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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 27, 1904

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-fifth Semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, commencing on Thursday, October 6, 1904. A general attendance on that day of the officers and members is requested and expected.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,  
JOHN R. WINDER,  
ANTHONY H. LUND,  
First Presidency.

## CONFERENCE NOTES.

The General Priesthood meeting will be held in the tabernacle on Friday night, commencing at 7 o'clock.

The special Priesthood meeting usually held on the day after conference consisting of the General Authorities, Stake Presidents and Bishops, High Councilors, Patriarchs, Presidents of temples and Presidents of missions, will be held in the Assembly hall on Saturday, the 8th, commencing at 10 o'clock a. m. The members of the General Boards of the Sunday School Union and Y. M. M. I. Association are also invited to this meeting.

The General Conference will adjourn on Friday afternoon to Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

Sunday School Union will convene in the Tabernacle on Sunday night, commencing at 7 o'clock.

## CONDUCT OF THE CAMPAIGN.

In the strife of the contest of parties and candidates for public office a great deal of freedom is exercised and tacitly permitted, in the discussion not only of principles and policies but of the personal character and record of the nominees. That liberty often runs beyond proper bounds and becomes offensive, both to the individuals assailed and their friends and supporters. When falsehood is added to those attacks, the sensible part of the public resent them and the villains do damage to their own cause. This is also the effect of unwarranted ridicule and caricature.

It was hoped that nothing of that nature would disgrace the campaign in Utah this year. But we notice that occasionally some of the prominent campaign orators indulge in the common practice of burlesquing and berating their opponents, and appear to be unable to rest content with eulogizing their own candidates, but must perforce resort to the slanderous methods of the common campaigner. This is much to be deplored, and it is to be hoped that the persons so lampooned will not become enraged in consequence, and that they will not attempt any rejoinder or encourage their friends to enter into a personal defense or controversy.

It should be understood that the badinage indulged in by practiced party stump-speakers is often not intended seriously and should not be taken literally. It is used to provoke mirth, and when it is at the expense of somebody else it will generally be received with laughter and applause. But it will not do much harm to the victim in the way of support at the polls. No rational citizen should be influenced by it when he casts a ballot, unless it be to emphasize his repugnance to that kind of "influence." Misrepresentation, abuse or derision of a candidate should not affect the votes of members of his party or of persons who are not partisans.

The effectiveness of platform oratory should be counted as nothing more than the fizz or froth of an exhilarating drink that goes off into thin air. When it is tainted with the flavor of untruth and the bitterness of rancor it bears a maddening scent and should be treated with disdain. And the silence or plain resentment with which it is received by a sensible audience, will have the effect of chilling the ardor of the wordy agitator and of warning him to desist from that kind of "argument." Such unsavory effluvia ought not to gain applause from a discriminating audience.

We think that there are issues of principle and reasons enough on either side, to be fairly and vigorously discussed without dragging in personalities that are unjust and unpleasant. We do not believe that the gentlemen nominated for prominent places to be filled in November will, themselves, engage in the paltry work of maligning their rivals for public favor. It is their ardent advocates who are likely to fall into the indefensible course of the party spoiler, and thus render the contest disreputable and vicious.

We repeat the hope we expressed before the opening of the active campaign, that the frequent tactics and tricks of the average party stumper will be avoided this year, and that in all the debates that are had and the speeches that are made on either side, good sense, the exposition of political doctrine, the fitness of candidates and the needs of the public will be set before the citizens of this State, in the place

of ribaldry and defamation, distortion and derision of character or of policy, so that political opponents and their supporters may be good friends throughout the struggle, and that when it is over peace and harmony may prevail, and all may pull together with good will for the upbuilding of the State and the welfare of the nation.

## A NOVEL REMEDY.

George Meredith, the well known novelist, in a London dispatch is represented as having proposed a novel remedy for divorce. It is homoeopathic in so far as it is based on the principle that like cures like. He is said to have prophesied that marriages will be legalized for any period, at the option of the contracting parties, be it for forty years, forty hours, or forty minutes. A money consideration will, in the view of the novelist, be necessary, since funds are needed for the education of children, and the state will probably undertake the distribution of such funds. Mr. Meredith predicts, that

"There will be a devil of an uproar before such a change can be made. It will be a great shock, but look back and see what shocks there have been and what changes have nevertheless occurred in the marriage business in the past."

