

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - APRIL 6, 1900.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Seventieth annual General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints opened auspiciously today. The attendance was very large for the first day's session, and there was a free and powerful spirit present, comforting and inspiring the Saints assembled.

President Lorenzo Snow, in his opening address, showed most remarkable vigor of body and of mind, and his voice rang out clearly and forcibly, while speaking of the remarkable growth of the Church, from infancy to the manhood of three-score years and ten.

All the speakers were animated and happy in the themes they presented and the manner of their delivery, and the great congregation appreciated fully the teachings of the occasion.

It is evident that "Mormonism" suffers nothing by the attacks of its foes, but that it is increasing in power as well as in numbers, under the hands of the Almighty who is its founder and director. The "Mormons" are indeed a blessed people, and the truths they have embraced are invincible and full of light and joy and peace. This conference will be numbered among the most encouraging in the history of the latter-day dispensation.

HOUSES FOR SETTLERS.

There is no lack of opportunities for the acquisition of homes, to people of energy and enterprise who have a little means to invest for this purpose. Inducements are offered, at various points, to settlers desirous of obtaining land to cultivate on easy terms. A number of families are availing themselves of these openings and are moving either to the north or to the south.

The removal of a few individuals to the settlements in Mexico has given rise, once more, to the oft-repeated story of a "Mormon" heira to that republic. Whenever a family or two of Latter-day Saints migrate to that country from Utah, the report goes out that the "Mormons" are moving in a body to Old Mexico. There is not anything more in it now than there has been in the years that are past. Working bees in the hive of Deseret will swarm when occasion arises, but the parent colony will remain. Utah is not to be relinquished by the "Mormon" people.

Just now a movement is on foot to strengthen a small "Mormon" settlement in the Big Horn Basin. The attractions at that place are strong, for persons who desire to obtain good land and build up that section of the country. Particulars have been published in the Deseret News, and an organization under the charge of good and competent men has been effected. The prospects there are excellent.

Alberta, Canada, is another place which offers strong inducements to our people as colonists. Several thriving towns and villages have been established there and new locations are being made. Land is offered on easy terms to working people. Railroads carry passengers and freight directly to some of these places and within short distances of others. A new line is projected which will probably bring them all into railway connection. It has proved a good country for Latter-day Saints to live in and dwell together in unity, under proper regulations and influences.

The Snake River valley also puts forth claims to the attention of such of our people as desire to change their place of abode. The recent completion of the railroad from Idaho Falls to St. Anthony, by the Oregon Short Line, greatly increases the facilities for transportation and the value of the lands in the great vicinity. There are still extensive tracts on the west side of the valley open to entry, and where in a short time there will be a great number of fruitful farms and gardens. It is a magnificent country, splendidly watered, suitable for farming and stock-raising and already populated by more than twelve thousand persons. The soil is good, much of it requires little or no irrigation. Timber is within easy reach. The climate is good, and many of the settlers are willing to part with a portion of their lands on easy terms to the right kind of people.

Idaho has other places calling for more settlers, and offering advantages peculiar to those localities. Among them we may mention Riverside and Egin, where openings may be found for families who wish to begin at the bottom and grow up with the country. Particulars are published in the "News" concerning both those places, and each has its peculiarities affording a choice according to the notions and wishes of home-seekers.

In mentioning these opportunities for making new homes, we do not desire in any way to persuade people to leave the beautiful vales of our own Utah. "Be ye content with such things as ye have," is a scriptural injunction of great worth. This, however, does not forbid endeavor to improve one's condition, particularly if it is unfavorable. But there

are many people who are afflicted with a craving for change, when their position and surroundings are such as to be sufficient to satisfy a reasonable mind.

In Utah the majority of the people have good prospects and do not need to tear up the roots of their home life for the purpose of transplanting. They had better stay where they are and make the best of their situation. "The rolling stone" is of little use compared with that which forms part of a solid structure. Our advice to people who have comfortable homes is to remain in them and be content, while they seek to improve them. But to those who are homeless or have no "stake in the country," we say get out of the groove in which you vegetate and, if you can, go somewhere in one of the spots that offer good inducements, and lay the foundation for future independence.

DESERVED DISTINCTION.

The nomination of Bishop Scanlan for the high position of Archbishop in the Roman Catholic church, is appreciated not only by his co-religionists in Utah, but by many people who dissent from his religious views. They respect the prelate and admire him for his consistency, ability and liberality of thought and action.

By the latter term we do not mean any latitude of opinion that would weaken in the least his attachment to the dogmas and discipline of the great ecclesiastical organization with which he is identified, but a disposition to recognize the legal right of other people to worship in freedom as conscience dictates.

