

DESERT EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 27, 1907.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-eighth annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday, April 5, 1907, at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members is hereby requested.

The general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Saturday, April 6, at 7 o'clock p. m.

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

The annual conference of the Sunday School Union will be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday, April 7, at 7 o'clock a. m.
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
General Superintendent.

CRIMES IN CHICAGO.

In the current issue of McClure's Magazine Mr. George Kibbe Turner lifts the veil from the awful scenes of crime that form part of the daily occurrences in our large cities. Chicago is made the subject of the study, for the purpose of revealing the facts as they are, not because that city is supposed to be morally worse than other cities, but because it is typically American.

The author tells us that Chicago spends \$100,000,000 annually for intoxicants. It has 7,000 licensed liquor dealers to 5,000 grocery stores. That tells an awful tale. "A year ago," we are told, "the license fee was raised in Chicago from five hundred to one thousand dollars. It was hoped that this would wipe out the criminal saloon. It did, of course, nothing of the sort. The poor, miserable little dives in the working-man's ward, each snatching a starvation living from the lips of the dwellers of the dozen smoke-befouled frame tenements about it, staggered down a few hundred of them—and died. The man with the side-line of prostitution and gambling naturally survived and had the benefit of the other's failure."

Further, at least \$30,000,000, probably much more, is annually spent on prostitution. There are regular dealers in women, who sell them to "hotels," or dance-halls, and similar establishments, not only in Chicago but all over the country, at so much a head. Gambling absorbs \$15,000,000 annually, though police shops, pool-rooms, etc., have been closed during the past few years. Gambling, it is pointed out, is not in evidence, but large games are played in a few favorite places that are open to all who have inside information.

Mr. Turner has thoroughly investigated the rottenness in the lower strata of society and traced much of it to the protection it enjoys by traitors in the public who should maintain the laws in the interest of morality and not of depravity. Father Vaughan of London has dealt with the upper strata, in a recent lecture. He compared modern society of the world to the frivolous tetrarchy of Rome, "that flabby, fleshy voluptuary." He said, at best society was a poor, paltry show; at worst it was a stinking, vicious diabolical intrigue—treating as vulgarities whatever spoke of duty, of sin, of death, or the judgment to come. And he went on to score the manners and tastes of some idle rich. He spoke in particular of their "dog parties." While this practice of women's dog worship, he said, was on the increase, the birth rate was on the decrease, and infant mortality had already reached one-fourth of the total deaths in a year.

And thus it goes. Those who are wealthy and could spend their time for the benefit of the public, either lose themselves in selfish agitations for their own glorification, or they pay no attention to public duties but live only for the gratification of their own tastes and pleasure. And thus it happens that savages are often given a chance to make profitable business out of the weaknesses and follies of human nature and the crimes of the depraved and wicked.

Mr. Turner believes that the remedy for the evils he has laid bare is the turning over of city governments to commissions elected by the people. A more sure remedy would be a moral awakening among the citizens to a realization of the fact that good, honest city governments are necessary not only for the preservation of public morals but also for the furtherance of their business interests.

GOING AFTER TRADE.

Going after trade with a brass band may strike some people as being of questionable propriety, but past experience has proved to a certainty that it pays handsomely. Accordingly the Commercial club is arranging for another series of over the state, and out of the state, excursions which are to invade trade territory now commanded by other cities. It is a noticeable fact that the movement last year is now most enthusiastic endorser of the Commercial club campaign. They have been convinced to their own profit that it has resulted in something much better than an occasional "hurrah affair" as some unappreciative business men last season dubbed the get-acquainted excursions. They observed the turning of a vast volume of trade from Los

Angeles to Salt Lake after the jolly jaunt of our own merchants and their wide-awake representatives to Elly, on the completion of the Nevada Northern railway, and later saw another shining example along the same line when Beauty was bombarded. The success of these and other outings of a similar character, was noted as far east as Omaha, and now the business men of that city are planning a like expedition into territory which belongs to our own merchants by right of occupation and contiguous relationship. It is proposed that pleasing and forceful speakers be sent along and that music be made a feature of the junkets as was the case last year. In this way the people of Nevada and Idaho are to be visited and assured that we want their business and are entitled to it, and that we can sell to them at lower prices than they can get from more remote sections of the country. The excursions should be made unquestioned successes and notices served on surrounding states that we are decidedly in the center of the trade map of the whole intermountain region and that we are not going to abdicate our position.

LOCAL OPTION IN COLORADO.