It is clear that thinking people are not satisfied with prevailing conditions. It is equally clear, that they are at a loss for a satisfactory remedy. Legal marriage for "forty hours," or "forty minutes" can be only a new name for one of the vices that are consuming modern society. To stop the ravages of the disease by giving it a new name, is something preposterous. The idea is possibly borrowed from the ostrich, who is said to consider himself hidden when his head is buried in the sand.

## AS TO THE WHITE FLAG.

A story has been sent out from the battlefield around Port Arthur to the effect that a Japanese detachment on one occasion displayed a white flag in token of surrender, and that neither the Russians nor the Japanese respected that flag. The former continued their destructive fire, and the latter fired on their comrades from the rear, because they considered the display of the white flag a token of cowardice.

The incident, if true, shows the savage spirit that inspires the fighting forces around Port Arthur. There is no consideration any longer for human life. It is a duel to death. But the disregard of the emblem of peace is not, as has been represented, a breach of international law, or the recognized rules of war. It might be, but it is not.

The learner of a white flag has no recognized right to be heard. He asks to be heard, as a privilege, but it depends on the party to whom the petition is directed, whether a hearing is to be granted. As a Chicago contemporary puts it: "Under the rules of war it is not required that the firing cease on the appearance of a flag of truce in battle. If the bearer of a flag of truce present himself during an engagement and is killed or wounded it furnishes no ground of complaint whatever. These are the rules governing the use of a white flag in battle, as summarized in Farrow's military encyclopedia, and there is reason for the rules. For example: If a column of 5,000 men is moving to attack a fort, and a few hundred skirmishers in front raise a white flag as a token of surrender, the main column cannot regard the white flag, or suspend its charge. The force in the front cannot regard the white flag, because the main column of the enemy is pressing its attack."

As a rule, we believe, a flag of truce is respected, to the extent that the learner of it is permitted to deliver his message, but it is conceivable that in the heat of battle no one has the time to listen to a message that comes from the opposing party. If this were not so, the bearer of a flag of truce might disgrace a well laid plan of campaign and turn defeat into victory.

## FOUND A MESSIAH.

Readers of the "News" will remember that, some years ago, through the efforts of Tolstoy and other philanthropists, members of a Russian sect, the so-called Donkubors, were assisted to emigrate to Canada, to escape persecutions and trouble in Russia. They were welcomed to Canada and given every opportunity to work out their own salvation, and there was no reason why they should not have lived in peace and prosperity.

But shortly after their arrival in Canada a fanatic appeared among them, who taught them to go on a pilgrimage and look for a Messiah. Many listened to his teachings. Households were broken up, lands abandoned, cattle turned loose, and they started out on weary marches, without food, and in utter disregard of the weather. They were finally induced to turn back, but not until after they had shown a disposition to resist. The government agents treated them like children, and when persuasion was useless, force was resorted to, to compel obedience.

One of the tenets of these Donkubors is said to be this, that they must not submit to any law which has not come to them directly from God. This has caused much trouble, since the Canadian government insists on recognition. It is now reported that these queer religiousists have formally recognized Lord Minto as the Messiah for whom they were looking. If this is true, there should be no further trouble, for the Canadian laws and regulations can, through him, receive the sanction the Donkubors demand for all laws, before they accept them.

There are about 8,000 of that Russian sect in Canada, and probably over 2,000 of them were affected by the fanaticism that took the form of pilgrimages. With this trouble settled, the community should progress satisfactorily in every respect. They are good citizens, as are all those who faithfully listen to the demands of conscience, as they are given to understand its voice.

To the thoughtful observer of our time, the frequent appearance of persons claiming to be divinely inspired, or even claiming to be the Messiah, is most significant, because that is one

of the signs that the end of the present era is approaching. Disturbances in the physical world, and aberrations in the spiritual domain precede every great change in history. We have been told to watch for wars and rumors of wars, for earthquakes, famines, pestilence, and the appearance of false prophets and false Christs. Was there ever a time, since the fall of the Jewish polity and the dispersion of the Hebrew race, when these "signs" were more conspicuous and numerous? Those who are wise, will interpret the signs of the times correctly.

