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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 30, 1902.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Seventy-third semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence on Saturday, October 4, 1902, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City. A general attendance of the officers and members of the Church is invited and desired.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The regular conference of Sunday school workers is called for Sunday evening, October 5th, at 7:30 o'clock in the Salt Lake Tabernacle. It is urged that all Sunday school workers attend, as matters of a very interesting and instructive character will be presented.

There will be an important meeting of the Stake Superintendents held in room 25, Lion House, on Sunday evening, October 5th, at six o'clock. It is earnestly requested that all visiting superintendents and their aids will attend, as business of importance is to be transacted.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
GEO. REYNOLDS,
J. M. TANNER,
General Superintendency.

THE NOMINATIONS ARE MADE.

The Democratic convention has finished its labors, and presented its platform and ticket for the consideration of the voters in this county. The deliberations were marked with intense interest and much enthusiasm. It is evident that the party means business. A lively campaign may be expected. It cannot be denied that, on the whole, the ticket prepared is a strong one, and contains an array of names which will be recognized by the people of this county as of well known and able gentlemen, thoroughly identified with our material interests. They will have the support of the members of their party, but will have to face the strong opposition that will be presented by their political foes.

The candidates of the respective parties for county officers, for members of the State Legislature and for Congress are now before the people of Utah. The contest is opened and from this date until November 4, we may expect the usual excitement of an active political campaign. If it can be conducted on legitimate oratorical and argumentative lines, that will be gratifying to all lovers of truth and fair competition.

We suggest that each party to the contest will gain much more by respectful treatment of the other side, than by abuse, vituperation or any kind of obnoxious personalities. There are sincere and ardent advocates of the respective political views of contending parties, and they should be treated with proper consideration. We hope the day has gone by, when any man will be mistreated because of his opinions, or looked upon with an evil eye because he does not look at things in the same light as they appear to others.

This is a free country, and liberty of thought and speech is guaranteed to every individual, so long as he does not encroach upon the rights of his fellow-citizens. Let us have full and fair discussion of living issues, with a desire that the right shall be brought uppermost, and that "good men and wise men" shall be placed in public office, of whose acts and words we shall not hereafter be ashamed.

A MATTER OF MOMENT.

A very important meeting will be held tomorrow in the Assembly Hall in this city. It is to be a gathering of persons interested in the water question. This includes supply for domestic and manufacturing purposes as well as for irrigation. Prof. Newell, one of the very foremost engineers of the country, and who is a government officer and agent, will be present and address the audience. We bespeak for him a full attendance of our citizens and a respectful hearing. He will be listened to with the closest attention, whether his audience is large or small, but on an occasion of this kind, attended with so much importance, we hope the building will be crowded. Matters of great moment to the people of this city and state will be discussed, and they should attract the people in large numbers. If the meeting had been arranged for a few days later, we have no doubt that the gathering would be too great for the building selected for the purpose. As it is, we advise our readers to be present and sit up the house, and show their appreciation of the visit of the gentleman who is coming to give us, gratuitously, the benefit of his advice and experience. Subjects that affect the welfare of the State generally and of this city in particular.

REFORM IS DEMANDED.

The City Council may as well understand that the sentiment of the Salt Lake public, is against the present treatment of the saloon question. It was expected from the recent attitude of that body that something more would be done for the correction of the evils so generally complained of, than passing resolutions and dealing out platitudes. What is needed is vigorous action.

Power to suppress objectionable conditions is largely in the hands of the City Council, which can refuse to issue licenses for the sale of intoxicants at places that have become a public scandal; also to revoke licenses already issued, if the licensees fail to live up to the conditions on which their permits were granted. What is the use of bestowing this power by law if it is not exercised?

We do not advise that anything rash or unwise should be done by the Council. But on behalf of the people of this city, we demand that steps be taken to regulate and restrain, and as far as possible suppress, the evils growing out of the liquor traffic and also the gambling and other unlawful practices that are attendant upon it. The city officials may gain the support of the "sporting" element by the gentle, kid-glove style of handling this matter, but it will only deepen the disgust that is felt almost universally by the most respectable of our citizens at the poor pussy policy which is being pursued.

After all the congratulatory expressions that have been indulged in, by the press and the public, on the Sunday closing movement, it appears that it was a one-day triumph of law over disorder. Evidence is strong that intoxicants were dispensed on Sunday last at a large number of drinking houses in this city, and that the ordinance was evaded, without effort on the part of the police to detect the wrong and punish the offenders. Do the executive officers of this city think that they can throw dust in the eyes of the people by such a course? Or is it a fact that now they are in public position, they do not care a straw about public sentiment, moral conditions, or the sanctity of their official oaths. We warn them that these spasms of pretended virtue will not count.

