

DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING
(Sunday Excepted.)Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Hosce G. Whitney - Business Manager.SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
(In Advance.)

One Year \$10.00
Six Months \$6.00
Three Months \$3.50
One Month \$1.25
Sundays and Holidays Extra
Semi-Weekly per year \$2.00

Correspondence and other reading matter
for publication should be addressed to
the Editor.

Address all business communications
and all notices to the Editor.
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the postoffice of Salt Lake City
as second class matter according to
Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 23, 1909.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The 26th Semi-annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Sunday, October 2, at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members is hereby requested.

When the conference adjourns on Monday afternoon, it will be until Wednesday, Oct. 6, at 10 o'clock a. m.

A general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Monday evening, October 4, commencing at 7 o'clock.

The first Sunday of October being Conference, it is suggested that Sunday, Sept. 26, be observed as fast day in Salt Lake, Ensign, Pioneer, Liberty, Granite, and Jordan Stakes.

A special Priesthood meeting will be held in the Assembly Hall on Tuesday, Oct. 5, commencing at 10 o'clock a. m.

JOSEPH P. SMITH.

JOHN R. WINDER.

ANTHONY H. LUND.

First Presidency.

DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION

The semi-annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will convene at the Tabernacle, Sunday evening, Oct. 3, at 1 o'clock. All are invited.

HOPE IN DRY FARMING.

Westward the course of empire takes its way. The actual development of the West is closely linked with the future prosperity of the world.

The declining food supply and the advancing cost of living are adding to the tendency to look to agriculture and especially to methods of irrigation and dry farming to help out the cause of the people by producing an abundance of food at reasonable prices.

Dry farming investigators are about to engage in a propaganda by means of which they hope the arid districts of the entire world will eventually be populated by prosperous agricultural communities.

It is a worthy, if rosy, dream; yet it may be possible of realization. Great areas of arid land now vacant can be profitably used under thorough tillage, while the amount of water actually required in irrigated districts can be greatly reduced with a corresponding increase in the productive acreage.

Invitations to attend the Dry Farming congress to be held at Billings, Montana, on Oct. 26th, 27th and 28th, have been sent to Pres. Taft, to all the governors, the mayors of cities, and many others. Several foreign countries will send delegates.

Among the objects for discussion at the congress, are the encouragement of legislation looking to increased federal and state appropriations for the establishment of more experimental stations, the employment of more field experts, and the actual co-operation of all these stations in fixing and maintaining a certain recognized standard or methods for obtaining results from the operation of farms in the arid districts.

It is further proposed to study methods and results of dry farming operation in the various Western states and in foreign countries which are represented in the congress; to establish a better understanding of the value of agricultural education in the public schools of the West; and to bring to the attention of active farmers the various theories and working plans whereby each farmer may assist in the general commercial, social and political uplift of the Western states.

It is an ambitious but necessary program. Its main objects seem to be attainable. Its final results may be beyond present computation.

BUSINESS AND RELIGION.

The views of so eminent a financier on the subject of attendance at service of religious worship will be of interest to those who think that business and religion can be divorced to the advantage of either.

At the funeral services over the earthly remains of Mr. Harriman, the pastor read the following letter, which had been sent to each of Mr. Harriman's employees at Arden:

"Arden, Orange County, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1895.

"To the men-residents of Arden: The lack of interest on your part in encouraging to those who provide the means whereby you can have the important privilege of attending church services.

"Fair weather Christians are of no more use to a community than the same sort of laborer, millman, dairyman, farmer, carpenter, blacksmith, railroad man or any kind of a fair weather man.

"It seems to me that your responsibility does not end with yourself, but extends to those over whom you have an influence.

"The opportunity is given your children for religious training at Sunday school, and the church for themselves and families.

"It is not a favor conferred on any one else than yourselves and families.

"It is not a favor conferred on any

one else than yourselves if you avail yourselves of it.

