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SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 30, 1905.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Seventy-fifth annual Conference
of the Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-
ter-day Saints will convene on Thurs-
day, the 6th of April, and adjourn Fri-
day afternoon until Sunday morning,
and close Sunday afternoon.A general Priesthood meeting will
be held on Friday night, commencing
at 7:30.The special Priesthood meeting for the
General and Presiding Authorities of
the Church will be held in the Assem-
bly Hall on Saturday morning, at 10
o'clock.JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency.The general semi-annual conference
of the Deseret Sunday School Union
will be held in the Tabernacle, Salt
Lake City, Sunday, April 9, 1905, at 7
o'clock, p. m. Officers and Sunday
school workers are requested to attend
and all are cordially invited.JOSEPH F. SMITH,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
JOSEPH M. TANNER,
General Superintendency.

FALSEHOOD DIES HARD.

Some of our eastern exchanges make
reference to the speeches delivered at
the Mothers' Congress recently held in
Washington, when that immaculate
promoter of "The Purity of the Home,"
Fred T. Dubois, of Idaho notoriety, re-
told his stereotyped falsehoods about
the "Mormon" Church and its leaders,
and impressed the lady president of the
assembly, Mrs. Schott, so that she re-
lated and emphasized some of the un-
truths which he presented. She de-
clared that the doctrines of the "Mor-
mon" Church are being taught in all
the public schools of Utah and referred
in support of her assertions, to the tes-
timony given by the State Superintendent
of Public Schools before the commit-
tee on privileges and elections, of
which Senator Dubois is a member.What the Mormon-hating Senator
from Idaho may say in the presence of
the mothers or the daughters in the
East in regard to our people and their
character, we care very little about.
It is a pity, however, that ladies like
the president of the Mothers' Congress
should be trapped into endorsing and
repeating his lies. Also that reputa-
ble public journals should be led into
copying such untruths and thus become
the means of disseminating egregious
errors.A little fair investigation will show
beyond a doubt that neither "Mormon-
ism" nor any other religion or religious
tenet is taught in any public school in
the entire State of Utah. The testi-
mony given by the State Superintendent
of schools before the committee was
to the effect that in many of the school-
houses, what are called Religion Classes
were held, after school hours and en-
tirely separate from school tuition; that
once a week such classes were held, in
a number of places, composed of chil-
dren who chose to attend. This was
where the school trustees gave permis-
sion for the use of the schoolhouse, as
they might for a lecture or entertain-
ment, without any connection whatever
with the public school tuition. But for
one unfortunate expression, the word
schools instead of schoolhouses being
spoken by the Superintendent, neither
Senator Dubois nor Mrs. Schott could
find in the examination the slightest ex-
cuse for the use to which they have
put the testimony.Even the inference that might be
drawn by people not acquainted with
the facts in the case, that somehow
the holding of these classes once a
week after school hours, with a
voluntary attendance of such
children as wished to be present, had a
tendency to mix religion with secular
teaching in the public schools—a very
far-fetched deduction, it is now put
entirely out of the question by the
withdrawal of those classes from the
school buildings, so that no possible
excuse can be found for confusing the
two separate and distinct things in
any manner. Those classes are now
conducted in places entirely separate
and distinct from the district school-
houses, and so the nonsensical notions
that have prevailed to some extent
concerning the matter are completely
dispelled.We do not charge any of the ladies
associated with the Mothers' Congress
with willfully publishing falsehoods
concerning the people of Utah. But
by repeating such untruths as those
that were spoken by their President,
who might have learned the facts from
the record, if she had been disposed
to do so, they are engaged in bearing
false witness and in echoing the slan-
ders of malignant politicians, who are
using them and the funds which they
manage to obtain for the purpose, and
are thus doing the work of him who
was denounced by the Savior of man-kind as the Father of lies, and whom
Christ will conquer at last.The papers which publish the un-
truths to which we have referred con-
cerning the teaching of "Mormonism"
in the public schools of Utah, can very
easily find out the truth if they desire
to do so. The constitution and laws of
the State provide against such instruc-
tion, and the "Mormon" Church is just
as much opposed to religious teaching
in the public schools as any secular
body or legislative enactment can pos-
sibly be. It seems as though the op-
ponents of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints are driven always
to the use of falsehood in order to
make their fight, and that to us is a
sure sign of the weakness and ultimate
failure of their cause.