So far as we know, the Bishop has not joined in any of the deceptive and intolerant measures adopted by sectarian preachers against the "Mormons." He has maintained his own position without improper interference with theirs. For this reason he is regarded by them with esteem, and we wish him the success that appears to await him.

Of course this nomination does not mean, at present, his certain preferment. That will depend upon further action by the chief authorities of the Roman hierarchy, the people of this region, while they would regret his departure from among them, would rejoice in his deserved promotion.

RIGHT TO PETITION.

Somebody has conceived the bright idea of circulating a petition and get all the school children of New York to sign it, asking the President to intervene in the South African war. If the matter were not serious, it would be ridiculous. How many of the school children know anything of the cause of that war, or the right and wrong of it? And how many of them have even the faintest idea of what the American President can do, or not do, in this case, without coming into conflict with international etiquette?

There is altogether too much foolish agitation by means of petitions, which really mean nothing more than that persistent canvassers have succeeded in obtaining a list of names, the owners of which may, or may not, have any opinion on the subject of the petition. It has come to be an abuse of the right to petition, which is entirely unjustifiable and which at times has done much harm. But when the proposition is to inveigle the school children into such a scheme, and to make them virtually ask the American government to make a fool of itself, it is time to protest against such unscrupulous agitation. There would in after-years not be many children, induced to sign such a petition, that would not be ashamed of themselves for doing so, at a time when they knew nothing about the significance of their act. The right to petition does not mean the right to embarrass the government.

GOVERNOR OF GUAM.

The small island of Guam, which Governor Leary has succeeded in keeping before the public, on account of his radical and original reform measures, is said to be destined in a not distant future to become an important station in the ocean, on the road to and from eastern Asia. There will be a naval station, and all the Pacific army transports are expected to call there. The Pacific cable will have a station there, and there will also be a mercantile coal station, attracting vessels that need to replenish their fuel. It goes without saying that when the island once is raised to such an importance, its inhabitants will experience a genuine boom. There will be work for all and good wages.

Captain Leary has commenced the work of civilization with laudable tact and success. His successor, Mr. Schroeder, is also a naval officer, and it is hoped he may be able to continue the good work. The office of governor of a small island, so far isolated from civilization, cannot at present be an enviable one. Probably the navy department considers it as a mission to be filled and to be released from after a year or more of faithful service. But in time this will be changed. There is no reason why Guam should not be transformed into a veritable garden, with all the luxuries of modern life, including its amusements, and then the office will be eagerly sought for.

FOUR WORLD POWERS.

In population China still leads the world with an estimated multitude of somewhat over 400,000,000 people. Then comes the British Empire, embracing 387,000,000; the Russian Empire, with 129,000,000; and the United States, with 75,000,000 souls, not including those added by the war with Spain.

It is interesting to note that the place of pre-eminence as to population is held as if by the rule of seniority. China comes first; then Great Britain, and then the two youngest nations, Russia and the United States.

The world, it can be said, is at present contemplating the doings of these four powers, all so different in that which goes to make up nationality. All other powers now hold a secondary position on the world's stage.

creatures," or "four angels standing on the four corners of the earth." One could almost imagine this four-fold division exemplified in the present distribution of parts in the history of the world. What will the future be? Taking the "four living creatures" as a symbol, one is said to resemble a lion, one a calf, one an eagle, and one a man? Which influence is to be predominant, that of the brute creations or that of man?

The present outlook is that the Chinese empire with its bovine stolidism will drop out of the race for final pre-eminence. The Russian eagle is still watchful of every chance for prey. From its dizzy heights, its keen eye discovers any little advantage, and it is always ready for a sudden dart to seize its victims. The British lion and the American commonwealth, the government of which is best typified by the form of a human being, are drawing closer together all the time. They are the two great commercial forces of the world. Their language is preparing the way for world-dominion, for language not only expresses thought; it forms thought as well, and wherever a language prevails, the race that speaks the language is sure to receive added influence.

China, Great Britain and Russia are constantly pouring their strength into this country, and with this aid it has grown in a century from 2,000,000 to 75,000,000. What will another century bring? As far as can be foreseen, this country has a world-mission to perform, which is clearly indicated by the form of government it has adopted as well as by its phenomenal growth in power and in influence.

THE LITERARY TEST.

Prescott F. Hall in Gunton's Magazine excludes from this country immigrants who cannot stand a literary test. The necessity of this he supports by statistics showing that the influx of illiterate persons from western Europe is alarming. He says the following races show this per cent of immigrants: Magyar 10.8 per cent; Croatian and Slovenian 24.1; Slovak 27.6; Polish 21.3; Lithuanian 23.4; southern Italian 37.2; Portuguese 65.5; Hebrew 20.3 per cent.

