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

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THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 22, 1901.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-first Annual Conference
of the Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-
ter-day Saints will convene in the
Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday,
April 6, at 10 a. m.LORENZO SNOW,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

MONTHLY FAST.

As the general conference of the
Church will be in session on the first
Sunday in April, the monthly fast which
would otherwise be held on that day,
will be observed on the last Sunday in
March and the fast meetings be held
on that day, March 31, 1901.LORENZO SNOW,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION CON-
FERENCE.The semi-annual conference of the
Deseret Sunday School Union will con-
vene Sunday, April 7th, 1901, at 7 p. m.,
in the Tabernacle. It is desired that
each Stake of Zion be represented at
this meeting, and that Stake superin-
tendents, officers and teachers attend-
ing the General Conference of the
Church be present.A cordial invitation is extended to the
public.GEORGE Q. CANNON,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
General Superintendency,
HORACE S. ENSIGN,
General Secretary.

THE CAUSE OF "THE STORM."

The Salt Lake Tribune is still doing
its utmost to keep up the action be-
fore the country, that the bill which
passed the Legislature and was vetoed
by the Governor was a "Polygamy
bill." The articles from eastern pa-
pers, which it clips from day to day,
contain the same error, and the un-
favorable comments they offer are
based on that mistake. Of course the
Tribune knows better, but it still uses
the same expression in its references to
the bill, and evades the objection raised
by the Deseret News against the mis-
leading title, by abusive and sophisti-
cal language entirely irrelevant to the
subject.As a sample of the sort of argument
used by that paper, we reproduce, ver-
batim and entire, the following editor-
ial from this morning's issue:"The News insists that the reason the
Eastern press grew furious over the
Evans bill was because the purpose of
the bill was not understood. It seems
that it was thoroughly understood in
some places, at least. For instance, the
Mail and Express had this to say of it:"This bill, while ostensibly designed
merely to permit Mormons to live with
plural wives whom they married before
the Mormon Church issued its manifes-
to against polygamy, is in reality
meant to encourage, extend and pro-
tect the system of plural marriages
throughout the State. To this end the
measure provides that no prosecution
for polygamy shall be instituted except
on the complaint of the legal wife or
the plural wives of the accused—or, in
other words, that the criminal shall not
be prosecuted except on the accusation
of his associates in crime.""Could the real meaning of that meas-
ure be more fully stated by Senator
Evans himself? And was it strange
that a storm began to gather when it
was first announced to the country
that a Utah Legislature was consider-
ing such a proposition, and later that
both houses had passed it?"Now, observe. The Mail and Express
states that the Evans bill "provides
that no prosecution for polygamy shall
be instituted, except on the complaint
of the legal wife or the plural wives of
the accused," which is as complete a
misconception of the truth as is pos-
sible to be conveyed in the same num-
ber of words. Yet the Tribune says
the matter is "thoroughly understood"
by the Mail and Express.The bill did not affect in the least
any prosecution for polygamy. It did
not propose to change the penalty, or
the manner of prosecuting the offense.
It related to other matters. The chief
crime in the prosecution for which
the bill aimed to make some changes, is
one against which New York, where
the Mail and Express is published, pro-
vides no penalty whatever. The Utah
statute inflicts a penalty of three years
imprisonment on the convicted de-
fendant. But the Evans proposition
was that the complaint must be made
by the injured party or the father, moth-
er or near relative of that party. Not
the defendant's relatives, mind you.
There is where the Mail and Ex-
press blunders again, but the Tribune
declares that paper "thoroughly un-
derstands it" and also that, "its realmeaning could not be more tersely
stated by Senator Evans himself."
The Tribune asks whether it is
"strange that a storm began to gather,
when it was first announced to the
country that a Utah Legislature was
considering such a proposition, and
later that both houses had passed it."
Of course, it is not strange. But the
announcement was a willful falsehood.
The Legislature never contemplated
anything like that which was an-
nounced to the country, and did not
pass such a measure. No "polygamy
bill" was introduced. No proposition to
"legalize polygamy" was made. There
was no intention to change in any way
the law against "polygamy." There was
no movement or hint or thought to-
ward the "re-establishment of poly-
gamy," either when a "Gentile" Rep-
resentative Glasman, presented his
too comprehensive measure, or when
Senator Evans proposed his plan to
stop needless agitation in Utah.The "storm" was brewed in this city.
It grew out of false materials sup-
plied by the Tribune, and by the au-
thors of special dispatches to the lead-
ing papers of the country. There is the
source of most of the agitations that
arise from misrepresentations of facts
and purposes in Utah. No harm may en-
sue from this tempest. But that does
not absolve the libelers from the guilt
of their deceptions. The great Teacher
declared of old, "Offenses must needs
come, but woe unto them by whom they
come."