"I hope by next Sunday that you will evidence more interest by attending the service.

"Yours faithfully,
E. H. HARRIMAN.

Nearly all of the greater men of business agree with Mr. Harriman in the belief that there is nothing else more necessary, in the practical sense for people in all conditions, than regular attendance at religious services on Sunday. Religion is good for man, for his work, for his business, it is a help in all legitimate undertakings, and its neglect is a loss of time and money rather than the apparent gain that sometimes appears to accompany a violation of this duty.

THE OFFICE AND THE MAN.

The organ of the so-called American party had a cartoon, the other day, illustrating the fact that in its party the office-seekers compete for the office, while among the Citizens the office seeks the man. Which is the true American method? Which is most consistent with a democratic form of government?

The "American" candidates for mayor, for instance, have established headquarters and are spending money to obtain the nomination. The candidate who is successful in the convention will spend more money to be elected. Even councilman candidates are having banquets in order to secure votes in the convention. Are they spending money without hope of being reimbursed?

It seems to us that the taxpayers ought to know enough to withhold their vote from the man who spends the equivalent of a year's salary to obtain an office. If he is elected he is, almost invariably, sure to make the office pay him back his campaign expenses, with compound interest. There is something wrong with a system under which men are permitted to fight for offices with money rolls. There can be no honest, effective management of public affairs until the office seeks the man, and the man accepts it, as a patriotic duty—not something on which to enrich himself.

AGE OF METHUSELAH.

According to a London paper a certain class of "higher criticism" has found that Methuselah, instead of having reached the age of 969 of our years, was merely 79 years old at his death. The year of ancient reckoning, we are told, was a moon cycle, or a month of about twenty-nine and a half days. By this token Adam died at about 75. Later there seems to have been a readjustment, placing five lunar months to the year, by which means the 155 years of Abraham became 72 of our common twelvemonths, while the 180-year-old Isaac of Biblical times would be 74 years.

This is by no means a new suggestion. But it rests on unsupported assumption. And it creates a new difficulty. For if the years of that age were five months, Cain was only five years old when Methuselah was born to him. And Mahaleel was a few months younger when he became the father of Jared. Methuselah himself was but fifteen years old when Lamech was born to him. Moreover, if the years were lunar the entire period from the appearance of Adam to the flood would be only 140 years. Josephus enumerates several causes why he thinks human life extended over a longer period of time before the flood than after. Then food, he says, was then fatter for the prolongation of life. Their virtue was another source of strength. He also refers to their scientific labors, especially in astronomy and geometry.

FOURTH OF JULY FATALITIES.

The American Medical association reports that the Fourth of July deaths this year exceed those of last year by 57, and those of 1907, by 57. But the total casualties of this year were considerably fewer than those of 1908. This year 5,907 men, women and children were killed or injured, while last year the number was 6,623. The report is, of course, not complete, but it shows a deplorable total of 215 dead and 5,692 wounded. Of the dead, 125 died of tetanus, or lockjaw, 17 were killed outright by firearms, 16 were killed by explosions of powder, seven by giant firecrackers, seven by toy cannon, seven by various causes, such as rockets, chemicals, etc., and 37 were literally burned to death by fireworks.

Of the wounded 16 were totally blind, 36 lost an eye each, 41 lost legs, arms or hands, while 176 persons lost one or more fingers.

In destructiveness the giant firecracker seems to have the lead, although the blank cartridge caused the largest per cent of the cases of lockjaw. The giant cracker this year caused 1,614 accidents, including seven deaths and nine cases of lockjaw.

This is a terrible showing for a patriotic celebration in a civilized country. The same Fourth-of-July idea has gained considerable ground in later years. In some cities fireworks and firearms are no longer given to children to play with, and the result is gratifying.

Chicago, Baltimore, Buffalo, Providence, Rochester, Milwaukee, Washington and San Francisco had no death record this year, though they had some accidents more or less serious. It is necessary, it seems, to keep the fatal record in public view continually, in order to awaken public conscience to the necessity of keeping even patriotism within the bounds of civilization.

