

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints

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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 13, 1900.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The seventieth semi-annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence on Friday, October 5, at 10 a. m. in the Tabernacle in this city.

LORENZO SNOW,
GEORGE C. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

NOMINATE THE BEST.

The number of aspirants for official honors is astonishing to the ordinary citizen. We do not wish to cast any reflection against the desire to serve the people and to occupy public station. But it is surprising to see how many persons in both the smaller organizations, are not only willing but anxious to become candidates for places in the gift of the people.

This suggests the thought that among them all only a few can obtain the prizes in view, and that they ought to be selected with great care, so that the best to be had may be secured. After what I have done for the party, I think I am entitled to the place, is a common expression among the clamorers for reward in the shape of an office. That may be all very well as a claim in one respect, but the chief thing to be considered in nominating persons for important offices, is their fitness for the particular position to be filled.

The Legislature of the State ought to be composed of men and women whose talents, experience and personal character fit them for the important task of making laws for the State which will be in the interest of the whole body politic. This should be kept in view by both political parties. It is a matter of regret that so many of the most suitable men for the work are unable or unwilling to engage in it. They are either too much occupied to give to it the necessary time, or they are unwilling to serve for the small remuneration it brings and the responsibility it involves. But, nevertheless, there are respectable and able men whose services can be obtained if they are diligently sought for.

It will be a public misfortune if clamorers for recognition from their party who are not qualified for the work to be done, are placed upon the respective tickets for the votes of the citizens. There are many thinking people who do not care so much for the party to which a candidate belongs, as his fitness for the post to be filled. They will vote for the best men, irrespective of partisan interests. Therefore we say to both parties, put up fit men and women for office and especially for legislative.

We should all take pride in the law-making body of our State. Do not suffer it to be lowered in dignity, in ability or in respectability, by the choice of persons whose sole recommendation to the support of the voters, is devotion to party requirement. Give us men of mark and women of thought and culture, and never mind the disappointment of the unfit office-seeker, whose demands are only fortified by a "pull," and by that "pull" which is sometimes mistaken for ability. Nominate the best candidates for public office.

"ROOM AT THE TOP."

In reading advertisements in the newspapers, those particularly that are headed "Help Wanted," an observer cannot fail to notice how often it is "first class," "competent," and "No. 1" workers who are in demand. Common labor is plentiful. It commands but small wages. Only in emergencies is it applied for through the press. Usually there are plenty of ordinary workers to fill all the places open, and there are hosts of the unemployed to fill vacancies as often as they happen.

This suggests some reflections. The old saying, "There is plenty of room at the top" comes to mind. While the lower ranks of labor are crowded to excess, the upper sphere of skilled workmen shows frequent openings, and there are wide spaces for genius and first-class ability. This is especially so in the United States, where progress is to be seen in every branch of human industry, and inventions and improvements are eagerly caught up and improved.

Our young people ought to bear this in mind. Boys and girls at school should strive to make it that is given them to learn. Teachers should not give pupils more than their capacity can retain nor refuse to answer questions, or to explain anything that the student is slow to comprehend. Thoroughness and persistence must be exercised to reach thoroughness. Young men learning a trade or pro-

fession, should make up their minds that they will reach the highest round attainable on the ladder they are beginning to climb. Diligence, thought, sobriety, strict attention to duty, regular habits and determination to succeed, will win in the long run, and those who fall in these will lag behind and reach the ordinary level. Mediocrity abounds, excellence is rare, and the aim should be to be first class. The same remarks apply equally to the other sex.

It is pleasing to note the number of patents obtained by Utah people, natives of the soil. It shows that there is genius here and effort at perfection. The very atmosphere of the mountains is suggestive of free thought, and an energy of action, and the aspiration of soul that urges to excellence. But it must not be forgotten that persistence, patience, perseverance and continuance in thinking and in doing are necessary to that eminence which is sought for. To that eminence which is sought for, and bounds is conspicuous among our young men, and the thought should become in them a conviction that sudden wealth is but an exception, and not infrequently leads to disaster, while fortune acquired by honest industry, steadily pursued, brings the greatest good and most permanent happiness. The moral of these reflections is: Strive for true excellence, and "whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy mind and might."

THE ANTHRACITE STRIKE.

The controversy between the coal miners in the anthracite region, and their employers, has at last been carried beyond the point of negotiations, and a general strike has been ordered, to go into effect on the 17th of this month. The strike is characterized as the most gigantic in the world of labor. The order is issued by the leaders of the United Mine Workers of America, and they expect that over 120,000 men will obey the demand and cease work.