This may all be true, but the conclusion that inability to read, or write, or both, per se disqualifies a person from aiding in the building up of this country, in its various industries can not be maintained. Immorality, not illiteracy, should form a bar to entrance into this country. For if once the principle is established that none but literate persons can enter our ports, what prevents the further extension of the rule? Why not require, at some future time, correct orthography as a qualification, although many useful citizens would be puzzled at a spelling book? And why is it not conceivable that immigration be restricted to persons with university education and degrees? The principle once applied, why should it be restricted to plain reading and writing?

Education is good, and too much cannot be done for the universal spread of light and knowledge, but to make an educational test for immigrants, and not a moral one, will not accomplish the desired object—to admit only desirable persons. In some cases it would work in the opposite direction. For it would exclude some good immigrants, while it would admit some educated peace disturbers of the type that has produced the murderers of kings, emperors and presidents.

Peruvians have been mistreating an American citizen. Cash compensation is now in order, and prompt payment, too.

The Dewey boom does not seem to have been a disastrous concussion, so far as present effects on politicians are apparent.

If Turkey admits pig meat from any country, the United States must have equal rights in the trade; hence Secretary Hay has given the sublime porte a notice that is not likely to go unheeded.

The gentle shower last night was worth thousands of dollars to this valley. Besides, it cleansed the atmosphere and made all nature look as if it had put on holiday attire in honor of our Conference visitors.

The necessity appears to be great for food and work in Puerto Rico, yet the circumstances given in the dispatches seem to justify the suspicion that there is some scheming of political bosses in the demonstrations on the island.

The London public displays irritation because Lord Roberts' army is not advancing from Bloemfontein to Pretoria. But a considerable number of that force seem to be getting well on the way to the Transvaal capital, albeit they go as prisoners.

The story about a Russian cruiser and Japanese battleship having exchanged courtesies in the way of attempting to sink each other need verification before being accepted as accurate. It is quite likely that an exchange of signals has been magnified into an exchange of shots.

Lord Roberts reports another body of British troops, five companies, captured by Boers within a few miles of Bloemfontein. Yet the captured force fought for 21 hours and no aid was sent them in that time. This appears to be a case where an explanation must be forthcoming to head off emphatic criticism at home.

It is not often, in our crowded street cars, that a young girl will give her seat to an aged gentleman or lady. But it happens at times, and such an act of kindness speaks volumes for the author thereof. The conference is on and among the visitors there are not a few of the aged people, who naturally will not "have long to stay here." A word to the wise is enough.

The highest fee ever paid in this country, or in any other, for the performance of one piece of legal work, is said to have been earned recently by James B. Dill, a Cleveland lawyer who got \$1,000,000 for bringing about the Carnegie-Prick combine. That was a large fee but probably it was worth a million to the principals in the com-

pany, to have their business reconstructed after it had been threatened by ruin on account of the broken friendship.

Those stories about Boer women fighting in the trenches, if true, not only will evoke much additional sympathy for the Transvaal cause, but indicate that Great Britain's effort to subdue the Transvaal will be much more difficult of accomplishment than is generally thought. A woman's will in actual warfare operates pretty well along the "never surrender" line.

British-Chinese battles appear to be growing frequent on the Chinese-Burmah border. Thus far, each engagement is reported as occurring in British territory, and of course the Chinese have been defeated. But there is something out of gear in the power which instigates the Chinese aggressions reported, and the charge that Russia is at the bottom of the trouble will not improve the existing situation.

Rev. Dr. Burt, a Methodist preacher from Rome, is now in New York, and angrily denounces the Roman Catholic church for its alleged efforts to destroy Methodism in the Italian capital. Since the gentleman's Methodism is as vigorous against the church of Rome as the latter can be against Mr. Burt's church, it would appear that the gentleman is not entitled to much outside sympathy in the tit-for-tat business.

In today's war announcements the Boers seem to have had a little the worst of it. Lord Methuen's force has captured fifty of them, wounded eight and killed eight, among them the famous French officer, Gen. Marenin; while the Boers have captured three companies of Irish fusiliers and two companies of mounted infantry. Of course Gen. Methuen's casualties, not yet reported, must be added to the British losses.

FAILURE OF THE APPLETONS.

Brooklyn Eagle. Undoubtedly the reason for the failure is that the house was badly managed. The output of volumes in this country has become almost appalling. It cannot be that half of them are worth the printing.

Baltimore Herald.

That a concern which steadily aimed to advance popular taste and to supply only reading of conspicuous merit should have become embarrassed would not be flattering to the American public if the difficulties of the house were to be regarded chiefly as the result of a decline in business.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

A more probable indication of the cause of the unprofitableness of the old-fashioned publishing houses may be inferred by the fact that their present managers were in the third generation. The young man who inherits a fortune in the shape of an old business is very apt to take things easily and expect the business to provide for him.

