



"I don't suppose anyone in Salt Lake City cares whether the dump burns down or not," said an aggressive nuisance who always outs in just as we are about to go to press.

"Well," we suggested. "What's the answer?" thereby encouraging him to proceed.

It took him some minutes to collect his thoughts. When he had found them they pasted together somewhat in this wise:

"In other cities the fire department is composed of hose, hooks and ladders, steamers, brass rods to slide down, prize fox terriers, dapple grey Percherons and other fire-fighting paraphernalia. In Salt Lake City there seems to be an idea that fires should be put out with either the laying on of hands or American party ballots, saturated with kerosene. This idea I have gathered from noting the suggestions in the local press concerning the head of the fire department since Charlie Vail joined the canned Americans, a new and large political organization consisting of Martin Mulvey, C. J. Crabtree, George Raleigh, Ezra Thompson, Jack Burbidge, Jim Taylor, Frank Cannon, Frank Hines and smother patriots pried from the pie counter.

"It's great to be an American, but it's sometimes brief," added the aggressive intruder, epigrammatically.

"For instance," he said, "Gaze on the selections for chief of the fire department dished out by Salt Lake's daily misrepresentations of the day's news known as the untrammelled Press. We can afford to wait without worrying too, because whoever it is he is sure to turn up amongst the canned Americans in not less than the legal jobholding limit of thirty days.

#### FROM THE DAILY SMOOT.

Who will be the next imbecile to take a temporary job from the American party?

There is a vacancy as usual at the head of an important city department. As usual also there is a suggestion from the intelligent outsiders that it would be well to fill the job sometime when there is no more political business for the city to attend to.

When they get around to it there will doubtless be a chief selected for the Salt Lake Fire Chief vacancy.

We hope that some intelligence will be used in filling it.

But we have our doubts. From experience of the past efforts of the party which controls the city government we know what to expect. The head of a fire department should be young, active, with a knowledge of chemistry, hydraulics, mechanics of unquestioned courage and with technical ability. From which we are able to deduce that the American party will select, a man who might be described as follows: Old, decrepit, well educated in ward politics, mining, ballistics, or the livery stable business, who wouldn't know a fire from a flood and who would run from a lighted fire-cracker.

We haven't the name yet, but we have the description.

We know the party.

#### FROM THE DAILY CLARK.

Ashby Snow for fire chief.

We present his qualifications in this wise. He knows a fire when he sees one. In that he has everyone else lashed to the post.

Second, he is beloved of the Lord, for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth and Ashby Snow has many times been beaten at the will of the Lord.

Third, his political qualifications are undisputed.

As campaign manager in the gallant last stand of the United Democracy of Zion—consisting of Brigham H. Roberts, Judge King, Richard Morris and possibly, Mike Cunningham—Ashby Snow went to defeat with honor. He didn't win a bet.

The only competitor that seems likely to give Ashby a close run for the position of fire chief is Jim Devine, the unscrupulous Republican boss, whose only asset, politically or personally, is the fact that he won for Ed. Loose several bets with Martin Mulvey on the outcome of the race for second place in the last city election.

It is not improper that the Democracy of the city be recognized. We are not contending for something unheard of. The Americans are a cosmopolitan party. They welcome everyone and everything from Senator Kearns to Jake Raleigh. Let them take Ashby Snow, brave gallant Ashby, and make of him their fire chief. Then, if they want to do something for the Republicans and to them, let them appoint Willard Done chief of police. By such a plan the Americans would have two good men, Ashby Snow would be punished for losing Mulvey's bets and Willard Done for making Governor Cutler's last speech so long.

#### FROM THE DAILY KEARNS.

There has been some delay in the selection of a fire chief. This has been unfavorably commented upon by our disgusting and imbecile contemporary, the Morning Smoot. We would inform all who are capable of assimilating information, and we hope the morning Smoot has not yet passed that point, of the reason for that delay.

While it is essential that the next incumbent should know a fire from a snow storm, such technical petty qualifications for the job as have been urged by our petty minded contemporaries pale to insignificance before the necessity of getting a real man for the job. A man of character and standing.

The fire chief's position is in a way representative. It is one of the highest in the gift of Salt Lake City. A man should and will be selected for the job, provided of course that Mayor Bransford don't shake the Kearns and try to paddle his own canoe, who represents Salt Lake.

We will find such a man. Just as soon as we have decided a contest and who is the best ward heeler and ballot box stuffer in the city we will announce our selection.

To the victor belongs the spoils.

#### FROM THE DAILY SMITH.

We note that there is a vacancy at the head of the Salt Lake fire department and while it is our policy never to interfere in the selection of local officers by suggesting that anything but actual technical ability to fill the job be considered, yet when it comes to a question of protection of our property and probably the lives of our families from the ravages of a holocaust, we feel that it is our duty to be heard.

The selection of a chief of the fire department is a matter of no small moment. He is necessarily the center of Salt Lake's fire fighting force and Salt Lake's fire fighting force is the only assurance we have of the safety of our property. Fires have been known to break out at various hours of the day and night and do considerable damage. If we have a fire department it is essential that we have a fire chief. The post is one of considerable danger as well as honor.

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