

day in April, providing the general annual conference is not in session then; otherwise the next regular meeting will convene on Saturday, May 3rd, 1890, at 11 a.m.

TO THE ARTISTS OF UTAH.

The Deseret Sunday School Union, perceiving the good that is being effected in the Sunday schools of the Latter-day Saints by the introduction therein of Bible picture charts, desires to prepare similar sets illustrative of the Book of Mormon, and seeks the co-operation of the artists of Utah to enable it to satisfactorily accomplish this object.

It is designed that the first set published shall consist of twelve pictures to illustrate the life of Nephi, the son of Lehi; and the incidents in his life selected for this purpose are the following:

1. Lehi preaching to the Jews—many mocking him, see I Nephi, chapter 1.
2. Departure of Lehi and his family from Jerusalem, I Nephi, chapter ii.
3. The death of Laban, I Nephi, chapter iv.
4. Lehi's vision of the iron rod, etc., I Nephi, chapter viii.
5. Nephi's vision of the virgin and child, I Nephi, chapter xi.
6. The finding of the compass—the Labona, I Nephi, chapter xxi.
7. The building of the ship, I Nephi, chapters xvii and xviii.
8. The first sacrifice on the Promised Land, I Nephi, chapter xviii.
9. Lehi blessing his posterity, II Nephi, chapter i.
10. The separation of the Nephites and Lamanites, II Nephi, chapter v.
11. The building of the temple, II Nephi, chapter v.
12. Nephi making the plates for the records, II Nephi, chapter v.

The Union now offers a premium of two hundred and forty dollars to those artists who send in designs or sketches for any or all of these pictures, to be divided *pro rata*, \$20 each, according to the number accepted from each competitor, on the following conditions:

The designs accepted are to become the property of the Deseret Sunday School Union.

They are to be sent in to Geo. Reynolds, President's office, Salt Lake City, not later than July 1st, 1890.

They may be in colors, or in black and white, but those in colors are preferred.

The size desired is 24 inches in height by 18 inches in width, but no sketch will be rejected because of its being smaller.

The Union reserves the right to accept those pictures only which are deemed by its committees suitable to the needs of the Sunday schools.

In conclusion, the Union desires that the artists maintain, as far as possible, the unities of time, place, dress, etc., that the pictures may not be misleading to the children, even in their minor details. The characters therein (except the angels) are all Israelites of the sixth century before Christ, and the localities are Palestine, Arabia and Chili.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,
General Superintendent Deseret Sunday School Union.

THE POLITICS OF NATIONS.

Socialism is in the air of Germany, and the young Emperor has not escaped the contagion of his surroundings, though, perhaps, he would be the last to acknowledge it. It is quite natural, however, that the head of a paternal system of government should make the proposition he has for an international convention on the labor question. But whatever may be his object—and the great organs of opinion in Europe have readily conceded the benevolence of his intentions—there can be little doubt of the magnitude and pressing importance of the question he proposes for solution. German legislation of late years has been tending towards State socialism, while the popular instincts and prejudices of other peoples are opposed to it. The true ideal of government is one that contemplates the administration of justice only, leaving all subjects free to pursue their own happiness. It may not be attainable in the present stage of human development, but it should be the ultimate object of all politics.

France seems to have an unlimited supply of pretenders of all sorts to her government. Boulanger has scarcely subsided when the young Duke of Orleans turns up in Paris with the alleged intent of perpetrating a *coup d'état*. It is not astonishing that such pretenders should be constantly cropping up, for the history of France since the revolution is little else than a series of catastrophes in which adventurers of many kinds rose to the highest positions. What has occurred so often may occur again, and this idea encourages those who fancy they know better than the people of France how France should be governed. If the young man who has just indulged in political theatricals before his countrymen was really in earnest, he chose an unpropitious moment for the display. Never since its establishment on the ruins of the second Empire has the Republic been more stable or popular than at present. The recent elections were a solid proof of this. Yet from his connections and the antecedents of his family it is quite possible that he has been put forward to make his *début*, so to speak, before the people of France, who otherwise would scarcely be aware of his existence. He is now a personage of some importance and takes rank with the others who have "claims" on the throne. Since Louis Napoleon appeared with his tame eagle to frighten "the geese that guard the capitol," there has been nothing to equal this exploit. There is, of course, a large party of royalists in France, but they are increasingly outnumbered by the republicans. During recent years radical influences have steadily advanced under the enlarged franchise, and the clergy have come at last to accept the situation and make the best of it. A sort of truce has been established between Church and State, although, as in late elections, some of the clergy defied the proclamation

against their interference in politics. These conditions show how ill-timed was the Duke of Orleans' appearance in Paris, and what little chance there is of a reaction. Nevertheless, in France, more than elsewhere, it is the unexpected that is always happening.

The imperial ministerial programme for the session, as foreshadowed in the speech from the throne, shows the change of policy in regard to Ireland. Speeches of ministers during the recess intimated an intention of dealing with the land question and also a modified system of local government. Both measures will be considered as indicating a willingness on the part of the conservative government to meet the wishes of the moderate party in Ireland and do something towards quieting a troublesome parliamentary question. The legislation promised for Scotland is also prepared with the evident intention of counteracting the liberal agitation in that kingdom for reforms of administration. But the most radical part of the new policy to which the ministry is apparently committed is that in reference to England. The question of land transfers is surrounded by extraordinary difficulties. Though reforms in the law have been long discussed, this is the first time a conservative government has had the courage to propose them for a practical test. The influence of the conservative democrats and the rise of the labor party is to be noted in the proposals to legislate regarding the liability of employers, the dwellings of the working people and also with reference to savings banks. Altogether the programme is a courageous one and shows a natural desire to deal with a class of questions that have been coming more and more to the front of late years.

The Pan-American Congress appears likely to come to a more disastrous conclusion than was anticipated some months ago, when its inherent incongruities were pointed out by the Press. The endless jealousies of the South and central American Republics have existed from their beginning and are not likely to be smothered over or eradicated by a Congress of this kind. If after four months' session the net result has been nothing but talk, it is about time the delegates discovered, what appears to be the fact, that there is no common ground of agreement among them. The unseemly row reported in late dispatches is perfectly in keeping with the character and antecedents of the States represented. They never could agree on anything and often went to war with each other on the most flimsy pretexts. It was a grand idea of Mr. Blaine's to bring them together with a view to the establishment of friendly commercial relations, but it seems they have not yet reached a point of development where its realization is possible.

A bill is before the Senate at Washington which contains very sweeping clauses dealing with immigrants. Among other things it provides that every foreign subject going to the United States shall obtain the per-