

DESERT EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 30, 1903.

Y. M. AND Y. L. M. I. A. CON-
FERENCE.The 8th General conference of the
Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual
Improvement Associations of the
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints will be held in Salt Lake City
on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May
30, 31, and June 1, 1903.On Saturday, May 30th, at 10 a. m., a
conjoint meeting of all officers will be
held in Barratt Hall.Business meetings will be held on
Saturday and Monday, May 30, and
June 1; for the young men in Barratt
Hall of the L. D. S. university, and for
the young ladies in the Fourteenth
ward assembly room, and general pub-
lic meetings in the Tabernacle on Sun-
day, May 31, at 10 a. m. and 2 and 7
p. m.All officers and members of the asso-
ciations are requested to be present at
all the meetings, and a cordial invita-
tion is extended to all the Saints to at-
tend the Tabernacle meetings.Special rates on all railroads. See
announcement in newspapers for de-
tails.JOSEPH F. SMITH,
General Supt., Y. M. M. I. A.
THOMAS HULL,
General Secy., Y. M. M. I. A.
ELMINA S. TAYLOR,
General Pres., Y. L. M. I. A.
ANN M. CANNON,
General Secy., Y. L. M. I. A.

KEEP UP THE DECORATIONS.

The birthday of the late President
Brigham Young will be commemorated
on Monday. Would it not be a good
thing to retain the decorations on the
chief streets of the city until after that
day? Salt Lake city will be crowded
with visitors, and the weather is so
fine that no damage is likely to come
to the banners or the bunting. The
great man whose anniversary is to be
celebrated was really the founder of
this commonwealth, and worthy of all
the honors that our citizens can ren-
der to his memory and his works. He
was Utah's first Governor and he led
out in all the important movements for
the building up of the Territory and the
State, and was foremost in establish-
ing its varied industries. He left prop-
erty to establish a university in the
B. Y. Academy at Provo and the B. Y.
College at Logan. It has been investi-
gated in that portion of the L. D. S. Uni-
versity which, as Memorial Hall, will be
dedicated on Monday morning. The af-
ternoon ceremonies will be held at Salt-
air. Keep up the decorations and thus
gratify a very large proportion of the
people of Utah!

"MORMONISM" AS IT IS.

A great many people have heard of
the sect called the "Dunkards," whose
proper name, that which they call
themselves is, The Brethren; but not so
many know that they have a magazine
called The Inglenook. It is published
weekly at Elgin, Illinois, and is a neat
and interesting publication, having a
wide circulation among The Brethren
and others. We have been favored with
a copy of the issue for May 30 and find
it among other live articles, the
first chapter of a series entitled, "The
Mormons."The editor calls himself and his read-
ers Nookers, and gives his own im-
pressions of his subject, from a person-
al visit to this city and his conversa-
tions with people whom he met here.
But he did not take the usual course
of tourists and draw information as to
"Mormon" beliefs from their opponents.
He was after something accurate to
show what it actually is. So he ration-
ally reaches this conclusion, and offers
these sage remarks:"If anybody ought to know the facts
and reasons of a religious belief, it
should be the people themselves, those
who have given their lives to it. Their
testimony is worth all that makes, ig-
norance, or flippancy have to present.
Moreover, intelligent readers are inter-
ested in accuracy, no matter how much
they may dissent from belief or the
facts in the case. It is not often, if in-
deed at all, that such a thing as this
gets before the public. Let a Mormon
appear in a community preaching his
doctrine, and at once he is regarded as
a proper person to stone out of the
neighborhood, one who is in the pay of
a set of lecherous scoundrels sent out
to deceive a lot of half-wit maids. The
limitation of evil stories is the ability
to invent them, while perhaps not one
of those who repeat these stories could
give anything like even an outline of
what their victims believe."The truth and justice of that para-
graph will be apparent to every sane
reader. And yet, strange to say, the
very opposite is the usual course with
travelers and ordinary inquirers. They
accept the stories that suit their
tastes and comfort with the common
understanding, and go to the enemies
instead of the exponents of "Mormon-
ism," to find out what it is said to be
rather than what it is. The Inglenook
reminds further on this subject:"When we are confronted by a re-
ligious body that began practically in
the present life time and has attained
an unmistakably earnest membershipof 300,000, one may well stop and in-
quire what there is in the faith and
practice that leads people to adhere to
the cause. It is a peculiar and lament-
able fact, that when it comes to a form
of religion, many of its devotees are
ever ready to spring at the throats of
any who dissent."Speaking of the spirit in which "Mor-
monism" has been opposed by the
religious world, the Nooker says:"People claim for themselves a tol-
erance and liberty they are unwilling
to accord others, and the history of all
dominations, even to Christianity it-
self, has its preface writ in blood. When
it comes to the other great religions,
most of their adherents are so many
raving wolves, and for two of different
religions, to meet means an instant
clash of swords."Starting with these preliminaries, it
may be expected that the writer will
endeavor to place the doctrines and
claims of the "Mormon" Church before
the public, as he has learned them from
those who understand and believe in
them. This does not argue that he ac-
cepts them or agrees with them. He
simply aims to tell the truth about
them, leaving his readers to form their
own conclusions. Therefore the first in-
stant of his series appears in that
light, and indicates that the whole sub-
ject, as far as he has investigated it,
will be a fair exposition of "Mormon-
ism," without the usual burlesques
and distortions which ordinarily accom-
pany such purported endeavors.Our friends who desire to obtain a
sample copy of the Inglenook for May
30, can obtain one, free, on application
to the editor, Brethren Publishing
House, Elgin, Illinois. It contains be-
sides the well written introductory
chapter on "The Mormons" a fine cut
of the Salt Lake Temple. We look with
anticipation for the further chapters of
the series in the Inglenook.

