

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 23, 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.

The first Sunday of April being conference it is suggested that Sunday, March 29, be observed as fastday in Salt Lake, Emalg, Pioneer, Liberty, Granite, and Jordan stakes.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY 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 L. D. S. college building, Monday, April 5, at 8:15 a. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOSEPH REYNOLDS,
DAVID O'NEAL,
General Superintendency.

RELIEF SOCIETY CONFERENCE.

The April Conference of the Relief Society will be held in the Salt Lake City Assembly Hall, Friday, Saturday, April 2 and 3, 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 2 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. L. 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 DUSENBERRY,
Counselor.

THE GOVERNOR'S VETO.

The Governor has finally decided to veto the liquor bill passed by the Legislature before adjournment. The Herald, which all along seems to have been the mouth of Senator Kuebler, this morning foretold, presumably, the reasons for this veto. The bill, we are told, was shrewdly and carefully framed by Senator Rudolph Kuebler of Weber county. One of his amendments provided that, "the provisions of the act should be operative in cities of more than 12,000 inhabitants only when the legal voters of such cities shall have voted in favor of prohibition. The joker in the amendment," according to the Herald story, "was that it did not say 'a majority of the voters of such cities.' Under a strict construction, the vote for prohibition must be unanimous. Then, too, it said 'the provisions of this act' so that the regulation measures as applied to cities of more than 12,000 inhabitants were not operative unless the voters should declare unanimously in favor of prohibition, and then, of course, there would be no need of regulation features."

We believe the prohibitionists would be perfectly willing to take a chance on this construction of the law. The legal voters of a city vote in favor of any measure or person, when a majority of them do so. According to the Constitution: "The officers provided for . . . shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State," but that does not mean by the unanimous vote of the "qualified electors; it means a majority vote, as is expressly stated. The same construction might be placed on the Kuebler amendment characterized as a joke. The joke might be on him, and not on the people.

Another feature relied upon to furnish a reason for the veto is the neglect of providing for an appropriation to carry out its provisions. This may be of a more serious nature. But during the conflict in the Senate for the passage of the bill the threat was made to adjourn without attending to any appropriations at all, in order to force the convening of an extra session. The reply to this was that no extra session would be called, and that a deficit of a couple of million dollars would be created rather than to have an extra session. The friends of prohibition felt that if a deficit of \$2,000,000 could be created to prevent further liquor legislation, a deficit of \$30,000—and that was all that was needed—would not have been a great matter, in favor of liquor regulation.

We are sorry that Governor Spry did not see his way clear to accede to the

demands of the people. Who counsel would have urged him to do so, as we believe, will become clear in the future.

THE PAYNE TARIFF BILL.

On the free list are placed animals imported by citizens for breeding purposes; stuffed birds; blinding twine manufactured from New Zealand hemp, manilla, Tapaio fiber, etc.; books; engravings, photographs, maps, music; coffee; colic; copper ore; iron ore; certain drugs; paper stock; certain seeds; shrimps and shell fish; silk, raw or as reeled from the cocoon; wearing apparel; articles of personal adornment; toilet articles; and similar personal effects of persons arriving in the United States; wood logs and round manufactured timber, including pulp woods, firewood, bundle bobs, gun blocks for gunstocks rough hewn or sawed or planed on one side, hop poles, ship timber and ship planking; works of art, drawings, engravings, etc., brought by professional artists, and also philosophical and scientific apparatus and works of art; the production of American artists residing temporarily abroad, as well as such works imported for presentation to a national institution, or to state or municipal corporations or religious societies, colleges, etc.

The duty on tea is to be 8 cents a pound; the duty on refined sugar is reduced five cents per 100 pounds; on shoes the reduction is 40 per cent; on lumber 50 per cent; on steel 50 per cent; on iron the reduction is from \$4.00 to \$2.50 per ton; on zinc ore the duty is changed from 20 per cent ad valorem to 1 cent per pound; lead ore is reduced from 1 1/2 cents to 1 cent per pound; on furs the increase is from 20 per cent to 37 1/2 per cent ad valorem; the duty on threads, carpets, coal, shirts, collars, hides, meat, lard, leather, and agricultural implements is slightly reduced; on printing paper there is a substantial reduction. The duty on fruit and manufactures of hair is increased. The tax on beer is unchanged.

It is estimated that the revenue under this tariff will amount to about \$300,000,000.

One striking feature of this bill is the provision for an inheritance tax. Briefly stated, it provides that on inheritances of from \$10,000 to \$100,000, three per cent be paid to the state.

It is expected that under this bill with normal conditions restored, the deficit in the treasury will be wiped out but if it is not, Panama Canal bonds will be issued to the amount of \$400,000,000, and this, it is supposed, will make up for any possible deficiency.