POPULATION OF THE WORLD.

Estimates of the total population of
the earth place the number, at the be-
ginning of this century, at 1,540,000,000
inhabitants. The figure is, of course,
only a rough guess. The inhabitants
of the Americas are estimated at 142-
000,000, of which 104,000,000 are allotted
to North America. Europe has about
390,000,000 people. These figures may be
regarded as approximately correct,
though the number of aborigines both
in North and South America cannot
be given with any great precision. The
population of Asia is a matter of dis-
pute. British India contains about
244,000,000 inhabitants. As for Africa,
there is no census on which to base
calculations. In the absence of reliable
data for the greatest portion of the
world, it would seem preposterous
to even venture a guess, but the prob-
ability is that the estimate that places
the total number of inhabitants at a
billion and a half is rather over than
under the true mark.Political economists have often specu-
lated as to the time when the human
race would be too numerous for the
habitable area of the globe, but there
appears to be no immediate cause for
alarm on that account. Increase of
population does not progress with
mathematical precision. Famine, pesti-
lence and wars, at intervals carry off
large portions of the race. Decrease
of the birthrate is another factor to
take into account. Ancient races die
out and leave room for others. Entire
nations remain stationary for years
and centuries.It has been calculated that the United
States at the beginning of another cen-
tury will have 300,000,000 inhabitants,
and that may be a conservative esti-
mate. But it does not follow that the
people of every other country will in-
crease at a similar ratio. The Archi-
tect of the world, who placed His
children in this habitation has long ago
determined both the boundaries of their
dwelling and the time of their occupa-
tion, all for certain purposes. The only
rational view is that the size of the
habitable world is fixed by the same
Architect with a perfect knowledge of
the purposes to be accomplished.

LION'S DISPUTE WITH BEAR.

The friction between Russia and
Great Britain on account of a little dis-
pute about territory at Tien Tsin, is
over. The disputants have compro-
mised by agreeing to withdraw from
the ground over which the difficulty
arose, and submit the question of own-
ership to future examination. Both
parties are for the time being satisfied
with this arrangement.There could be no other outcome of
this dispute. Neither of the two pow-
ers is in a position to precipitate a
great war over a trifle. The world at
large, England included, has settled
down to the fact that Russia is actual-
ly taking possession of northern China,
and that protests against this are of
no avail. The only thing for the other
powers to do is to help themselves to
other portions of the doomed empire.
And in all probability Japan is booked
for the next great move. There will be
some protests, some bluffing, but the
end of it will be that Great Britain and
Germany will follow suit.It sounds simple enough to cut up a
country and distribute the fragments
among the various powers, but when
the difficulties of establishing govern-
ments over conquered countries are
remembered, it can easily be realized
that the greatest problems remain to
be solved, after the land grabbing is all
done. Each country receives millions of
subjects entertaining the most bitter
contempt and hatred for the conquer-
ers. How many soldiers will it require
to keep peace and order in such coun-
tries? Will the income of the annexed
territory pay for the maintenance of
the military, or are the tax-paying
Europeans to be required to carry still
heavier military burdens? Those are
questions the future must answer.Had wise counsel prevailed, the pow-
ers would have withdrawn after therescue of the Pekin legations, and the
agreement on a suitable indemnity for
actual damage done. But the boxer
uprising was made the excuse for an-
nexation of Chinese territory, and all
the delay in the negotiations has served
but one purpose, to make it more dif-
ficult to withdraw. China is being in-
vaded without even a declaration of
war. It is being broken up and divid-
ed without even a regular battle. The
world's history does not furnish such
another instance of "conquest."