AS TO "TAINTED" MONEY.

A rather curious discussion has aris-
en concerning Mr. Rockefeller's prin-
ciple donations for benevolent purposes.
Congregational ministers are protest-
ing against the acceptance by a mis-
sionary board, of \$100,000 offered by the
gentleman for the conversion of pa-
gans. The protestants evidently do not
consider the money honestly earned,
and they do not, we presume, believe in
stealing a goose and donating the en-
tails to the Lord, as the late Mr. C. H.
Spurgeon used to characterize a certain
kind of benevolence.It is urged by these protestants that
a missionary society cannot consistently
accept money from a business con-
cern which is under suspicion of em-
ploying "methods morally iniquitous
and socially destructive, because the ac-
ceptance implies the ignoring of moral
issues involved." The ministers claim
that the spirit of protest is widespread
among their people, and cannot be ig-
nored in the conduct of the missions in
lands to which the contributors in this
country must be honorable partners for
the shaping of the lives of people con-
verted to the better way.This, certainly, appears to be an ideal
platform. But can that principle be
applied in every case? Can a missionary
board always know whether an offered
donation is "tainted" or not? Are they
the infallible searchers of hearts and
motives, and can they be just in their
discrimination? Most of the rich men
of the country are connected with cor-
porations whose business methods are
not essentially different from those of
the Standard Oil company. Who is to
decide what money to accept and what
to reject, on moral grounds? As for
the Master Himself, He was not about
accepting the hospitality of Zacchaeus
of Jericho, who was "a chief publican"
of whom it is specially stated that "he
was rich." We make no comparisons,
but merely point out that modern min-
isters evidently draw distinctions
where the Master did not.

A VENICE ASSEMBLY.

We have been requested to state that
a gathering of more than common in-
terest is to be held this year at Venice,
between Santa Monica and Plaza del
Rey, Southern California, during the
months of July and August. Among
the promoters of the gathering are
gation; Mr. Abbot Kinney, and the Hon.
George C. Pardee, governor of Califor-
nia; the Hon. Franklin H. Lane, the
Hon. Wm. E. Smythe, who has just been
called the Father of National Irriga-
tion; Mr. Abbot Kinney, and the Hon.
Geo. C. Perkins, United States senator
from California. In a pavilion built
over the water, far from the breakers,
will be held a series of national socio-
logical congresses, a Summer Univer-
sity at which all the lighter branches of
general culture are to be taught, in-
cluding a school of modern languages,
a school of music, a school of expres-
sion, a school of ethics, and a school of
nature study; and also a series of lec-
tures, concerts, dramas, and other en-
tertainments of the highest class. The
place is said to be an ideal spot for so-
journ during the hot season, and no ex-
pense is being spared to beautify it.
The assembly planned there should
help attracting some of the tourists
from the eastern states, who annually
"do" Europe, but know next to nothing
of their own country. Among the con-
gresses planned is one in the interest of
universal peace, and one similar to the
congress of religions at the Chicago
fair. Speakers of world-wide fame, we
are told, and of varying views will be
invited to give free, courteous expres-
sion to their conflicting opinions.

A PECULIAR INSTITUTION.