The men have several grievances. One of them is that the system of dockage is unjust. More or less slate and waste substance is always brought to the surface in mining the coal, and for this reason the miner is only paid for a ton for every 3,000 pounds he takes out of the grounds. This the laborers claim, is simply oppression. They further complain that their wages are regularly held back after they are due, and that they are forced to trade in company stores, where all the goods are held above the regular market price. Thus they have to buy their own powder, and they allege that they are charged for this about three times as much as it can be bought for elsewhere.

The operators deny the charges. They claim that they are supplying goods as cheap as anybody, and that the wages are held in reserve for the miners and their families. At the same time they allege that the companies are making very little on the coal, and that but for the profit on supplies, they would have to cut down the wages of the workingmen. In addition to this, they declare that of their 115,000 employees only from 12,000 to 14,000 belong to the miners' organization, so that, in fact, the demands for arbitration come from an entirely non-concerned association, which they feel justified in refusing a hearing. Their contention is that the leaders of the strike do not understand the anthracite situation and are not interested in it.

The general public may not be qualified to judge about the merits of the controversy, as far as the dockage system is involved, but when it comes to the retention of wages and compulsory trading in company stores, it is different. The operators do not seem to have the best of the argument. They virtually are taking enough out of the wages of the men to swell the dividends to what they consider a reasonable figure. If that is not robbery in disguise, what is it?

It is to be regretted that the efforts to arbitrate the difficulty have failed to bring desirable results. If the strike becomes as general as is supposed by the leaders of the movement, the companies will sustain some loss, and the public will be taxed in the form of higher price for the coal product, and otherwise. The laborers, however, will be the main losers, and after weeks, or months of suffering, they will perhaps be compelled to go back to work at reduced wages, or return to the conditions now complained of. There have, no doubt, been some successful strikes, but as a general rule, capital comes out of the contest with labor, victorious, as witness the recent struggles in St. Louis and Chicago.

Deploable as such conflicts are, they must not be considered entirely void of good results, finally. They will help in bringing about legislation for the peace. The adjustment of disputes between laborers and employers. And this is one of the great needs of the age. Striking is not a natural remedy for grievances of this kind. It may be a poor expedient in the absence of adequate legislation and proper courts of arbitration, but the latter will in time be established for the benefit of all parties interested.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

"The Anglo-Boer war, which now may be regarded as ended in the complete subjugation of the two African republics, presents two distinct periods, of which the first is an almost unbroken series of Boer victories, and the other an equally remarkable series of British triumphs.

The campaign opened with the battle of Dundee on the 29th of October last, and at Elandslaagte the following day, where the British sustained a loss of over 200 men. On the 30th of the same month the British lost nearly 1,300 men at Ladysmith, and then followed during the months of November, December and January, the conflicts at Belmont, Gras Pan, Modder river, Mafeking, Tloen, Stormberg, Tugela river, and Spion Kop, in which the British aggregate losses were given as nearly 5,000.

But from that time the tide turned in favor of the invaders. Kimberly was relieved on the 1st of February. Cronje was captured on the 27th. On March 1, Ladysmith was relieved.

Bloemfontein was entered on the 12th of March. Mafeking was relieved on the 15th of May. On the 30th of the same month Johannesburg and Pretoria were taken by the triumphant forces under Lord Roberts and at the same time Kruger became a fugitive.

From that date the defense has been carried on in a desultory manner. The military leaders succeeding Cronje and Joubert, though brave and skilful in Boer tactics, have not been able to inspire the Boers with enthusiasm enough to attempt another general rally. Even the prediction of Kruger that the conquest of the Transvaal would be at an appalling cost in life and treasure has hardly been literally fulfilled. Many a single battle has cost more lives than the entire Transvaal campaign.

When the two South African presidents rallied their handful of followers to a combat against the British empire, they undoubtedly counted on a general rising among the Boers of Natal and Cape Colony. But this failed to materialize, when the armies were checked in their progress before Ladysmith and Kimberly. That gave England time to land her forces and overawe the Boer element in her colonies. The Free State and Transvaal burghers were left to their own resources, and their downfall came. British supremacy in South Africa is now an accomplished fact.

One of the first results will be the reopening of the Rand mines which have been closed about a year. It is supposed that the world has lost about \$90,000,000 during this time, which but for the war, would have been added to the circulation of money. With the resumption of work in the mines this amount will be taken out, but the damage to the machinery will have to come out of the total yield. Already the work of restoring the mills and plants has commenced, and before long the traces of the long struggle will be erased, and peace and prosperity again dwell, where the most unequal war of the century has been fought.

MONEY IN CIRCULATION.

