

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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THE DESERET NEWS,

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 29, 1909.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-ninth annual general Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Sunday, April 4, 1909, at 10 o'clock a.m. A full attendance of the officers and members is hereby requested.

A general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Monday, April 5, beginning at 6 o'clock p.m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

JOHN R. WINDER,

ANTHON H. LUND,

First Presidency.

DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION

The semi-annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will convene at the Tabernacle, Sunday evening, April 4, 1909, at 7 o'clock. All invited.

A special meeting of the stake superintendents will be held at room 301 D. S. college building, Monday, April 5, at 8:15 a.m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

GEORGE REYNOLDS,

DAVID O' M'KAY,

General Superintendent.

RELIEF SOCIETY CONFERENCE.

The April Conference of the Relief Society will be held in the Salt Lake City Assembly Hall, Friday and Saturday, April 3 and 4, 1909; meetings commencing at 10 a.m. and at 2 p.m.

Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock, an officers' meeting will be held in the Fourteenth ward, at which all stake officers of the society, who can, are expected to be present.

Saturday afternoon at 1 will be the closing meeting of the conference. It is desired that there should be a representation from every stake organization and a large attendance of members.

The General Authorities of the Church, and officers and members of the Y. L. M. I. A. and Primary associations are cordially invited to be present at the conference meetings in the Assembly Hall.

BATHSHEBA W. SMITH,

General President.

IDA SMOOT DUSENBERY,

Counselor.

BLAMES THE "MORMONS."

A little sheet that calls itself "Christian Advocate"—though its spirit is essentially anti-Christian—charges that "high officials in church and state have just shamefully betrayed the cause" referring to the fight waged for the redemption of the State from the death-grip of the saloon. The sheet speaks of the perfidy of the "Mormon Church" as manifested in the defeat of temperance forces.

over to those who depend on saloons and red-light districts for votes, but that the management of its affairs be entrusted to good, capable business men, who are willing and able to give the City an honest, clean administration.

NEW LIQUOR ORDINANCE.

The City Council has finally passed a liquor ordinance. The mountain has labored and brought forth something, but nothing more formidable than a mouse.

The new ordinance raises the retail price to \$1.00, which makes it necessary for the saloon keeper to sell that much more liquor, in order to make both ends meet, or to increase his revenue by unlawful means. It makes the temptation to evade the law all the stronger. The ordinance prohibits music and free lunches in the barroom. If an ordinary saloon keeper, with the aid of a shrewd lawyer and a near-sighted police, can not escape this restriction, we know our guess. It also makes it unlawful for women to enter a saloon, even for the purpose of rescuing a wayward son, or a husband, from bad company. It is very convenient, no doubt, at times to have a rule prohibiting women from appearing on the scene. Carrie Nation could not enter a saloon here under that rule; nor the Salvation Army lasses, though they come in the interest of pure philanthropy. Drunkenness is also, mirabile dictu, prohibited. But how the saloon keeper is going to pay his license if he must keep his clients from getting drunk, is a profound mystery.

The ordinance considerably provides for open saloons from 6 o'clock a.m. to 12 o'clock p.m. That is, surely, enough hours for a business that ruins men, body and soul. The churches, to save souls, generally content themselves with a few hours of open house every week. Open saloons and closed churches is the rule; closed saloons and open churches, the exception. On Sundays, the new ordinance says, the saloons must be closed. There must also be an unobstructed view from the street into the saloon. This looks very well, on paper. But the old ordinance, too, has something about Sunday closing. And it is well known how the law in that regard is respected. There is absolutely no reason for hoping anything better in the future, as long as we have an administration that needs the vote of the underworld to maintain itself in power and control of the people's money. The new ordinance is a line with two hooks. One is for the decent citizens; another for the saloon interests. By the regulation features, such as they are, it is hoped to conciliate the part of the community that believes in closing the saloons. By the same features it is hoped to force the saloon interests to vote for men favorable to them, in order to make it easy to evade the regulations. It is a measure intended to work both ways.