Japan has a constitutional govern-
ment, modeled in many particulars af-
ter the modern patterns. But its minis-
try does not appear to have any real
power, except in times of peace and
tranquility. Whenever a crisis arises,
the ministers are unceremoniously
pushed aside and the emperor becomes
a sovereign with unlimited power and
authority, and he calls to his assistance
a council consisting of trusted men,
known to the western world as the
"elder statesmen."The members of this council vary in
numbers, according to the will of the
Mikado. They are men of different po-
litical parties, who have engaged in bit-
ter rivalries in parliament and turned
one another out of power not once or
twice, but many times. Most of them
have held the position of prime minis-
ter and attained the highest dignities
which the mikado can bestow. When
called to act as "elder statesmen," their
rivalries are over, their partisan labors
are ended, and they confer together in
perfect harmony and direct the policy
of the nation without regard to the
cabinet and parliament.Among the "elder statesmen" who
have been prominent in the affairs of
the nation during this war are Mar-
quis Ito, Count Matsukata, Field Mar-
shal Marquis Yamagata, Count Inouye,
and Field Marshal Oyama. Other men
are sometimes called into conference
with them, such as Baron Komura, the
foreign minister; Field Marshal Kato-
sura, the premier, and prominent offi-
cers of the army and navy, like Admiral
Togo, Admiral Kabayama and General
Kodama.It should be noted, in passing, that
Marquis Ito and Count Inouye at one
time were enthusiastic agitators for the
exclusion of foreigners from Japan.While they were still young Japan was
convulsed by the entry of foreigners,
consequent upon Commodore Perry's
expedition. Nobody was more bitter
against the foreigners than these
youngsters were. Inouye admits that
he led a band of young samurai who
burned down the houses set apart for
the first British minister the night be-
fore the latter was to occupy it. He
had no special grudge against the min-
ister, but he wanted to embroil his gov-
ernment with the foreigners and pre-
vent them from settling in the country.
Later they were led to see the futility
of resisting the light that broke in upon
their country, and they made the best
of it. But, how much of their youthful
sentiments still remain deep down in
their hearts?It is a peculiar institution, not found
anywhere else, Japan seems to have a
constitutional form of government for
ordinary occasions, but in times of na-
tional danger, it is ruled by one man
with unlimited authority.Called back—the commissions of the
Panama Canal commissioners.The Reef trust should feel safe so
long as it is surrounded by Shields and
Armours.The Russian war party having failed
to win any victories the peace party
may secure one.The laws against libel and slander
limit the freedom of speech. Should
they be done away with?It is said that coffins will probably
go higher. Even if they do it is cer-
tain they will be lowered.Does the upholding of the Monroe
doctrine depend upon maintaining Mor-
ales in his position of president of San
Domingo?The protestants against the accept-
ance of Mr. Rockefeller's gift are more
convinced than ever that the love of
money is the root of all evil.As the President wants a free hand
in reorganizing the canal commission,
the new members will be selected on
the free hand drawing system, no doubt.A Rutgers college professor now
swears that Mars is inhabited and by
farmers. That professor may expect
a call from Chicago University shortly.Raisouli, Morocco's famous bandit,
has been invited to Tangier to meet
Emperor William. A modern instance
of Alexander and the Thracian robber.Russia will not agree to any peace
negotiations that contemplate a cession
of territory or the payment of indemnity.
Japan may change her mind for
her on both these matters.The opposition in the Commons has
found itself in opposition to empty
benches only on several occasions. It
may yet prove a most excellent way
to bring important issues before the
country.Having selected a railroad man for
head of the Panama canal commis-
sion, the President now chooses another
railroad man for collector for San
Domingo. It is probably because they
are so well trained.Three Chicago women, with unpro-
nounceable names, have been fined
hundred dollars for pouring hot water
on the head of a constable. Next time
they should heap coals of fire on his
head, there being no fire for that.A New York society woman who has
just been married put on her wedding
invitations, "Presenta respectfully de-
clined." The strange legend is easily
accounted for, the bride was a widow,
and widows are such strange, unac-
countable creatures."Bat" Masterson, who has just been
sworn in as a deputy United States
marshal in New York, says there are
far more concealed weapons carried
there than in the land from which he
came, the wild and woolly West. And
"Bat" knows whereof he speaks.The would-be authority (?) on the
qualifications of the Judge of the Juve-
nile court, who argues that he need
not be a voter had better read up a
little on the question, and then show
how one who has not the qualifications
of a voter can be legally appointed to a
public office of that kind in this State.The prudential committee of the
American board of foreign missions re-
commends that Mr. Rockefeller's
gift be accepted, but at the
same time it is careful to state
that the acceptance carries with it no
expression as to the character of the
giver nor as to the manner in which he
acquired his money. This shows that
the committee is extremely prudential.If our readers are interested in the
squabble, raised by some intemperate
people who do not want to hear both
sides of the question of the Utah Light
and Railway franchise, they should
read the report of the committee meet-
ing held Wednesday night, as given
in another part of this issue of the
"News." They will not get the facts in
the other papers. We will say, how-
ever, that the Herald account is fair,
as far as it goes; it shows no effort to
misrepresent. But a fuller report is
given in the Deseret News and it can
be relied upon. The matter has been
falsified by local papers from the start,
and is likely to be treated so by them
to the finish. Read the "News" ac-
count!