SIBERIA MODERNIZED.

From early childhood people have
been accustomed to regard Siberia as a
cold, forbidding region of the earth, fit
for nothing but penal colonies. This
idea must now be abandoned. The
United States consul at Moscow, Mr.
Smith, reports that there are numerous
cities in Siberia, with from 10,000 to
50,000 inhabitants. There are numerous
modern hotels and restaurants. Elec-
tric lights and telephones are plentiful.
Elegant vestibule trains are traversing
the country—trains supplied with baths,
dining cars, pianos, etc. And the cost
of travel is remarkably low. The tour-
ist can travel from Moscow to Irkutsk,
3,200 miles, for \$14.Generally speaking, people have er-
roneous ideas as to the progress of civi-
lization in Russia. The country is
looked upon as half barbarous. While
it may be true that the form of gov-
ernment is antiquated, and that there
is much ignorance among the common
people, it is also true, that western
civilization has made wonderful prog-
ress among the upper and middle class-
es of the czar's subjects. Despotism is
as natural to the Slav, as is free gov-
ernment to the Anglo-Saxon. But this
does not prevent the progress of civi-
lization. Only it proceeds from above
and penetrates slowly to the lower
strata. It comes from the throne to the
people, instead of from the people itself.
The progress noted in Siberia is an
indication of the future possibilities of
that vast stretch of country. As it be-
comes more thickly populated, it can-
not fail to become an important market
for American western products. This
country should continue that friendly
relation to Russia, which is necessary
for an interchange of products.

TO REVISE THE OATH.