It is pointed out that it will give the City an increased revenue of several thousand dollars. But one of the serious objections to any license measure is this that it makes the community profit by the sins of its citizens. By licensing the saloons the community constitutes the saloon keeper its revenue collector. It empowers him to collect from his victims money for municipal purposes, and to pay himself out of the money collected, for his trouble. In Turkey the country is auctioned out in sections to Pashas who pay the government so much for the privilege of gathering in the taxes. They sublet their concessions to others. These gentlemen then take as taxes whatever they can lay their hands on until they are satisfied. They transmit the sum agreed on to the government and keep the rest, very often the larger share of the booty. But that is an iniquitous method of gathering revenue. But is licensing of saloons, for the sake of revenue, essentially different from that truly Turkish method?

The Improvement Era for April has twenty-eight illustrations, and sixteen extra pages of reading matter, making a magazine of one hundred pages. Twenty-five contributors, on a variety of subjects, make the number very interesting. In doctrinal subjects, there is "Personality of the Holy Ghost," by Elder Charles W. Penrose; the Editor speaks on the "Age of the Earth" and "Time—Length of Creation." In descriptive articles, there is the Mantle Temple, illustrated, by Lewis Anderson; "From India's Coral Strand," illustrated by Henry J. Lillie; "Nautilus Today," illustrated, by John Z. Brown, A. B. Other articles are "Hurry" by William George Jordan; "Utah's Holidays," by S. A. Kenner; "St. Paul's Travels in Rome," by Col. E. M. Reeve Thomas; "Reminiscences of Erastus Snow," George H. Crosby, Jr.; and the "Giver of Our Books" by Prof. J. Frank Day. Susa Young Gates contributes a story entitled, "A Double Agony," and Edwin E. Parry's "Herbert Melbourne" is continued. Among the poetry, "Song of Spring," by Lon J. Haddock; "Judge Not," by Harold Goff; "A Prayer and Its Answer," by M. A. Stewart; and "I Can and I Will," by W. H. Appleyer. There are some excellent articles in the "Priesthood Quorums" Table; and music contributed by D. E. Phillips which took the prize in the late Elstreeford "Messages From the Missions" Mutual Work," and "Events and Announcements," make up a number that ought to interest all.

ENTERING FOREST LANDS.

The local activity of the officials of the federal forestry bureau in patrolling the forest reserves and their apparent tardiness in throwing open to settlement some of the areas that may not be needed for forests, has caused some criticism of the policy of the government in forest matters.

As a general thing such criticism is justified. In relation to opportunities for entry by bona fide settlers, the forestry bureau announces that all lands within the forests, which are chiefly valuable for agriculture, and which are not needed for administrative purposes, shall be thrown open to settlement and entry, so that citizens may till them, build homes upon them and finally

ADMISSION TICKETS.

"Oh, mamma! when I get twelve and a half tickets, I will get a big one, and see, I have eleven," and the little one's eyes sparkled with delight. "Sabbath school 'tickets'—how precious, how dearly treasured, how anxious to get that—"big one," as promised by the teacher. Perhaps the modest little "Lily of the Valley" drummed gracefully over the words printed on those tickets—words that tell of previous promises made by a high or teacher. No wonder that the little innocent children trust and confide in such promises with a pure and holy faith. I have called them "admission tickets" because I think it very appropriate. Do they not admit the little ones into the divine truths taught by the great Teacher of nature? Admit them into the kingdom of God? What do you think? Are their thoughts entirely sacred and holy ideas that go hand with their growth and intel-

lectual teachings until their faith is sustained and made perfect by the divine power of a spiritual change, when all things are made clear to their understanding? Then there is the promise of a reward and a life everlasting for those who obey His teachings will surely be fulfilled?

We of the world may well bow our heads in shame when we look upon the face of the little child and there in the reflection of the bright shining from the soul that is pure within trace of a doubt resting there, but trusting with a pure, confident faith in God's precious promises. They have been taught by their Sabbath school teachers that those little tickets admit them to the privilege of entering into the divine kingdom of God's son, His precious promises of a reward, and His followers. By the teachings of His word, their faith is made perfect, and let us pray that the cold usage of the tempest tossed, and unbelieving world may never mar their holy trust and faith in their heavenly Father.

MRS. LOUISE COULSON.

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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We are not surprised that the failure

of the Legislature to meet the reasonable

demand of the people for a practical

prohibition law, is, by the enemies

of the Church, charged to the

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