Reform is demanded and will have to be effected, by the enforcement of the city ordinances against the numerous evils that confront us. We do not expect a perfect state of society, nor imagine that any amount of vigilance will entirely extirpate the vices that prevail, to some extent, throughout the civilized world. But we do expect and require the reasonable exercise of diligence and vigor in the enforcement of the laws passed in support of decency and morality, and proclaim the truth that the Salt Lake public will not rest until it is fairly exhibited by their public servants, chosen for this very purpose.

MURDER NOT "MORMONISM."

The Springfield Republican is one of the papers that see clearly the absurdity of charging a recent crime to "Mormonism," and what is more, it has the courage to say so. The Republican rightly argues:

"The latest murder sensation in New York is turned by some people into an attack upon Mormonism because the murderer, William Hooper Young, is a grandson of the late Brigham Young. It is difficult to trace the alleged connection between Mormonism and this crime. Indeed, it would be quite as sensible to make Christianity responsible for every murder committed by a Christian. A fellow of the William Hooper Young type would commit murder wherever he might be, the religion in which he had been reared."

It used to be a standing charge against the Church, that murder was among its practices, though those who were the authors of the false allegation knew perfectly well that it was without foundation. Now some of our contemporaries refer to those old slanders, as if they were facts, forgetting that what they take for granted is only the gross misrepresentation of enemies.

The attitude of the Church with regard to the sanctity of human life has often been stated. There is no necessity for ignorance as to that point. A special declaration, or manifesto, protesting against calumnies of various characters, was issued in this city on Dec. 12, 1890. It was signed by the First Presidency, the Apostles, and John W. Young and Daniel H. Wells, counselors. In this manifesto it is said, in part:

"That this Church views the shedding of human blood with the utmost abhorrence. That we regard the killing of a human being, except in conformity with the civil law, as a capital crime which should be punished by shedding the blood of the criminal after a public trial before a legally constituted court of the land."

"Notwithstanding all the stories told about the killing of apostates, no case of this kind has ever occurred, and of course has never been established against the Church we represent. Hundreds of seceders from the Church have continuously resided and now live in this territory, many of whom have amassed considerable wealth, though bitterly opposed to the Mormon faith and people. Even those who made it their business to fabricate the vilest falsehoods, and to render them plausible by citing isolated passages from old sermons without the explanatory context, and have suffered no opportunity to escape them of vilifying and blackening the characters of the people, have remained among those whom they have thus persistently calumniated until the present day, without receiving the slightest personal injury."

"We denounce as entirely untrue the allegation which has been made, that our Church or its members are guilty of the killing of persons who leave the Church, or apostatize from its doctrines. We would view a punishment of this character for such an act with the utmost horror; it is abhorrent to us and is in direct opposition to the fundamental principles of our creed."

"The revelations of God to this Church make death the penalty of capital crime, and require that offenders against life and property shall be delivered up and tried by the laws of the land."

"We declare that no Bishop or other officer in this Church claims or exercises civil or judicial functions, or the right to supersede, annul or modify a judgment of any civil court. Such courts, while established to regulate Christian conduct, are purely ecclesiastical, and their punitive power goes no further than the suspension or excommunication of members from Church fellowship."

"That is 'Mormonism.' It asks to be judged according to its own teachings

and works; not according to the misrepresentations of its enemies. You cannot judge Mormonism by what some Protestants used to say of it; not Protestantism by what some Romanists have said of it. The Reformers and their friends. And yet that is the course usually pursued when 'Mormonism' is in question. The words of enemies are taken for granted. Falsehoods, because often repeated, are accepted for truth, though without proof or attempt at proof. It is time that more rational methods prevailed.

STREET CAR ACCOMMODATIONS.

Some of the patrons of the street cars are wondering why so many open cars are yet run, notwithstanding the low temperature and piercing wind that have prevailed evenings and mornings since the equinox. But it is really no wonder that there is reluctance in changing from open to closed cars. The public does not prefer the closed car. The open car with its suggestion of summer weather and its pleasant breeze as it slides along furnishes enjoyment. The closed car, though a great convenience, is not boarded for the enjoyment of a ride. Still, a great number of visitors are soon expected to the city. Among the conference people are some who are aged and infirm. It has happened, it is claimed, that persons have been taken seriously ill by riding in open cars during cold weather, and it would be just as well to provide as many closed cars as possible for the conference, provided that the cold spell continues. However, in such busy times the company has to utilize all the cars in its possession, old and new, closed and open. Better have an old or open car than stand on the street corners till one is weary of waiting.

The great game of chance—the political campaign—will now begin.

Just now in New York the elastic currency is doing the contraction act most violently.

So long as he is under the care of the doctors Mr. Roosevelt cannot be anything but patient.

Devery claims the Tammany leaders "them toasters." Of course they turn red when he says it.

There are thirteen doctors running for the legislature in Kansas. If elected they will surely want to enact the medical code into law.

It might be said of the President's wound and the feelings of the people towards him, that abcess makes the heart grow fonder.

Now there will in all probability be a boom in the unexpurgated editions of Zola's works. But even his death cannot purify them.