Governor Buchtel of Colorado has signed the local option bill recently enacted by the legislature of that state, and he made the occasion a regular demonstration in the interest of temperance. He seems to be fond of spectacular functions. He was inaugurated in a church, with religious ceremonies, and this local option bill was signed in the presence of a large audience, also evidently in a church. The event, the dispatches say, was celebrated with religious exercises, such as the reading of the Scriptures and the pronouncement of the benediction by the Governor himself. We do not criticize the Chief Executive of Colorado, but we cannot help thinking what a dismal howl would be set up in this State if a "Mormon" official should undertake to color, in this manner, the affairs of the State with the sentiments of the Church. Some Methodists would be among the first to shed tears over the "terrible conditions of Utah." Governor Buchtel is a Methodist minister, as well as the occupant of the first office of the state, and he, naturally, considered the passage of the first local option bill in Colorado as an event important enough to be celebrated with impressive ceremonies. Undoubtedly he regards that law as an instrument in the service of morality.

We believe, too, that such a law can be made productive of a great deal of good. It all depends upon the way in which it is applied. If a community decides that it will abolish the saloons, it will depend upon the police department whether this decision shall be in the interest of the cause of temperance, or not. If the police permit the secret sale of liquors, in spite of the law, as would be done when the department is in the service of the saloon and the other dens, the conditions would be worse than under a license system. Corruption is, unfortunately, possible under any kind of system, and the question of honest administration of law is, therefore, of much more importance than generally considered when conditions are such as to demand reforms.

OUR NATION'S COAL BIN.

The scarcity of fuel which set so many people to shivering in different parts of the United States last winter, also set some persons with a mathematical bent of mind to thinking and figuring. Their deductions in numerous instances are decidedly interesting if not instructive. The government's coal expert, Edward W. Barker, for instance, is quoted as claiming that if the coal areas of the United States are simply spread out in a layer six and one-half feet thick, which he considers a fair average, we should obtain 7,000 tons of coal per acre, after leaving enough underground to support the roof.

Mr. Barker further calculates that our 400,000 square miles of coal territory at this rate would give us a supply of 1,500,000,000 tons in all. We used up 330,000,000 tons of coal in 1905 and 425,000,000 last year. In all we have used, so far, 6,900,000,000 tons—that is, we have worked out a little less than a million acres of coal up to the end of 1905. Of course, at the rate of production during the last year or two, our coal supply would last, as nearly as we can estimate, between 4,000 and 5,000 years. From this it does not look as if there is any immediate danger of exhaustion, but the inconsistencies of statistics may be recognized when we grasp the fact that this is an entirely false point of view, in not considering the rate of increase which we must naturally look for.

Another authority declares that we produced as much coal during the last ten years as in all the previous time since the United States has been a nation, and he adds that the entire coal product of the country has doubled every ten years. Should this ratio of increase be maintained, the total coal supply of America would be exhausted within the next century, which experts do not believe. But they are wholly agreed on the general proposition that we are dipping deeply into the nation's coal bin, and that not many generations hence the people of this land will be dealing with the fuel question, not as the consumers of today are, but in the way of discovering a satisfactory substitute for heat. It is admitted at even the present rate of consumption that the vast anthracite coal beds of Pennsylvania will be completely exhausted within the next seventy-five or one hundred years. From this and other calculations, then, it will be seen that the fuel problem is a long way from permanent solution.

CENTRAL AMERICAN TROUBLES.

The war between Honduras and Nicaragua has been short and decisive and it is to be hoped that peace can now be restored. Very few have taken interest enough in the Lilliputian struggle in Central America to inquire into the cause of the rupture. A funny story has been told about a mule that was the cause bell, but apart from that, it is only known that the two countries have been sparring for a fight ever since Uncle Sam and Mexico undertook to arbitrate between them. Both countries are

suffering from the presence within their confines of revolutionary elements, and these always encourage wars and turmoil because the profit, or hope to profit, thereat.

The present government of Honduras has been in power only a few years and it is claimed that the country has been under martial law most of the time. Each "president" is virtually a dictator and holds office until deposed by a successful rival. No foreigners can enter the country without a permit from a Honduran consul, and no one can leave without a permit from the minister of war. Steamship companies may not sell tickets to passengers without a passport.

Uncle Sam is regarded as the natural peace maker in the Central hotbeds of rebellion, and for that reason Americans were landed in Honduras to safeguard American interests, but more particularly to be on hand if matters should assume a serious aspect. The Central American states ought to come together and form a union and do away with all disturbers of the peace there. Or, they should submit their little differences to arbitration.