COOK AND PEARY.

The unfortunate controversy as to priority of polar discovery resulted entirely from Lieut. Peary's declaration that Dr. Cook had not reached the Pole.

Lieut. Peary now says:

"I intend to wait until Dr. Cook has issued his full authorized statements. Up to the present time there have been only newspaper accounts of Dr. Cook's alleged Polar trip, and these may or may not be accurate.

"When Dr. Cook has time to issue a complete authorized version of his journey will be the proper opportunity for me to make public the information

which I have. After that the jury—in other words, the people and the scientific bodies of the world—will pass judgment on the matter, and there will then be left nothing of Dr. Cook's case but his own assertions that he has reached the North Pole.

In our view, however, Lieut. Peary cannot wait for Dr. Cook to publish the details of his narrative. He must show at once upon what precise grounds he made so grave a charge against the other explorer.

The first opinion expressed by this paper that both men had reached the Pole is confirmed by subsequent reports giving the details. It is significant that both men found the open Polar sea, and that both report low temperatures that are not far apart—38 degrees below zero according to Capt. Cook and 25 below according to Lieut. Peary.

Dr. Cook is now in the best position before the world audience that is awaiting further information. His conduct during the controversy has won general commendation. Lieut. Peary is now called upon to make good his accusation. We incline to the opinion that the final results will justify the present belief that both men have accomplished the remarkable feat so long unsuccessfully attempted.

A crank is never a well-rounded man.

Graft is the bane on public enterprise.

A poetic idea is one that is no earthly good.

Often the barber's itch can be allayed with a tip.

A "wet" state usually has a very "dry" climate.

Whether Mars is habitable is debatable ground.

A tax notice is almost as bad as a death notice.

The man who sows wild oats seldom rotates his crops.

A high hat doesn't necessarily give one a lofty bearing.

The value of a pull depends upon what it is attached to.

The man who isn't afraid of work isn't afraid of anything.

Football players are the best natured kickers in the world.

The keynote of the new currency reform is a central bank of issue.

Marriage certificates, not divorces, are written in sympathetic ink.

Dr. Cook and Commander Peary do not belong to the same brotherhood.

It looks more and more as though Cook had Peary beaten to a frazzle.

"Denver, the summer capital." One visit doesn't make a summer capital.

Sometimes there is quite as much laziness as merit in Sabbath keeping.

People sometimes mistake the hum of hot air for the hum of industry.

In this North Pole discovery controversy there is enough Old Glory for all.

A woman follows the fashions much more closely than a detective follows a criminal.

A man can keep his money to himself easier than he can keep his troubles to himself.

In many an institution of learning letters of credit are more highly esteemed than belles lettres.

The source of the city's typhoid has been fixed. Let it be removed so that the city will not be in a fix.

"What is whisky?" Isn't half so important a question to people generally as the question, What is milk?

In swinging around the country every place where President Taft hangs his hat is home sweet home to him.

Commander Peary should have filed a caveat then his patent right to discover the North Pole would have been fully protected.

There seems to be but little difference between the science of arctic exploration and the gentle art of making enemies.

Professor Dr. Leo Burgerstein, of the University of Vienna, who was lately in attendance at the anniversary celebration of Clark university, speaking of the United States, says: "The United States is such an immensely wealthy and big country that danger from other countries is altogether out of the question. America needs neither an army nor a navy." Those are true words, and if heeded by the American people would be words of wisdom.

REASON FOR PROTESTING.

Baltimore American.—The people who are protesting the hardest against Mr. Loe's strict enforcement of the customs laws seem the ones who are caught with the goods.

MODERN WONDERS.

Philadelphia Press.—The four-day boat having arrived, we are now ready to construct the railroad across Bering strait, and while that is under way plans may be submitted for the forthcoming tunnel under the Atlantic.