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Young Women's Journal for April
opens with a brief but instructive and
edifying paper on Easter, by Apostle
C. W. Penrose. The author describes
the origin of the observance of this joy-
ous festival, explains some of the fea-
tures of the celebration, such as decora-
tion with flowers, the eating of "Eas-
ter eggs" etc., and the article closes with
suggestions of a practical character. A
very good portrait of Hon. C. W. Pen-
rose adorns one of the pages of the
magazine. NOV. ON. The monthly
number are, Miss Josephine Spencer,
Kate Thomas, Susan Young Gates, Julia
P. M. Farnsworth, Annie Pike, Claude
F. Barnes, Edith Ellerbeck, Julia A.
Farnsworth Lund, Bertha E. Anderson,Bardella Shipp Curtis, Helen Mar Kim-
ball, Margaret May Merrill, Maud Bag-
garby, and Grace E. Cannon. The list
of contents is varied, and the entire
number is full of interest.—Constitu-
tion Building, Salt Lake City, Utah.The Black Cat for April comes with
no less than three prize stories. They
are: "Across the Gulf," by Franklin
Price Carriag; "Where Burglars are
Welcome," Fred S. Brown, and "The
Girl With the Million Yen," A. W.
North. Two more cleverly written sto-
ries make up the list of contents.—
Shortstory Pub. Co., Boston, Mass.What To Eat for March opens with
the second article under the caption,
"The Slaughter of Americans." This is
devoted to the defeat of the Pure Food
bill. Another paper gives "New Ideas
for Entertainments." Then there are
"Candy Recipes" and a number of ar-
ticles on various subjects. What to
Eat is a very good magazine in its own
field.—Pierce Pub. Co., Chicago.The following is from the list of con-
tents of The Booklovers' Magazine for
April: "The Real Australia: ILLA Work-
ingman's Government," Burries Gahan;
"The School garden," Work of By-
am Shaw; "The Dream of a Jewish
Nation," A Discussion of the Zionist
Movement, Rabbi Edward N. Calisch;
"Transportation in Porto Rico: An Op-
portunity for the American Capitalist,"
Sigmund Krauss; "Holy Week in the
Holy City: Festivals of Cross and Cres-
cent in Jerusalem," with illustrations,
C. H. Graves; "Theodore Thomas," An
Appreciation, Joseph M. Rogers; "For
Tomorrow: The Story of an Easter
Sermon," Susan Keating Glaspell;
"Cormorant Fishing in Japan," How
Birds are Trained to Fish for the Mar-
ket, George Elmer Scott, and "Stephen
Phillips: A Modern Master of Poetic
Drama," T. M. Parrott—1323 Walnut
St., Philadelphia.Scribner's Magazine for April has for
frontispiece a beautiful reproduction in
colors, "Spring," by Blenden Campbell.
The list of contents is as follows: "Kits
and Outfits," Richard Harding Davis;
"The University of Virginia," Thomas
Nelson Page; "The Hill of Stars,"
poem, Arthur Davidson Fiske; "A Scan-
dal in High Life," Josephine Dask-
am Bacon; "Spring in Union Square,"
drawn by Jules Guerin; "Wild Geese
in April," poem, Frederick Brooks
Lindsey; "Italian Recollections," Mary
King Waddington; "The Edge of the
Wilderness," Frank E. Schoonover;
"The Awakening," sonnet, Lucy Leff-
ingwell Cable; "Political Problems of
Europe as they Interest Americans,"
Frank A. Vanderlip; "The House of
Mirth," book I, chapters vii-x, Edith
Wharton; "The Governor-General's
Trunk," Arthur Train; "Victoria," a
dramatic poem, Margaret Sherwood;
"The Point of View" and "The Field of
Art, Herculaneum and Its Treasures
of Art," Russell Sturgis. The Magazine
is profusely illustrated.—Charles Scrib-
ner's Sons, New York.

TEA

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March 20.

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