The amount of money in circulation at any time is always a subject of interest. The statement issued by the treasury department on the 1st of this month shows a total in circulation of \$2,096,683,045, outside the treasury. With the amount in the treasury added, the aggregate is \$2,371,578,164. Of this \$1,049,347,994 is gold, and \$1,322,230,170 is silver, silver certificates, notes, greenbacks, treasury notes, national bank notes, or subsidiary silver.

What the total population of the country is, is not yet definitely known, but based on an estimate of from 75 to 78 millions, the money circulation on the 1st of this month would be from \$26 to \$27 per capita. This is a considerable increase since 1897, when the total circulation was given as \$23.70 per capita.

For the sake of comparison it can be stated that in 1897 the per capita circulation for Great Britain was only \$20.65; for Japan, \$3.87; for Germany, \$18.95; for Belgium, \$25.70; for Italy, \$9.65; for Switzerland, \$16.33; for Austria-Hungary, \$9.33; and for Russia, \$8.95. Even if the increase of money in these countries has been at the same ratio as here, the United States still leads in this respect.

ANOTHER TREK.

There was talk, some time ago, of the possibility of a Boer trek on a large scale to German South Africa. The arrival of President Kruger in Lourenço Marques, now a fugitive bound for Europe in a German steamer, revives that rumor. Is Kruger, who once was called Africa's "grand old man," on his way to Berlin to see what terms of settlement he can obtain for the burghers who may be willing to make another trek in order to escape British rule?

It is not improbable that the Transvaal farmers would be accepted as a welcome acquisition to German Africa. They would add immensely to the wealth of that region, and in case of a dispute with Great Britain about boundary lines, they, or their descendants, could be relied upon to defend a pass, or a kopje. Under German military discipline, the Boers would be about invincible. But they would have to give up all thought of independence. Under German rule they would be less self-governing than under the British, unless possibly they could obtain special privileges as an inducement to making their homes under the German flag.

To those who may refuse both German and British protection, the United States will naturally be looked upon as the most attractive asylum. Here they would find abundant land to suit their taste as farmers and stock raisers. They would here be more free and independent than anywhere else on the surface of the globe. Above all, they would have that perfect religious liberty which they value so much, and they would be protected in the exercise of their duties as American citizens. If a general exodus is to be the next chapter of the Transvaal history, in all probability some of the burghers will trek toward the north, and others will cross the ocean in quest for liberty and home.

Heed the cry of distress from storm-wrecked Galveston.

"Keep cool" is a good advice to apply to the head in autumn or winter weather as in the summer's heat.

The Boers may not be in the last ditch, but they are distressingly near the lower end of the field.

To politicians as well as other citizens of Utah:—"Let your moderation be known of all men." and parties.

New England contributes largely to the losses by storm, which have aggregated in the country this week something near \$20,000,000.

Aid for the Galveston sufferers is wanted from the benevolent all over the Union. The Deseret News will receive subscriptions. Send them along!

The bodies of those caught in the Galveston horror continue to pile up, and so do the figures indicating that the losses are much heavier than was thought at first.

The Chinese minister to London says

the Chinese are grateful for the generosity of American citizens. The Americans can be generous and at the same time demand justice.

It is now said that peace with China awaits the arrival of the emperor in Peking. Since some of the powers refuse to withdraw troops, the Chinese ruler will be slow taking risks with them.

In some coal mining districts the coal miners are so eager to strike that they have gone out in advance of the order from their leaders. The ill feeling has grown quite intense, as indicated in this action.

There are in the dispatches accounts of battles between Russians and Boxers, the death list of which indicates that they are rather massacres than fights, in which the Chinese rebels suffer heavily.

Heavy fighting is reported by Lord Roberts in the Transvaal. It would seem that "heavy" now does not mean very damaging, as far as losses are concerned, so nothing like a great battle can be looked for.

America has made a great reputation in the Chinese embassy in getting messages through speedily. Another instance adds to the record today, in the swift response to the recognition of Li Hung Chang as peace envoy.

The great strike of miners is to be inaugurated on Monday. The magnitude of the movement may be noted in the fact that the number of men involved is greater than that in the combined army and navy of the United States, including the volunteers now in service.

Earl Li says he has power to protect American lives and property in China, and will see that protection is given. The keeping of this promise will go a long way towards placing Li in the important position he aspires to—that of being regarded by the powers as really representative of a stable government in China.

A Southern railroad company has, according to an exchange, issued an order to its employees that they must not discuss politics while on duty. The reason given is that statistics show that there is a considerable increase in the percentage of railroad accidents between July and November in Presidential years, many of which, it is believed, are due to negligence resulting from the common habit of talking politics. If this is true, other railroad companies should follow suit.

THE NEW NORTH POLE RECORD.