Chairman Payne, in explaining the measure, said, in part:

"The new tariff bill is a minimum and maximum tariff bill. The minimum rates of duty are contained in the first section and the free list for the minimum rates is in the second section of the bill. The third section contains the maximum rates, which are generally equal to the minimum rates and 20 per cent in addition thereto, and the articles on the free list, in the transfer to the third section, bear a duty of 20 per cent ad valorem as a maximum rate.

"By the fourth section the minimum rates are applied to all goods imported from any country which gives the United States as good terms by way of tariff as that given to any other nation, and the maximum rates are applied to those countries which discriminate against the trade of the United States or fail to give the United States tariff rates as favorable as those given any other nation. This section is self-acting, making it the duty of the Executive to collect the duties, whether minimum or maximum, in accordance with the terms of the bill, leaving it open to the courts to decide upon the legality of the action."

It is quite clear that it is the determined intention of President Taft to have the tariff revised downward. Following immediately his short and sensible message on tariff revision, the bill itself was introduced, and the protected interests immediately raised a great outcry that it goes too far.

The exact features of the bill are not yet fully known, but it seems certain that it is a measure intended to effect a number of changes that are needed by the country and that were more or less definitely promised by the Republican candidate and other speakers during the campaign.

As compared with the rates on the Dingley law, the duties on iron and steel are cut in half, those on wool and woolen goods reduced, those on leather and lumber made lower by 50 per cent, and the rates on glass are put down, the conclusion cannot be avoided that here we have a serious attempt to revise the tariff downward.

In general, we believe this is what the country expects and is looking forward to with interest and satisfaction.

COST OF LIVING.

The problem of meeting the ever soaring cost of living is one that our statesmen must face, sooner or later. No matter how excellent our form of government is; no matter how far advanced we may be in the correct theory of government, unless the great class of citizens who depend on their daily toil for a living receive wages in proportion to the necessary expenses, there will be dissatisfaction, agitation, and danger in the state.

According to the figures published the "annual per capita cost of the necessities of daily consumption" was from \$14.31 in 1896 to \$19.28 in 1904. Coal which cost \$4.50 a ton in 1896 cost \$4.50 a ton in 1904. Manufactured commodities were 12 per cent higher in 1904 than ten years before. "All commodities" averaged 24 per cent higher. Rents have soared everywhere.

Wages, too, increased in many industries during that decade, but in very few instances did they increase in proportion to the increased cost of living. A government bulletin on wages shows that in 1906 the weekly wages of 334,000 persons working in 4,000 establishments were 33.1 per cent higher than in 1896, while the cost of all commodities was 35 per cent higher. Wages increased 2.8 per cent in 1906 over 1905, while the cost of commodities increased 5.9 per cent.

All of which simply means that thousands of hard-working people are finding it more and more difficult to make both ends meet, though they earn more than they did formerly. It means that wages, though apparently

raised, are cut on account of the increase in the price of the necessities of life. It means discouragement to the workman who always finds himself in the midst of a hard struggle for existence, no matter how much wealth is piled up around him. And yet, the country depends upon its working men, as a building depends upon its foundations for safety and permanency.

THE GERMAN RAILROADS.

Interesting facts concerning the railroads of Germany have just come to hand.

According to a report dated March 18th of this year, by Consul Will L. Lowrie, of Erfurt, the German people are more frequent travelers now than they were ten years ago.

He shows that in 1897 each person in the Empire was satisfied to make thirteen railroad journeys in that year; but in 1907 this number had increased to twenty-one journeys. The average distance traveled in these respective years at each journey was respectively 29.87 and 22.88 kilometers. A kilometer is a little more than six-tenths of a mile.

The increase in standard gage mileage was likewise considerable, rising from 47,110 to 56,420 kilometers.

Government ownership practically keeps pace with railroad growth, decreasing from 92.5 per cent of the total in 1897 to 92.5 per cent in 1907.

With a total area of 540,775 square kilometers, Germany had 270 kilometers of railroad in 1897 for each square kilometer of territory, and in 1907 10.29 kilometers. In the former year the Empire had 33,619,000 inhabitants and in the latter 62,089,000, so that in 1897 there were 8.79 kilometers of railroad for each 10,000 people, and in 1907, 9.55 kilometers.

Passenger traffic shows a large increase, 58.2 per cent; but the average revenue from a certain amount of passenger service furnished to each traveler fell from 106 to 90.

It is interesting to observe one great contrast between German and American passenger travel. There are five classes of tickets sold by the German railroads, including the special rates to the military. There are four grades of accommodation, from the first-class compartments upholstered in red plush to the fourth-class cars which are fitted with wooden benches. Second-class compartments are different from the first class only in the coloring of the upholstery, which is gray instead of red. The third-class compartments are not upholstered, but are the most used by the traveling public. The same car may be divided into three different classes. The fastest, or "D," trains carry only first or first and second class cars and a supplemental fare is charged, corresponding to the extra payment for limited trains in the United States. Fourth-class cars are supplied on the slow accommodation trains only, and the fare is very low.

This division into grades has many advantages but has not been exploited in this country. The rates of travel may thus be varied considerably according to one's inclination and circumstances.