The New Liberal party is back peddling, thinking that thereby revolutions can be made to go backwards.

If the people were as heartless and tyrannical as the coal conspirators they would give no quarter when asked.

Russia proposes to float a new loan. If she is not careful it may strike a floating mine or be torpedoed by the Japs.

The President may call a second peace congress but there is no peace so far as Russia and Japan are concerned.

It cannot be charged against Judge Parker that he dodges issues or declines to pick up a gauntlet when it is thrown down.

The Pope protests against the late congress of free thinkers held in Rome. There is no denying that it was kind of rubbing it in.

Robert Treat Paine, Jr., has left the Democrats and joined the Republicans. The parting gives his new found political friends both joy and pain.

A correspondent of the Boston Herald asserts that Senator Lodge has sacrificed the shoe and leather interests of Massachusetts. This is where the shoe pinches.

The order has gone forth from the Carnegie works that men who are over thirty-five years of age will not be employed. This definitely fixes the iron age on thirty-five.

A hen pecked a Washington (Pa.) woman on her hand about two weeks ago and she has just died of lockjaw. Yet who ever heard of a henpecked husband dying of lockjaw?

Russia is just waking up to the fact that she has in the war in the east about the biggest job on her hands that she has ever undertaken. She proposes to send another army to the Far East and to fight until she wins or falls exhausted before the Japanese. The war bids fair to be one of the most memorable in history.

Hugh Guernsey, third secretary to the British embassy at Washington, has been arrested and fined at Lee, Mass., for speeding his automobile faster than the law allows. His position undoubtedly exempts him from such treatment. The case will hardly develop into an international incident, for the state department will do the proper thing. Nor is it at all likely that Mr. Guernsey intentionally broke the law.

We are often requested to republish some article or editorial printed in the "News" several years ago, for the benefit of persons who desire information or argument on a given subject. If our friends would give us the date of its former publication we might comply with their requests. It is impossible for us to keep track of the numerous articles on diverse subjects that have appeared in the Deseret News.

The frequency and awfulness of the railroad wrecks in the United States are drawing forth adverse comments from the English papers. The comments are severe but deserved. Most frequently the cause of these disasters is disobedience of orders. For employees guilty of this scarcely any punishment is too severe. The frequency of railroad wrecks in this country is a disgrace to our civilization and a very bad reflection upon the railroads. A chief cause of so many wrecks is recklessness.

According to reports a railroad is now being built from Damascus to Mecca along the pilgrim caravan route. It will be 1,064 miles long and will not be finished until 1912. The section between Damascus and Amman, a distance of 140 miles, was completed in September, 1903, and an extension 164 miles farther south to Mahan is expected to be in operation at the close of this year. When the whole road is built the pilgrim caravan is expected to disappear. The road is being built under the auspices of the Turkish government with funds raised by voluntary contributions from Mohammedans throughout Asia generally.

Ex-Secretary George S. Boutwell is advising the negroes this year to vote for Judge Parker, while Robert Treat Paine, Jr., who was twice Democratic candidate for governor of Massachusetts, has come out for President Roosevelt. In explanation of this action he says, in part: "Does not this dilemma face Mr. Parker: If elected President, and if there were in Washington a gathering of the most eminent educators in this country, among whom Booker Washington would be inevitably classed, and the President wished naturally enough to show due recognition and honor to this gathering and invited them to the White House, would he bar out Booker Washington?" If there is no accounting for tastes there is less accounting for a man's politics.

## MORAL SURGERY.

Boston Transcript.

If this tale of a bad boy being regenerated by an operation on his skull which was depressed by a fall when an infant is all true, why doesn't some philanthropic optimist organize a movement providing that every youngster haled into juvenile courts shall be examined to see if his faults aren't caused by some such misfortune? As everyone knows, all youngsters get so many tumbles before they are two years of age that adults wonder how they come through them alive and ap-

parently uninjured. But it appears possible, in the light of this instance, that there may be unsuspected injuries whose results do not develop till later years and then through the mind rather than the body. Let everyone give the possibility the serious consideration which he thinks it deserves.