The prospects are good for a revision
of the oath of allegiance King Edward
will be required to take on the occasion
of his coronation. Cardinal Vaughan
protested against the part of it which
Catholics consider an insult to them,
and the protest appears to be well
taken. The oath stigmatizes them as
superstitious and idolatrous, and insin-
uates that they are hypocrites. It is
clearly against the spirit of the age for
a king to say this to millions of his
subjects, many of whom hold important
positions in the state. The proposition
to appoint a committee to revise the
oath will undoubtedly lead to the elimi-
nation of the objectionable clause.King Edward holds a peculiar posi-
tion ecclesiastically. Kings and princes
appear to be able to change religion with
great facility, as political or other con-
siderations demand. A Lutheran prince
will embrace the Greek faith, in order
to be permitted to wear the crown of
Greece, and a Protestant princess will
change faith to become the bride of a
czar. They would probably turn Mo-
hammedans for similar potent reasons.
But the British king is the head of two
churches at one time, and is bound, by
the spirit of the age to tolerate a third,
not to say anything about numerous
others. In Scotland, the king is vir-
tually Presbyterian, while in England
he is the head of the Anglican church.
That is a unique position. While the
committee on revision is at work, the
suggestion might as well be made that
the law itself be revised, and that the
king be accorded the liberty enjoyed by
the humblest of his subjects, to belong
to whatever faith he might choose.There is much speculation as to the
probable attitude of the new king to-
ward the nonconformist churches. It
is recalled that these in years past
have been severe in their denunciations
of the prince, and that he was not in-
sensible to what he termed their "sys-
tematic slander," and "torrent of
abuse." Should his majesty remember
these things too well, there is likely
to be friction, for the nonconformist
element is strong in the United King-
dom.It is predicted that church and state
will be completely separated in Great
Britain in the near future, and this
would be the best that could happen.
Then all churches would be placed on
an equal footing, and the king be free
in the exercise of religious duties. It
is rather strange that in a country with
free institutions, an obsolete combina-
tion of things temporal and eternal still
is maintained, in spite of the long agi-
tation that has been going on for the
separation of church and state.The higher education—adding two
mills to the school tax.The powers at Pekin all seem to be
suffering from nervous prostration.Salt Lake City is still lacking a Car-
negie library and a lecture by Wu Ting
Fang.New Orleans has just established a
new industry—that of making antique
furniture."Chicagoans should drop the 'TIL'"
says the Times-Herald. It certainly
does look bad.Just as soon as that new election bill
becomes law, illiterate Marylanders
will cease to sing, "Maryland, My
Maryland."The right-of-way fight between the
local street railway companies isn't in
it with the right-of-way quarrel for a
siding at Tien Tsin.An exchange has a learned article on
the "Psychology of Cranes." There is
another side to the picture, the crazes
of psychologists.If the indemnities to be demanded of
China are so large that she cannot pay
them, then the goose that lays the gold-
en eggs will simply be killed.And now it is said that Mr. Carnegie
is to give Philadelphia five million dol-lars for library purposes. This will be
true brotherly love for that city.Judging from the action of his
generals at the Tien Tsin siding it is
pretty plain that this year King Ed-
ward intends to ride a cycle of Cathay.At the Pan-American exposition at
Buffalo there is to be held a congress
of trained nurses. Already they are
parading the fact. The drilling will
come in September.In California the great question at
present is the cornering of the prune
market. It assumes importance when
it is remembered that prunes are to be
seen upon the table of every boarding
house in the land.There is to be a conference of the
South and Central American republics
in the City of Mexico next October. It
will have to accomplish some very
great work to achieve the fame that
the Panama conference did.A man held in the Dallas, Texas,
jail has voluntarily confessed that he
was one of the kidnapers of young
Cudahy, and his statement is doubted.
Had he stoutly denied all knowledge of
the crime his statement would have
been disbelieved by most people. A
strange creature is the public.That was good advice of Secretary
Olney's and had it always been followed
it is quite probable that there would
have been no situation in China today.
Missionary zeal should always be tem-
pered with conservatism and common
sense; but that has not always been the
case.What, with the Ogden Standard and
the Provo Enquirer, both Republicans,
organs, showing up the perversity of
their party contemporary in this city,
it has its hands full and running over,
and so makes a terrible mess of its ef-
forts to meet their well grounded at-
tacks. It's a very pretty quarrel and
so far our country contemporaries have
very much the best of it.There died in Harpswell, Me., a few
days ago, the Rev. Elijah Kellogg. At
one time he was famous as the author
of that first of Friday afternoon speak-
ing pieces, "Spartacus to the Gladi-
ators." A generation ago in Utah every
boy above the age of fifteen had de-
clared that place a dozen or more
times. It is an inspiring piece and it
made the boy who declaimed it feel as
though he was a gladiator and admired
all of Rome.The Indiana legislature has endeav-
ored to put a stop to lynching, by pass-
ing a law which deposes any sheriff
who allows a prisoner to be taken from
him for summary punishment by a mob,
and it makes him, furthermore, in-
eligible to re-election or reappoint-
ment to office, the right being reserved
to the governor to reinstate him, how-
ever, if, after a hearing, he is con-
vinced that the sheriff did all in his
power to protect the life of his pris-
oner. This will all be ineffectual to pre-
vent lynchings unless it is backed up
by a strong public sentiment that de-
mands there shall be no lynchings.In the last number of the Independent
an article by Herr von Brandt, for-
merly German minister to China, en-
titled "China and the Missionaries." In
expressing his own views as to the
harm done by some of the missionaries
in the orient, he says:"Responsible statesmen in America
and England, who are in a position to
know the true facts of all cases, can
be quoted in support of my argument.
Secretary Olney directed the American
minister resident at Seoul, in January,
1896, to advise the missionaries to limit
themselves merely to missionary work,
instruction in schools, preaching
the gospel, the care of souls and the
sick; and where this advice is not en-
forced by the directors of mission or-
ganizations, it needs to be by the en-
voys of governments. If their countries
are not to be dragged into discomf-
orting entanglements with the East Asi-
atics."