The early bud catches the frost.

It seems to be much easier to catch "suckers" than burglars.

That which Thaw greatly feared—a lunacy commission—has come upon him.

How dull are the proceedings of the Douma compared with those of the City Council!

Nicaragua and Honduras cannot tell the difference between a mule and a Helen of Troy.

Snow never looks so beautiful the latter part of March as in the early part of December.

Wall street should be called Old Faithful, its eruptions come at such regular intervals.

"The public be jammed," seems to be the streetcar company's motto when people are going home from work.

People should be thankful that there are no more than thirteen ounces to the pound in some of the stuff that is sold for butter.

The eight-hour law is to be tested in the United States supreme court. Contractors hope that it will be found wanting.

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing birds is come, and the voice of the meadow lark is heard in the land.

Clark Howell of Georgia wants the Democrats to nominate a giant for President next time. Moral, physical or intellectual?

Mayor Schmitt says that he will never confess. Hence doesn't care whether he does or not, believing that he has sufficient evidence anyhow.

Dolly Castle, a lion tamer, has been attacked by a lion and probably fatally injured. When will people learn that it is not safe for anybody but a Daniel to enter a lion den?

It seems to have been much easier for the soldiers at Brownsville to get government ammunition than it is to get at the truth of how they got it.

Those Roumanian peasants who are marching on Bucharest are a breezy lot, and will be welcomed with a whiff of shrapnel if they do not retire when ordered to.

The biggest negro (he weighed six hundred and forty pounds) in the country has just died. The greatest negro in the country, Booker T. Washington, still lives.

In a recent article Maxin Gorky says that he found nothing congenial in the United States. And the United States found nothing congenial in Max. Doesn't that balance the account?

James J. Hill is willing to sell his road to the government at sixty thousand dollars a mile. That is one of the most gigantic get-rich-quick ideas ever evolved from the brain of man.

When his wife broke the news to him that a lunacy commission had been appointed, Thaw said, "Cheer up, dearie." An ordinary man would have said, "Cheer up, Mary." Make your own inferences.

PERMISSION TO SMOKE.

London Standard.

It is not so very long since smoking was forbidden in every room of the house save one; when a man would not smoke in a woman's presence without asking her permission and waiting for the answer, and when a woman would not have thought of getting into a smoking compartment than of doing so in public. That time has passed and gone.

A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.

Milwaukee Sentinel.

The Porto Rican is a man politically absolutely without a country. He can not become a citizen of the United States because he cannot renounce allegiance to any country. He is under the Stars and Stripes now, and yet he is a political nonentity. Think of the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Porto Rico, an able jurist, a cultivated man, and yet prohibited citizenship!

FOR NICHOLAS TO REMEMBER.

San Antonio Express.

History, they say, often repeats itself, and Czar Nicholas would do well to remember that after Charles the First of England had dissolved the short parliament, he summoned a second gathering known as the long parliament that sat long enough to get the king's head cut off. The czar would do well to handle this second Russian parliament with care.

IMMIGRANTS RETURNING.

San Francisco Chronicle.

It is estimated that about 250,000 of the persons who enter our ports as immigrants annually take their way back to the old world. At least that is the extent of the ebb flow of the class who are counted as immigrants on entering the country. A large proportion of this number are in the habit of returning to Europe to enjoy a vacation and a good-sized average return every year with a modest little fortune, which enables them to live in what they consider comfort in their own homes. It is hard to estimate the extent of the

capital removed by these returning emigrants, but that it is not inconsiderable we may rest assured. For it accounts for a larger share in the adjusting of our trade balance than most of those who have given the subject attention have assumed. A quarter of a million of moderately successful can carry away a great deal of money.

JUST FOR FUN.

A Disease.

Ethel (to her friend in spectacles)—And what is to be your profession, Mary?

Mary—Oh, I'm going to be a tragic poetess.

Ethel—But, my dear, that's not a profession. It's a disease.—Tit-Bits.

The Actual Situation.

"Haven't you and your friend got through that argument yet?" asked a parent of his youngest son.

"It isn't an argument," answered the boy. "I am merely telling Jimmie the facts of the case, and he is so very stubborn that he won't understand."—Chums.

A Word for Bachelors.

Very well, if bachelors are to be taxed when they "fill in" at dinners, act as groomsmen and get up subscription dances. Let them just try to tax bachelors and see how society will get on without them.—Kansas City Times.

A New Meaning.

"I haven't seen Charlie Dumbo since he removed to New York. What is he doing?"