Brevity is the soul of "wit."

Generally a legal fiction is an actual lie.

Bon voyage to the Knight of the Lions.

Riches, birds and aeroplanes have wings.

Will "bumble puppies" have to be licensed?

Will Col. Roosevelt be lionized by Leo Africanus?

Few people know themselves; no one knows anyone else.

While Whittia has suddenly become the rose of Sharon, Pa.

There is no revenue to be raised from taxing one's memory.

A liar sometimes obtains credit where an honest man does not.

The man who lives on his wife has the witness for his patrons.

Danger lurks in eggs," says a physician. Turkey-turkey, probably.

Donkeybrook fair was a peace meeting to what the tariff debate bids fair to be.

These continual cuts in wages are knocking the plumbings from under prosperity.

France politely informs Uncle Sam that tariff revision is a game at which two can play.

"Be just before you are generous," is the elegant expression of "Look out for number one."

There are just as good fish in the sea as ever were caught, but they are rapidly growing less.

We are not nearly so much interested in the Balkan war cloud as in the clouds that overhang our own city.

The history of the battle of Dunking has been written, but who will write that of the battle of the Baltic, and when?

The Legislature refused to heed the constitutional injunction, sixty days shall their labor and rest on the scrapheap.

The Germans do not seem to be in the least alarmed over the British per-

il. Their attitude is that of stolid indifference.

New York is to have moving sidewalks. This will be a great help to the police. They won't have to say to the people, "Move on."

Mayer Brandford has been in Los Angeles studying the ways and methods of that municipality. Does his honor approve of the recall?

Let the campaign of education for prohibition begin immediately and let it be continued until prohibition shall be embodied in the statutes of the State.

A majority of the members of the Philippine assembly are said to fear that closer trade relations with the United States, which will lead to closer political relations, will interfere with the ultimate independence of the islands. And the crocodile sheds tears before snapping off the heads of its victims.

REGARD FOR LAW.

Edward Cooper in London Daily News. What is this risk of hasty legislation about which we hear every day now? What serious harm could the rashest parliament do me personally, for instance? The average man attaches a preposterous amount of importance to an act of parliament, which is nothing, in fact, but a mass of costly very confused words, with purely conventional and in all parts of the act which matters highly doubtful meaning; while the judges who administer it are almost helpless before me if I refuse to pay any attention to what they say. I would wager a considerable sum that few men in this country go through the week without disobeying at least three solemnly-enacted laws of the land, for which they would incur severe penalties if some passer-by in search of a joke chose to prosecute them.

A GREAT COUNTRY.

New York Journal of Commerce. Apropos of Judge Gary's remarks on the greatness of this country, a man given to dabbling in impressive statistics remarked recently: "Yes, it is a great country—much greater than we are apt to realize. 'Why, take one State, Texas, and consider its magnitude. Do you know that the area of Texas is 268,780 square miles, which is equal to 170,000,000 acres? Split this into lots equivalent to those in New York City, that is to say, 30 per acre, and you have 5,696,000 lots. Now, the population of the world is estimated at 2,300,000,000, but add 30 per cent to make sure, nobody will be left out, and the total is 2,990,000,000. Give every man, woman and child in the world a building lot in Texas and there would still remain an excess of 641,084 lots. The allowance of 20 lots per acre provides amply for highways. Yet," he added, "Alaska is about double the size of Texas."

JUST FOR FUN

Thrift.

Customer—Please, mister, I can't remember what you sent me for, but you can give me 2 cents' worth of peppermint candy, 'cause she said I could keep the change.—Century.

Heard in the Barber Shop.

"Our charges are the lowest in town," observed the barber. "Cut rates, eh?" said the customer, as he looked at his lacerated chin in the glass.—Judge.

The Cause.

Bell—That young Dr. Wilson calls on the little Widow Black every day.

Sell—She must be very ill.

Bell—No, very pretty.—Exchange.

Two Views.

The Theorist—Don't you believe always in the open door?

The Realist—Well, not in cold weather.—Baltimore American.

No Longer SUI.

Jones—Is your son still on the stage?

Powell—No; he has a speaking part now.—Judge.

BOTH PHONES 3569

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NOTE—This is an independent house—our pictures cannot be sent elsewhere—not in the trust.

The Legislature refused to heed the constitutional injunction, sixty days shall their labor and rest on the scrapheap.

The Germans do not seem to be in the least alarmed over the British per-

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When sprinkling your lawn use Electric Hose, it's lighter, easier to handle, and wears longer than most hose.

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GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS

MAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED

Weather Forecast for Today: Local Showers.

To Men of Critical Ideas Regarding Dress

Gardner's annual exposition of authoritative fashions in men's wear is now in progress; the undisputed leadership of this store renders the event of exceptional interest to Salt Lake's male contingent, emphasizing as it does the transition from one style-period to another.

"Not How Cheap But How Good"

is the motto of