THE BONDS.

The Tribune prints on another page this morning the official statement adopted as a resolution by the City Council last night with reference to the proposed issue of \$600,000 in improvement bonds.

The statement specifies in detail the objects upon which the money is to be expended, and gives fair and reasonable estimates as to the cost of those improvements. It pledges to the taxpayers that the money will be expended precisely as detailed in the resolutions adopted; and that the work will be done faithfully and promptly there can be not the least question.

This disposes fully of the nightmare so often paraded in silly fashion by the Deseret News when it pretends a great fear that the money will not be properly expended and that its handling will not be in competent and honest hands. As a matter of fact, every one knows that the work will be in competent and honest hands. It is absolutely idle to get up such bugaboos in the face of the improvements made. Everybody can see just what has been done; all know that the work is good; that it has been done well and economically.

The improvements are there to show for themselves, that the money has been properly and honestly expended. All pretense otherwise is simply the vicious humbug of partisan malice.

And now that the proposition is fairly before the people, under a definite resolution and pledge of the Council, it is time for the maliguers of Salt Lake to quit quarreling on this proposition, to cease parading their unsavory and wretched pretenses, pretenses conjured up from the ghosts of their own guilty consciences and remembrances.

The whole matter is fairly before the people under definite pledge and under detailed estimates. It is perfectly evident that the progress of Salt Lake City requires that this work shall be done. Every one can see now precisely what it is that is proposed, and what it will cost; everybody knows the need of that work; everybody knows that it will cost the amounts estimated. So let us have done with idle railings and silly pretenses of fear. Let us get right down for Salt Lake, working for the growth and improvement of the city, and firmly resolve that that growth and progress shall not be retarded, nor this reasonable and judicious plan defeated to issue bonds for the improvements recited, that all see to be necessary, and to be estimated on fairly and conservatively.

The only thing remaining to be done, in order to help Salt Lake, is to vote these bonds.

CONSCRIPTING AUDIENCES.

R. D. Young of the stake presidency was called to address the meeting. He explained that the request for a certain number from each ward to attend the opening sessions of the conference was suggested by one of the apostles and the speaker was convinced that the suggestion was nothing short of inspiration. Richard Reape's report of Sevier stake conference, opening Saturday, June 29, 1908.

So it seems that the "authorities" of the Mormon church are now obliged to draft the saints in order to get them to attend conference—that they are compelled to send out ecclesiastical bench warrants to drag the Mormon people to meeting. There was a regular roll-call of wards, and the number from each noted to see if the quota had been filled; but even so, half of the conscripts deserted before conference closed.

But are honest Mormons to be blamed for entertaining a desire to remain away from the tabernacle, the stake house, and the ward meeting house? There was a time when they went to hear the elders preach the gospel, and they took a deep interest in their meetings. Out in the country places the good people looked forward to Sunday as the day when they could go to meeting and feel that they were to be comforted in their belief. But that time is gone by. Now they have no interest in these meetings, because they have become surfeit of the intolerable mouthings of the blatherers arbitrarily set over them as pretended shepherds. For some years past, and especially since the crowning of King Joseph F. Smith, they have heard but adulation of men whom they know to be sinners before their own God, and defers of the laws created by their own legislative representatives; instruction to bow down to these men in respectful awe, and to support them in all their unlawful and illegitimate undertakings; teaching that their principal duty is to pay and obey. At nearly every meeting they have been asked to contribute to this fund, that fund, and the other fund, until their hearts are thoroughly sick of the business. They have been bled in daylight and in dark; robbed fore and aft, to port and to starboard; plundered up one side and down the other; badgered for money, now to "vindicate the gospel in the halls of Congress," and again to support the illegal families of the pretended prophets. They have been asked to be constant in their contributions to the support of a man who told them openly in the tabernacle that he delib-

erately lied before all the world; who claims to be a prophet and admits that he does not prophesy; who says that he is a seer, and is unable to see beyond his own nose; who professes to be a revelator and confesses that he has never received a revelation; who poses as an exemplar to all mankind, and who lives a life of which every honest Mormon is abjectly ashamed, who collects money in the name of God and applies it to the purposes of the devil in the establishment of foreign refuges for breakers of the law and of God's commandment; who declares himself to be the vicegerent and mouthpiece of the Almighty, while reserving to himself the right to obey or disobey the Almighty, just as he pleases. How are they, the saints, able to know that God has revealed something to Joseph F. Smith that he doesn't like, because it would hurt or condemn himself personally, but that he has refused to give the revelation to the people, under his claimed right to obey or disobey God at his pleasure?

Can you blame honest Latter-day Saints for staying away from meeting? We think not. But we do not quite agree with Elder Young when he says that the idea of drafting the saints for conference purposes is the result of "inspiration." We can readily imagine that the good brother made an unfortunate choice of terms. We believe the drastic measure to have been undertaken by the "authorities" as the result of some recent and strenuous and copious perspiration.

JUDICIARY IN POLITICS.