"Why, he's an M. C."

"No! A member of Congress?"

"No! A mollycoddle."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Stepping-Stone.

"Couldn't the president give you a job?"

"Well, he offered to make me chief engineer of the Panama Canal until I could get something better."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Sense of Justice.

"What do you think the outcome of that gross homicide trial will be?"

"I haven't any idea. In any event I shall be satisfied to know that the innocent jurors have been released."—Washington Star.

Inflammable Stage Snow.

"Came near being a bad fire at the theater last night."

"How was that?"

"The villain lit a cigarette and tossed his match into the snow."—Washington Herald.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The April Ainslee's is full of good and entertaining reading. As in the two preceding numbers, Frances A. Vachell's serial story, "Her Son," continues to hold the leading position. The success of his story is assured; the April installment brings it to a critical point which stimulates the most intense interest. Beatrix Demorest Lloyd is the author of the novelette, a very dramatic tale of New York, entitled "The Marriage of a Millionaire." There are a lot of good short stories by Joseph C. Lincoln, George Randolph Choate, Roy Norton, Elizabeth Dyer, Owen Oliver, Francis Mellet, George Hibbard, and Weymer Jay Mills.—Seventh Avenue and Thirtieth Street, New York.

The North American Review for March 15 maintains its customary standard of interest. Mark Twain, in an installment of his Autobiography, gives a lively and humorous description of his dinner-party and relations with the German emperor. Swatland M. Coleman, of Lincoln, contributes an authoritative article on the action of the senate in "The Reed Smoot Decision." Herbert W. Bowen, formerly United States minister to Venezuela, sets forth our relations with that republic in an article entitled "Queer Diplomacy With Castro." In "The Storm Center in the Near East," Karl Blind suggests a solution for the difficulties in that turbulent portion of Europe. "Municipal Glasgow" by Benjamin Tabor is a timely contribution, showing the advantages and defects of municipal ownership. Brander Matthews, in "The Truth About the Elizabethan Playwrights," presents an engaging study, in very readable form, of the conditions in Shakespeare's time. "Trusts," by Albert Stickney, is an interesting paper pointing out some of the benefits accruing to the country from large combinations of capital. Lieut.-Col. Cuba, gives a fascinating description of the race that forms so large a portion of the population of that island in "The Cuban Negro." Baron Kennerly, of London, the speaker of the tango Kaneko, the spokesman of the Japanese, contributes an authoritative article entitled "Japan and the United States" in which he shows the utter impossibility of war between this country and Japan. In the literary department, Mark Twain's "Christmas Science" is reviewed by Charles Klein and Charles Johnston. "The Far Horizon" by Olivia Howard Dunbar. The department of world-politics contains communications from Louis and Peterburg. Among the topics dealt with in the editor's diary are: "Exile in a Great City," "Some more letters from Cuba," "The Singularity of the Jamestown Exposition," "Of the Life Romantic," and "The Ancient Doctrine of True Love."—Franklin Square, New York.

In the March issue of Current Literature are found such topics as these: "Assemblies of Government," "Switzerland," "What Ails Our Railroads," "The Artistic Temperament of the German Imperial Chancellor," "Marquis Saiton," "The Prime Minister and Beau Brummel of Japan," "A New American Sculptor of Genius," with portraits and illustrations. "The Unoriginality of Great Minds," and "Our American Laureate," "Hamlet and Don Quixote," one of the great pieces of criticism in modern literature, by Ivan Turgenev, is for the first time presented to English readers. The article on "Salome," as a musical storm-center, and "Ibsen's Voice from the Grave." A new play by Caillete Mendes, written for Sarah Bernhardt, is reprinted in part from a translation especially made for Current Literature.—44 West 26th St., New York.

The opening article in Harper's Magazine for April is Captain Roald Amundsen's personal narrative of how he discovered the north magnetic pole and how he sailed a little ship through the Northwest Passage from the waters of the Atlantic to those of the Pacific. Between the Northwest Passage and Richmond, in Virginia, the Prime Minister and Beau Brummel of Japan, "A New American Sculptor of Genius," with portraits and illustrations. "The Unoriginality of Great Minds," and "Our American Laureate," "Hamlet and Don Quixote," one of the great pieces of criticism in modern literature, by Ivan Turgenev, is for the first time presented to English readers. The article on "Salome," as a musical storm-center, and "Ibsen's Voice from the Grave." A new play by Caillete Mendes, written for Sarah Bernhardt, is reprinted in part from a translation especially made for Current Literature.—44 West 26th St., New York.

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