Springfield Republican.

It is due to the Appletons that Spencer's magnificent philosophical system has been open to the American public from the start, and that in the Popular Science Monthly they have continued the steady presentation of the advance of scientific thought.

Chicago Chronicle.

The failure of the Appletons is the more regrettable because the house has succumbed not through any fault of its own, but as a result of the misfortune which overtook its great and worthy rival.

Providence Telegram.

The influence of this publishing house on the literary output of this country was a prime factor and the product which it presented to the reading public was almost invariably a worthy and a successful one. Standard publications formed no small share of the output.

RABBI WISE.

Omaha World-Herald.

The death of Rabbi Wise is not alone a severe loss to the Jewish world, it is a loss to the world of letters. He was a man of force and intellect and commanded attention and respect from all classes of society. As a defender of the Jewish religion he had no superior among the men of today, and as a ripe scholar and man of affairs he stood with the leaders.

Baltimore Sun.

Dr. Isaac M. Wise, rabbi of B'Nai Jesurum Congregation, of Cincinnati, who died yesterday, was, in learning and intellectual force, foremost among the representative Jews of the United States. Born in Bohemia in 1819, he came to this country in 1846 and his scholarship, eloquence and earnestness were soon recognized. For the past 45 years he has lived in Cincinnati, having established in that city in 1847 the American Israelite, the oldest Jewish newspaper in the United States.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

People of all nationalities must regret to learn of the death of Rabbi Isaac M. Wise, the noted Jewish educator and reformer. His efforts have extended far beyond Jewish circles, and the seeds of thought that he has sown will result in the reaping of a perpetual harvest of mental and moral attainments. Dr. Wise was a public-spirited and patriotic American.

New York Mail and Express.

The death of Dr. Isaac M. Wise, the venerable rabbi of Cincinnati, president of the Hebrew Union College, is a heavy blow to progressive Judaism in the United States. Despite his advanced age, his superior mental powers sustained him to the end as the acknowledged leader of the reform movement which in recent years has made such rapid progress toward active co-operation with Christian endeavor.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Gunton's Magazine for April has a contribution by Prescott F. Hall, secretary of Immigration Restriction League, on the "Present Status of Immigration Restriction." Julius Moritz describes "The Greatest Lockout in History," the tremendous labor struggle fought out in Denmark last year, involving 50,000 men, and which was finally settled by arbitration. "Effects of New York Sweatshop Law," by Henry White, secretary of the United Garment Workers of America, shows that much remains to be done before the curse of modern city life is stamped out. The "Review of the Month," occupies the first sixteen pages of the magazine, and this month presents the progress of our domestic affairs, the new reform crusade in New York, the South African war, etc.—The Gunton Company, Union Square, New York.

"The Laurels of the Brave" is the title of a brilliant story written by Marie Corelli for The Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia. It deals with the South African War, and the "Society Department" of the English war office and the women who for patriotic purposes, are doing the "brave" work in the Saturday Evening Post of April 14th.

Discount to Conference Patrons ON ALL PURCHASES OF HOUSE FURNISHINGS. Carpets, Rugs, Wall Papers, Decorations, Linoleums, Floor Oil Cloths, Etc. Estimates Furnished Free. Finest Selection of ORIENTAL RUGS AND NAVAJO BLANKETS IN THE WEST. Z. C. M. I. T. G. WEBBER, Superintendent

ADVANCE SPRING SALE OF MEN'S SUITS -AT THE- SIEGEL CLOTHING CO. To inaugurate the Spring Suit Selling with a grand rush we will commence Thursday April 5 a Spring Suit Sale that will be unprecedented for GENUINE BARGAINS. We offer choice of a large lot of MEN'S SPRING SUITS, worth \$12 to \$18, at the low price of \$7.50. This lot includes 50 all-wool blue serge Suits bought to sell at \$12.50, all go at \$7.50. See south window. THE SIEGEL CLOTHING CO. 61, 63, 65 Main St.

SALT LAKE THEATRE. GEORGE B. FYFAR, Manager. TONIGHT! Tomorrow Night and Matinee, April 6th and 7th. Charles Frohman presents William Gillette's greatest comedy triumph, BECAUSE SHE LOVED HIM SO. The Little Minister of Farce.

NEW GRAND THEATRE. M. E. MULVEY, Mgr. Last Three Performances of the Jules Grau's Opera Co. Tonight—SAID PASHA. Saturday Matinee—MARTHA. Saturday Night—ERMINIE. NEXT ATTRACTION commencing Monday, April 9th. 3 Nights and Wednesday Matinee, KNOBS O' TENNESSEE.

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CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. Lecture by Major F. A. Grant, on "Camp Kent to Manila and Return." Saturday Evening, April 7. Admission 25 Cents.