CARNEGIE'S BENEFACTIONS.

St. Paul Globe.
The grand example which Mr. Car-
negie is setting to the rich men of the
country surely cannot be wholly lost
upon them. Many of them will no doubt
leave a more or less large proportion of
their possessions after death to one or
other public institutions. But the ex-
perience of the two men with whose
memory the public libraries of the
great cities will be identified embodies in
itself a lesson which should not be lost
on any public-spirited man of wealth
who contemplates devoting any portion
of his wealth to public uses.Omaha World-Herald.
Andrew Carnegie's \$5,000,000 bequest
to old employees is all right and entitles
him to great credit, but he would have
been entitled to more credit if he had
raised their wages from time to time as
the state of his governmental benefits
permitted. American workmen are not
given to asking charity if they are
accorded fair wages for their work
when employed.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mr. Carnegie has no doubt noted the
defect in the Passmore Edwards meth-
od. He has guarded against similar fail-
ure by requiring not only that the site
be furnished by the beneficiary city, but
that security be also given that the li-
brary will be properly maintained. A
handsome and convenient building does
not make a good library, any more
than a collection of pretentious struc-
tures constitutes a successful college.
Books and intelligent management are
as necessary to the one as students
and an efficient faculty are to the other.
Good buildings are important aids
in both cases, but they are not the
whole thing.Springfield Republican.
Mr. Carnegie as 250 times a million-
aire is a condition, not a theory. As a
condition, as a fact to be accepted and
made the best of, his spirit and pur-
poses are to be most warmly applaud-
ed, and his example is to be commended
to all other wealthy people. If there
be an essential element of demoraliza-
tion in the situation thus created, we
are to hope and expect that the good
will far outweigh it. But as a theory
of society or industrial government, the
250-times-a-millionaire, even when a
philanthropist, is not ideal, and is to be
worked away from as rapidly as possi-
ble.Boston Transcript.
Business operations and business re-
turns have reached colossal figures in
this country, but fortunately, the Pac-
tification streams do not all run in one
direction. Mr. Andrew Carnegie has
been one of the world's greatest accu-
mulators and he now seems to be real-
izing the responsibilities of wealth and
has begun to dispense or distribute his
possessions on a princely scale. Per-
haps it is not just to him to say that
he has begun, because the gifts that

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satisfy the most discriminating taste. It will pay
you to investigate our Spring offerings.

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he has already bestowed would make
a number of good-sized fortunes; but
his latest benefaction is of a magni-
tude that throws into the shade any of
his previous single philanthropies, and
emphasizes more than any other act of
his has done his views upon the ethics
and responsibilities of great wealth.New York Evening Sun.
Mr. Andrew Carnegie's benefactions
are overpowering. When a man who
has just given away \$1,000,000 to be used
as a pension fund for his old employees
and \$1,000,000 for the maintenance of
libraries near Pittsburgh, and follows up
those gifts with an offer to build sixty-
five branch library buildings for the
people of New York, which will cost
him \$5,200,000, he must be hailed as one
of the greatest philanthropists of this
or any other age. "I have only just be-
gun this library business," says Mr.
Carnegie. Yet he had already founded
a great many. If there is a better way
for a man of wealth to spend his
money, we don't know what it is.Kansas City Star.
Mr. Carnegie may, with the utmost
propriety, make endowments in Pitts-
burg and New York, which have con-
tributed vastly to his wealth, and it is
fitting enough that he should build
monuments to himself, in the shape of
public libraries in the various smaller
towns which would not acquire those
institutions in the absence of aid from
outside. Kansas City is a different
proposition altogether. It is strong and
vigorous and able to help itself to any-
thing it needs.

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even as much as asked for them.
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good ones made with pierced
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have solid backs.
Then when you get them wet
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