THE PRESBYTERIAN REVISION.

The Presbyterians have fairly set-
tled the question of infant damnation,
or salvation, as far as their creed is
concerned. They have agreed to be-
lieve that those who die in infancy are
among the elect. They also state that
none is excused for not accepting God's
offer of salvation, and that no man is
condemned except on account of his sin.These are radical changes of the
creed. They are not, as has been
maintained, merely a clearer statement
of faith. They are a change of posi-
tion from the terrible doctrine that
God had, from eternity, for his own
glory, selected some of His children to
eternal hell fire, and that among these
so selected were a number of small
children who, in this sphere of exist-
ence at least, had done neither good
nor evil. It was time to strike this
blasphemy from a so-called Christian
creed, especially if the object is to do
missionary work among sane people.Of course, the changing of the creed is
really a confession that the craft has
been steered without sufficient knowl-
edge of the course. For the true
doctrine, given by God to man, is not
like a philosophical system which may
be perfected by man, as knowledge in-
creases. It is rather a divine coin de-
posited with the people of God, to be
carefully used and guarded against
counterfeit. You cannot improve on a
United States gold coin, or bank
note. Any attempt to do so would be
at your peril. Nor can human inge-
nuity improve on the precious treas-
ure of truth deposited with the Church
for the salvation of the world. Still,
when a denomination finds that its
declared doctrines are not true, they
do well in disavowing them.But the Presbyterians should go fur-
ther in their revision. Since they ad-
mit that infants are elect, they should
discard the ceremony of sprinkling
them. Infant sprinkling was inven-
ted on the understanding that children
are brought into the world with a
curse upon them which nothing but
"holy water" could wash off. The idea
originated in paganism, but was read-
ily incorporated in the corrupt "Chris-
tian" theology that took the place of
the sound doctrines proclaimed by the
first apostles of Christ. It has been
perpetuated, together with numerous
other superstitions of a similar origin.
The logical step would be to abolish
that useless rite.The Presbyterians should also adopt
the doctrine of salvation after death:
for if it is true that no one will be
condemned except for his own sin,
there must be some provision made,
whereby those who have not in this life
had an opportunity of either accepting
or rejecting Christ's plan of salvation,
will be placed in that position and
given that opportunity.But perhaps the changes made are
but a beginning. The truth has been
given to the world in this age, with
great clearness, through the inspired
men who were raised up, to be seers
and revelators, and to keep the lamps
trimmed and burning in the sanctuary.
There is less excuse than ever, for any
one who loves the truth to be groping
in darkness.