Consistency is not one of the pearls that shine in the Smoot "Mouth." Here it comes with a bitter wall because of the partisanship of the Americans in nominating candidates for judges and district attorney. It holds that it is vastly to the credit of the chairman of the American convention that he expressed regret at the judiciary having been brought into politics. But it was surely not the American party that brought the judiciary into politics. The judiciary has been in politics ever since we have had a State; there have been regular partisan nominations for judges right along. How then does it happen to be such a peculiarly atrocious offense for the American party to make its nominations for judicial offices?

It would be desirable, undoubtedly, to keep the judicial nominations out of politics altogether, under normal conditions. It is even more desirable, however, to have unbiased, incorruptible judges, men who do not have any strings on them, who are not overshadowed by any political or law-defying ecclesiasticism. It will be remembered that not many years ago a delegation of office holders from this city went to a neighboring judicial district and labored with the judge there to rule upon a certain motion, which was then pending before him, in the interests of the Republican party. It was set forth to that judge that the party would suffer if he ruled in a certain way, and that it would be much to the advantage of that party if he ruled in another way. Here was an intrusion of politics upon the judiciary that was so scandalous as to call forth the execration of all just citizens, and yet nothing was ever done about it. And though one of the members of the committee waiting upon the Judge and undertaking to bias his opinion for political purposes was a Federal officeholder, and although the matter was brought to the attention of the Attorney-General and the President, that official was sustained in his partisan intrusion on the court, and is in office yet, one of the "Federal bunch."

It has always been the practice of the parties to make their nominations for judges. The chairman of the American party convention, it is true, deplored the fact that the judicial nominations had become partisan affairs, but he did not deplore the course of the American party in making its nominations. On the contrary, he held it to be a necessity for the party to do this, inasmuch as these nominations had become partisan and were a portion of the usual party procedure. At no time did he intimate that there was any impropriety in the American party making these nominations. But, on the contrary, he said that it was necessary of this party to make the nominations in order to complete its ticket, precisely as the other parties made their nominations for the same purpose.

We note, also, on the same page on which this wall against the American party judicial nominations appears in the "Mouth," there is a list of names headed "Republican Judicial Ticket." This Republican judicial ticket was put in the field some time ago, without the least protest from the Smoot "Mouth," but on the contrary with its complete endorsement and approval. Such endorsement and approval necessarily includes the endorsement and approval of making partisan nominations for these offices, for if it was proper for the "Republicans" to make such nominations it is proper also for the other parties to do the same. Therefore, it follows that the Smoot "Mouth," in making a howl against the action of the American party in putting up candidates for judges and district attorney, makes the usual ass of itself.

WHOLLY IMPERSONAL.

There has been recently a sort of reunion, with much speech making and a good time, at the Yale law-school. Secretary and Presidential Candidate Taft was there and enjoyed himself hugely. A great many speeches were made and a long programme was carried out elaborately and beautifully. One of the speeches was made by ex-Senator Spooner of Wisconsin, who thanked heaven that Secretary Taft, just nominated for the Presidency, is

a lawyer who will, if elected President, "know how to observe the constitutional limitations of his office." And Mr. Spooner continued: "When the three branches have become subordinated to the will of the Executive, popular government has ceased to exist." Then there was a deep pause and a drawing in of breaths all around the auditorium. The Senator then proceeded solemnly: "I speak of this in an impersonal way."

Of course he did. All he meant to reiterate was the usual platitudes of the Constitutional division of the Governmental functions into three co-ordinate branches, the executive, the legislative, and the judicial. That was all. He named no names, and he meant no personalities. It was a case precisely like the old story of the gentlemen at Pincho who were engaged in a friendly game of "draw." One of the gentlemen was minus an eye. The game proceeded pleasantly for a time until finally one who was not fully acquainted with the gentlemanly qualities of all the players, expressed his dissatisfaction. He said that he did not intend to be personal against any one at the table; he would name no names, he would make no charges, he would not say that any gentleman there was not entirely on the square. "But," he said, "if this thing happens again I will shoot some son-of-a-b—'s other eye out."

And so with Senator Spooner. His remark was entirely impersonal. He did not intend to name anybody, and did not name anybody, but the gentleman who was under the imputation of undertaking to subordinate to the will of the Executive the three branches of the Government, was so well known that he did not need to be designated as the gentleman whose other eye was about to be shot out.

"PLENTY OF TIME."