According to General Funston the abolishment of the canteen has been much more demoralizing to the army than the "water cure" has.

It is said that cholera threatens to depopulate the island of Samar. If it does it will settle some vexed questions in one of the Philippine islands.

"Let the new lights shine," says Speaker Henderson. There is nothing startlingly new in the idea, it having been ordered long ago that men should let their light shine.

The new set of china that Mrs. Roosevelt has bought for the White House cost thirty thousand dollars. The hired girls will be very careful if they have to pay for any broken pieces.

The warring tobaccoists in England have smoked the pipe of peace and buried the hatchet. Henceforth the war is to be against users of tobacco and not against each other.

The boys in blue and brown are having lots of fun in those sham battles around Fort Riley. And then the umpires say that the maneuvers have been without a flaw, which decision makes them the only perfect military maneuvers the world has ever seen.

A Pennsylvania corporation lawyer, speaking of the coal deadlock, says, "The trouble is largely the watered stock of the carrying roads. Railroad issues of stock should be regulated somewhat as by the Massachusetts railroad law." If this is so would it not be a good thing to take some of the water out of the stock?

At Corinth, Miss., a negro has just been burned at the stake. At times one almost despairs that our country will ever become thoroughly civilized, but the deeper the despair the harder must be the work to uplift it. So long as negroes are burned in various parts of the country it cannot justly claim to hold the front rank among civilized nations.

For twenty-one weeks the anthracite coal miners have been on strike. On the whole they have conducted themselves in an orderly and law-abiding manner. During the past week there have been some outrages, not many, and they are as strongly condemned by the strike leaders as by the public. That there have been so few is a very remarkable thing; so few is a very remarkable thing; so few is a very remarkable thing.

COAL STRIKE NOTES.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

As the coal strike drags, and the time shortens during which the fuel can be received cheaply by water, in the event of a resumption of work at the mines, the consumers with empty bins are growing stolid and somewhat indifferent. This is due to some extent to a feeling of hopelessness as to home comfort during the cold months soon to come; but it is more largely the result of a conviction that houses can be heated and food cooked with soft coal of the better grades.

Los Angeles Times.

Of course there is no violence in the coal fields. Everybody is behaving, the miners are getting plenty of aid from the outside, and all is perfectly lovely to such an extent, according to the San Francisco person, that the strike can be indefinitely continued. But still the different sections where coal is mined keep calling for troops, in a loud and agonized tone of voice, and still the maining and killing of men who want to work, and who have a right to work, go on, untravely on. There are two sides as always to this strike proposition. The men who

are dissatisfied with their wages have a perfect right to quit their jobs. The employers have an equally perfect right to put other men to work in the places of the strikers if there are other men who are willing to work at the wages offered, whatever they may be. So long as these conditions do not obtain, this is not a free country.

Boston Transcript.

President Mitchell of the Miners' union says he cannot settle the strike, but there is a general impression that he has a good deal of influence with those who can, about as much as President Baer has with the stockholders of the coal companies. Mr. Baer might also, with equal force, say that he could not settle the present trouble. While they are waiting to see what will happen if neither party yields, there is a fine opportunity for the coal producers of Great Britain, where there has been a depression in that industry of late, to send all the coal they can get ships for to our ports. Tariffs do not figure much in a condition like the present.

Chicago News.

Evidently it is Senator Mason's theory that the production and sale of a prime necessity of life is an industry in which the public has exceptional interests and special rights to protect. The nation just now is suffering hardship and deprivation as a result of the anthracite coal famine. The operators cannot or will not come to an agreement which will stop the strike and bring relief to the public. Senator Mason believes that since they confess themselves powerless to continue the operation of an absolutely necessary industry it is in order to let the courts take over the mines and see that the public is supplied with coal. Let the coal operators remain obstinate if they desire, but let not the public meantime be deprived of a necessity of life.

New York Herald.

In connection with the coal strike it is comforting to reflect that gas will be available for cooking and heating next winter, and that its price is fixed by law and cannot be hoisted clean out of sight.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The October Pearson's opens with an interesting article on New York. It is by Mr. Gustav Kobbie, who presents a picture of modern New York with its bustle of commercial activity, its financial interests, its skyscrapers and other modern improvements. The article is profusely illustrated with photographs, giving a still more realistic idea of the great Empire City. "The Dudley Dynagraph Car" and "Modern Fire Protection" are two descriptive articles of more than usual interest. In fiction, "Capt. Kettle's adventures continue to delight his old friends and to make for him each month hosts of new ones. Albert Bigelow Paine contributes a detective story—"A Knife of Keys"—and Louis Mack a charming little Australian station romance, "Bill's Best Beloved" is a little tragedy, in which the "true love" theme is not run smooth. "True to the King," a tale of medieval France, together with an exceptionally dramatic instalment of "Rider Haggard's 'Pearl Maiden,'" complete the list of fiction for the month—later Place, New York.

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Gallagher & Barrett present "Finnigan's Ball." Sale of seats begins today.

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