## RUSSIA MAY FORBID THE SHOFAR.

The American Hebrew.

Inquiry having been made of Jacob H. Schiff recently as to the latest news from Russia, he gratefully answered that the only news of consequence that had come to him was to the effect that the government intended issuing an edict forbidding the blowing of the Shofar, or ram's horn, during the ensuing high holy days. The auditor, expressing his astonishment at such a high-handed move and inquiring as to the motive for an act that would create consternation among the Jews everywhere, Mr. Schiff replied dryly that the sound of the Shofar was distasteful to the Russians. For the benefit of the uninitiated it should be said that "Tokos" is the first and last sound of the Shofar.

## BUILDING THE CANAL FOR THE FUTURE.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

It is reported that a revision of the estimates for constructing the Panama canal shows that the cost first considered probable was too high and that it will be possible to obtain for the same amount of money a canal several feet deeper than was at first contemplated. It is to be hoped that the report is true. In planning nearly every waterway constructed within recent years the mistake has been made of not getting enough depth. This was true of the Erie canal, which is soon to be improved at enormous expense. It was true of the Sault and the Canadian canals. It was true of every harbor on the lakes, and not on the lakes alone, Boston, New York and Philadelphia are even now clamoring for channels deep enough to accommodate, not the ships of the remote future, but those actually sailing the Atlantic today. The Suez canal was at first made too shallow, but was given a depth of thirty-three feet later on, which will soon have to be increased. There is hardly a harbor or channel in the United States or Europe which has not had to be deepened at one time or another.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The current number of the New Age, a new illustrated magazine, is a very attractive publication. It contains a number of short stories, poems, and papers on interesting topics. There are several very handsome full-page illustrations. 433 Third St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

The August issue of Dr. Barnardo's National Waifs' Magazine is devoted to the annual report for 1903 of his Homes. The report was presented at the 35th annual meeting of the institution held last month at the Girls' Village Homes at Barking, where Lord Brassey presided, and H. R. H. Princess Henry of Battenberg took part in the proceedings. The report itself brings over with facts and figures, and of course of proper length, a copy of the magazine and report will be forwarded, gratis, to any applicant who sends name and address to 18 to 26, Stepney Causeway, London, E.

Leslie's Monthly Magazine for October opens with a paper, by the editors, on "The Great Theatrical Syndicate," or "How a group of speculators have gained despotic control of the amusements of the American people." The article is illustrated. It is one in which the American public is generally interested. Another notable contribution is "Japan's Future" by Marquis Ito. The list of contents includes several entertaining stories, and some fine verse. The illustrations are numerous and excellent. -New York.

McClure's for October is timely in the best sense. In the dramatic story of Governor LaFollette and the fierce political war which is rending the state of Wisconsin, Lincoln Steffens has found material for a stirring story. In sharp contrast to this sordid history of "Enemies of the People" appears a sketch of George William Curtis—"Friend of the Republic," by Carl Schurz. The climax of Ida M. Tarbell's monumental "History of the Standard Oil Company" is reached in a chapter of "Conclusions." There are several stories in the fiction of this number. In "A Good Samaritan," Mary R. Shipman Andrews, with a realism that is the truest art, describes the humorous experiences of a young rector and an intoxicated friend who he feels in duty bound to escort home. There is a love story and real human interest along with it. Lloyd Osbourne in "Glass-Eyed Bill" has done one of his very best. The number includes several bits of excellent verse. -New York.

The October Woman's Home Companion opens with a striking article on the submarine boat, by Morgan Robertson. David Belasco, the great playwright and stage manager, gives advice to girls who want to go on the stage. A particularly timely article is Lee Fairchild's description of "The Funny Side of a Political Campaign." Other features are "Miss Edison's Halloween Party," "How the College Girl Celebrates Halloween," "Corn is Still King in Kansas," "Mrs. Sawyer's Chat with Women at Home." This number is especially notable for its fashions, there being several pages of the latest designs for autumn frocks and waists. -The Central Publishing Company, Springfield, Ohio.

## TEA

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