When Apostle Smoot decided to become a candidate for United States Senator six years ago, he announced his candidacy openly and publicly in May. This year, however, he holds that there is "plenty of time" yet to make his announcement. At that time, doubtless his idea was that he would head off all possible rivals by an early announcement which would effect his purpose. He knew then perfectly that when he announced himself as a candidate for the Senate, there would be no other candidate in the field, because his announcement gave notice that he had the support of his quorum in his candidacy; otherwise he would not dare to be a candidate at all. The political manifesto of April, 1896, requires that in cases such as his he must have the "consent of his quorum" to be a candidate. Having that consent, of course he has the support of his quorum, and having that support he is thereby made the church candidate, and no good brother or sister has any right to oppose him; because harmony and unity form the note of the whole sectarian procedure. Any member opposing Apostle Smoot in his political aspirations, after the apostle gets the consent and support of his quorum, necessarily is out of harmony with the church as an organization, and with his brethren as a question of personal relation; so he dare not, at his peril, oppose Apostle Smoot. And so the Apostle at that time took occasion to get in the field early so that none of the brethren could say that he had interrupted their plans, ruptured any of their political ties or snuffed out any of their political ambitions. Because necessarily his entrance into the field would drive them out, and rupture many of the ties and snuff out many of the ambitions that any one of the lesser brethren might

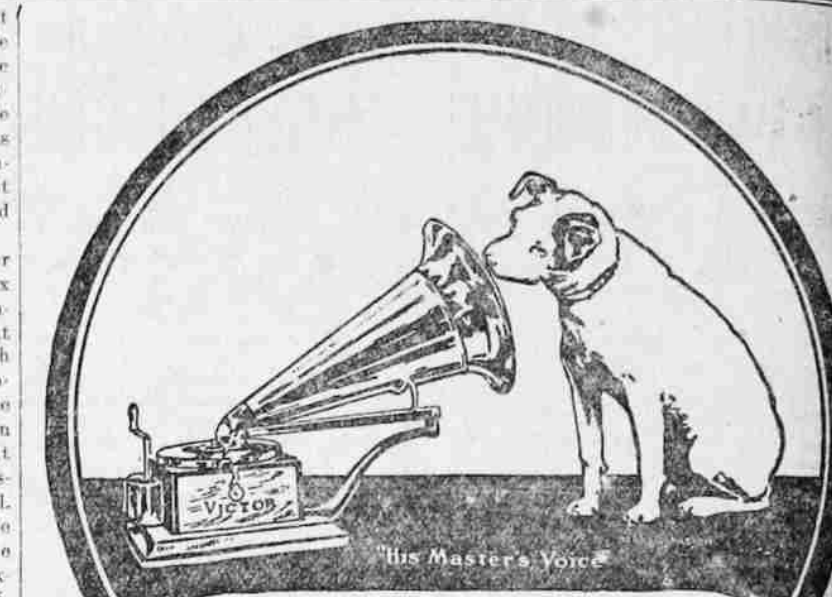
have indulged in. The result was that there was no candidate against Apostle Smoot, either on the Democratic or the Republican side of the church's political activities. And it would have made no possible difference whether there was a Republican or a Democratic Legislature at the ensuing session, Smoot would as certainly have been elected in one case as in the other.

This year, however, at a far later time than his announced candidacy six years before, Smoot fights shy of announcing his candidacy, and says that there is "plenty of time." Which means nothing more than that the announcement has been practically made all along, and the matter is set up in his favor in the church offices, and that he knows it and does not deem it necessary to make any announcement at all. It is very likely that he may not make any announcement, but may accept the "vindication" which the church is expected to give him "without any solicitation on his part." This will make it the sublime piece of humbuggery precisely suited to the minds of the present church leaders and also to the imposture in which Smoot himself so much delights.

For, that Smoot is a candidate to succeed himself, there can be no reasonable doubt, and has not been any doubt at any time since the Senate's vote to seat him. The "vindication" which is his due, according to the church ideas, was spoken of promptly upon the result of that vote being known. If there should be any Democrats in the Legislature next winter and their votes were necessary to "vindicate" Apostle Smoot, of course they would be at his command. Because, the Smoot candidacy has never at any time been in fact a political proposition at all. It is now, just as it always has been, a church proposition, pure and simple, from the time of his asking the consent of his quorum to run, receiving that consent and support, and also the approval of Joseph F. Smith, which both Smoot and Smith testified was asked and received; Smith granting his benediction and support to Smoot at the latter's humble solicitation. And that having been granted, of course Smoot needed nothing more.

But he testified that he proceeded to set up his fences. What did this mean in his case? Ordinarily it means that a candidate goes around among his constituents, sees the leading political magnates in the various localities of his district, gets their good will and active support, and so builds up a political machine that will be his to use, that will support him, as he hopes, successfully, in the Smoot case, however, nothing of this kind was necessary. All that he had to do, and all that he did do, was to take the church organization as he found it, make it his political machine, communicate the word down along the line from the chief ecclesiastical authorities, whose candidate he was, to the stake presidents, the local bishops, the ward teachers, and the like, and that was sufficient. The machine was there. But it was a church machine and not a political machine. However, the church machine was used for his political advantage, and to his interest as a politician, and the work was effectual then, just as Smoot hopes to make it effectual now. And in the next Legislature, as in the one that elected him, if there are churchmen enough in the body to elect Smoot, without regard to political affiliations, so-called, they will elect him. And that is all there is to it.

Ladies and children's free day. Take the kids to Wandanere.



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- Two special "hits" Not in the July list, but on sale to-day. Mother Haas' Spoke to Father Since No. 5492. Billy Murray. Yankee Doodle's Come to Town (from "The Yankee Prince") No. 5504. Billy Murray and Haydn Quartet.

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