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES.

Hartford Republican.—It is pleasant to see the newspapers remembering the perfection of President Benjamin Harrison's speeches when he made that tour while in office. No president of the United States has ever surpassed them.

APPLE ORCHARDS.

Florida Times-Union.—The New England apple orchards are beginning to look for pointers in management, cultivation and marketing from the west. When New England realizes that she is not immaculate and omniscient she will begin to look up

again—she is already fleeing from Dr. Holmes' dictum that the state house in Boston is the hub of the universe.

NO ROOM FOR SECTARIANISM.

St. Louis Times.—President Taft sounds a vital note when he iterates that there is no longer sectarianism in this land. We have a big country, but it is homogeneous in its interests, and all of us belong to all of it.

THE DEMAND FOR FOOD.

This is not due to governmental action in this country or elsewhere. It is not the effect of legislation. It is a movement which will be halting, uncertain and often checked by temporary conditions. But in the long run there is sure to be more pressure upon the earth for human food, a greater demand for food products, without a corresponding widening of the areas which can be tilled without greater expense than the present average cost of production. The civilized nations maintain 10,000,000 people every year, and the surface of the earth does not grow larger.

THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER

By George F. Butler, A.M., M.D.
Learn to look at the bright side, the good things in life. Do not let the shadow of discouragement and despondency fall on your path. Never doubt for a moment that everything will turn out for the best in the end. If you believe firmly in yourself you will be given the strength to do some day what may now seem to be impossible. Your effort and success will reward with the amount of faith and hope you put into your work. Do not anticipate trouble, but cut out all anxiety and advance fearlessly and bravely. Take the road and it will lead you to the goal, though strewn with difficulties. Don't fret and give up in despair if you don't "arrive" as soon as you would like to; all progress, of the best kind, is slow; but to him who works faithfully and in a right spirit will be given the reward in good time. Hold up your head and look the world in the face; hold your ground and march bravely forward, over all obstacles, and the world will make way for you. "They can who think they can."

JUST FOR FUN.

"I'm sure," sobbed the bride, "that George only married me for my money."

"Why, daughter, what makes you think so?"
"He brought company home for dinner last night and refused to wipe the dishes for me."—Detroit Free Press.

Celia—Her hair turned perfectly white in one night from trouble.
Della—Really? What was the nature of the trouble?
Celia—Chemical.—Judge Library.

"Pardon me, Dr. Nately, but it is simply preposterous for you to want to marry my daughter. You are more than twice as old as she is."
"I know that, Mr. Sykes, but when she has been a preacher's wife ten or fifteen years she will look fully as old as I do."—Chicago Tribune.

"Yass, indeed." She has sixteen families to wash for.
"Yo' don't tell me." That woman oughter git married. She needs a man to manage her interests."—Washington Herald.

Artist—You know, my love, I like your goons to have character about them. Now that dress you have on has not a bit of point.

Wife (tearfully)—You know I love to please you, dear. I'll have my dressmaker trim it with that kind of lace tomorrow.—Baltimore American.

Maisie—Why is his mustache gray while his hair is black?
Daisie—He exercises his mouth more than his head.—Woman's Home Companion.

"I think the little one is going to bear a resemblance to his father."
"Well," answered Mr. Jasper, "if that is the case I hope the child will learn to bear it with patience and courage."—Washington Star.

"Did the minister say anything comforting?" asked the neighbor of the widow recently bereaved.
"Indeed, he didn't," was the quick reply. "He said my husband was better off."—Judge.

Mary—I want you to meet my fiancé. He's everything that's nice.

Edith—I'm so glad, dear. I always said that people should marry their opposites, you know.—Boston Herald.

Mrs. Crawford—You say it is impossible to get any money out of your husband. Have you gone about it the right way?
Mrs. Cradshaw—I've tried everything, my dear, except sending him a black hand letter.—Brooklyn Life.

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