Springfield Republican.

The young Italian duke, nephew of the late King Humbert, who has succeeded in breaking Nansen's record "farthest north," seems entitled to all the honors. He is a singular case in the exploring field. No member of the Latin races has been conspicuous in exploration since the middle ages and the centuries of European renaissance. The young man, too, is a product of a royal house. It seems a pity that one evidently so full of vitality as the Duke of Abruzzi is not now King of Italy instead of his more effeminate cousin. The energy that has been spent in climbing Mt. St. Elias, and reaching out to the pole ought to be in the service of the Italian people.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

The brief account of the return of the Italian expedition states that the Stella Polare, the ship which carried the party northward, was stove in by the ice, and had her machinery damaged. It will be interesting to know whether the Stella Polare carried a party to latitude 84° or whether the leader of the expedition followed Dr. Nansen's plan and made a sledge journey over the ice toward the pole. Dr. Nansen broke all previous records, and if the Duke of Abruzzi took the Stella Polare to latitude 84° he has equaled both the Fram and her courageous commander. The point reached by the Fram was farther north than any sledging party had ever before gone, and if the Italians took their ship nearer the pole than this, together with having to spend some future explorer may reach the pole by a dash through the ice instead of spending years in a drift.

Chicago Record.

Whether the duke made any special discoveries, either geographical or meteorological, that will be a sufficient cause for the expedition, and suffering involved in the voyage will probably be made known on the arrival of the Stella Polare at Christiania in a few days. If he has done nothing more than advance a few miles nearer to the pole than the present record, and suffering involved in the voyage will probably be made known on the arrival of the Stella Polare at Christiania in a few days. If he has done nothing more than advance a few miles nearer to the pole than the present record, and suffering involved in the voyage will probably be made known on the arrival of the Stella Polare at Christiania in a few days.

New York Post.

Nothing less worthy than the desire for fame enters into these expeditions, while the brave deeds of soldier and sailor, and even of explorer, often bear a baser taint of greed for gold, or of unworthy political ambition, or of unwarranted hatred between nation and nation. As for the cost, the sale of a single cruiser would pay the polar bills of the past and the present, while the death list of many a skirmish would abate the centuries' toll of lives to the north. The honor of the farthest north now passes for the first time from the men of the past to the men of the south; to the race that has bred Marco Polo, Verazzano, and Columbus.

Kansas City Star.

The difficulties attending exploration in the far North are, with all of their gravity, not equal, by any means, to the terrible hardships of Antarctic research, where to the intense cold, is added the prevalence of frozen mists and fogs, which interfere with the vision, and storms of fearful violence. The sacrifices of the past will be cherished the determination which is not lessened by the knowledge that the twentieth century, before it has passed its infancy, will witness the solution of the long-sealed Arctic mystery.

New York Mail and Express.

It was hardly to be expected that a representative of a Mediterranean race, which has been most active in East African exploration, should have carried the flag of science farther into the polar regions than any man in whose veins is the color of Scandinavian, Anglo-Saxon or Teutonic blood. The Duke of Abruzzi has done so, however, and the latitude of 84 degrees and 33 minutes, to which his party has penetrated, is an evidence of nineteen miles beyond the limit reached by Nansen in 1895, and an advance of 169 miles beyond the limit reached by any preceding explorer. Since 1885 the distance between the frontiers of science has been reduced almost in two, standing at 375 miles then and at 207 miles now. It does not appear that the hardships of the venture were more than any man in whose veins is the color of Scandinavian, Anglo-Saxon or Teutonic blood. The Duke of Abruzzi has done so, however, and the latitude of 84 degrees and 33 minutes, to which his party has penetrated, is an evidence of nineteen miles beyond the limit reached by Nansen in 1895, and an advance of 169 miles beyond the limit reached by any preceding explorer. Since 1885 the distance between the frontiers of science has been reduced almost in two, standing at 375 miles then and at 207 miles now. It does not appear that the hardships of the venture were more than any man in whose veins is the color of Scandinavian, Anglo-Saxon or Teutonic blood.

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Following telegram just received:

"19 Paid. Chicago, Ill., August 7, 1900. 'A. D. F. Reynolds, Manager, Underwood Typewriter for Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington, Ogden, Utah. 'Secretary of War, War Department United States Government, has just signed contract for one hundred and fifty UNDERWOOD Typewriters. WAGNER TYPEWRITER CO. '6:30 p.m."

It will be remembered The Navy Department last February purchased 250 Underwood Typewriters, which was the largest sale of typewriters ever made. Call and let us show you the machine in our new quarters, 2433 Washington Ave., Ogden. Salt Lake Office, 154 South West Temple Street.

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