ROMANISM AND AMERICANISM

A French writer, M. Gohier, who re-
cently visited this country, is of the
opinion that what he calls a "Catholic
peril" confronts the United States. He
argues that if the growth of that or-
ganization continues at the present
rate, there will soon be from fifteen to
twenty million adherents of Rome in
this country, all firmly united and di-
rected by the brains of a few Jesuits,
and then, he concludes, there will be
but a small showing for American lib-
erty.The growth of the Roman Catholic
church in this country, certainly is
phenomenal. M. Gohier points out
that in 1790 there were only 44,000, while
now that number has increased to per-
haps twelve million souls. To this he
adds six million Catholics in the Phil-
ippines, and one million in Porto Rico.
In the United States there are now
maintained, he says, one cardinal, sev-
enty archbishops, and eighty-one bi-
shops. There are eighty-two dioc-
eses, and five apostolic curiarches;
about 11,000 churches and 5,000 chapels,
with 12,500 officiating priests.The influence of Catholicism in the
country, M. Gohier says, is seen in
many directions, and not least in the
attitude of the public press. The
periodicals generally temper their newsand views in deference to Catholic pa-
tronage. And in most of the larger
cities, Catholics are united, not only
in societies and clubs, but also in mil-
itary organizations.All this gives the French visitor re-
ferred to, premises for the conclusion
that American liberty is in danger. But
is that an entirely fair conclusion? We
presume that Catholics born in this
country under American institutions
are as loyal to these institutions as
the members of any other creed. If it
came to a contest between Old and New
World ideas of the relations between
church and state, we dare say that a
great number of Catholics would rally
to the support of Americanism. To hold
any other view, would be to say
that the Catholic faith is the
cause of disloyalty, and that the
Catholics are unfit to be American citi-
zens. But that would be unjust. In
France there is some friction between
church and state, but fault is to be
found on both sides. Were they en-
tirely separated, as here, both would get
along without friction.The pope, in his letter to Cardinal
Gibbons, dated January, 1899, explain-
ed at length the Roman attitude toward
"Americanism." In this epistle he says
that there is no reason to take excep-
tion to the endowments of mind which
belong to the American people, just as
other characteristics belong to various
other nations; nor to the political con-
dition and the laws and customs by
which the American people are govern-
ed. Consequently, the Roman church is
not antagonistic to American institu-
tions. Roman Catholics have advanced
with the rest of the world. They are
no longer where they were four hun-
dred years ago. And the best proof of
this, is that the ranks of Catholicism
are constantly being recruited from the
scattered Protestant forces, which are
becoming more and more demoralized.The greatest danger to Americanism
is in the lawlessness that seems to be
increasing in every direction. Unless
the land be cleansed of the murders
that stamp curses upon it, and the
strife and contention that array brother
against brother, sometimes for the hon-
or of office and sometimes for bread,
there is danger of a collapse. There
is a peril. Mighty empires have fal-
len before, on account of internal dis-
ensions. A house divided cannot stand
long.

FOR SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Presbyterians assembled at Los
Angeles have given some of their time
to the consideration of the Sabbath
question, and adopted strong resolu-
tions, condemning all secular uses
of the Lord's day, including "all games
and sports, all social functions, all
traveling for pleasure, all excursions
by land or water, all uses of this day
as a day of convenience to do that
which has been left undone during the
past week, or to promote the secular
interests of the coming week, both at
home and abroad."The Sunday newspaper came in for a
special clause of condemnation, as fol-
lows:"Resolved, That the general assem-
bly hereby expresses its emphatic con-
demnation of seven-day journalism
which, in our opinion is doing as much
or more than any other one influence
in the United States of America to wipe
out the distinction of days and to
secularize the Christian Sabbath.
Seven-day journalism voices the in-
tense commercial spirit of our age, that
would rob both God and man of the
rest day for financial ends. Seven-day
journalism causes a vast amount of
Sunday labor. Seven-day journals is
a most efficient enemy of the church
and Christ. Seven-day journalism pre-
vents untold thousands of our citizens
from attending divine service on the
Lord's day and unites many thousands
of others for receiving the benefits of
such service."This is strong language, but it con-
veys the gist of the matter. The Sun-
day papers reply that if the Presby-
terians, and other professed Christians,
would cease patronizing the seven-day
journals, there would be very few of
them. And this, too, is true, although
that fact does not justify the desecra-
tion of the Sabbath by unnecessary la-
bor. For although offenses will come,
or even must come, the woe pronounced
upon those through whom they come,
is no less emphatic. The same argu-
ment has been used in the defense of
the most degrading and depraved in-
stitutions of modern civilization. If
nobody would patronize them, they
would not exist, certainly. But the
most potent answer to the attacks of
the preachers on the Sunday paper is,
that the greatest part of the work
upon it is done before the Sabbath. Its
distribution and sale take place on
Sunday morning, it is true, but these
would doubtless be continued on Sun-
day if the extra paper was published
the day before. There is no doubt,
however, that many people read the
big Sunday paper instead of going to
church, so there is no wonder that
preachers are hostile to it on that ac-
count.For years there has been a growing
tendency among all classes in this
country to disregard the day of rest,
and make it one of sport, amusements
and social gatherings. The European
idea has become prevalent. So-called
Christians are not, as a rule, much
better in this respect than non-Christi-
ans. For this reason it is encouraging
to hear the voice of protest from an
assembly representing a large denomina-
tion of the country. We hope others
will follow the example. For apart
from the Sunday paper question in
fighting against the desecration of the
Sabbath, they are combating a nation-
al evil.

AN EXPLANATION WANTED.

Under the above headline we find the
following in the Inter-Mountain and
Colorado Catholic of May 16, and com-
mend it to the notice of our sectarian
friends (?) who have taken another of
their periodical fits over the "ignorant,
deluded and unregenerate Mormons."
A reply, if couched in decent and rele-
vant language, will doubtless be cour-
teously received by the able paper that
asks the question:One of the stock arguments which
Protestants are fond of using when
the spirit moves them to take a fling
at the Catholic church is that illiter-
acy is more prevalent in the Catholic
and Latin countries of southern Europe
than in the Protestant and Teutonicnorth. There is a good deal to be said
on the other side of this question, and
there is one phase of it to which our
evangelical friends might devote a lit-
tle time and thought.Just now the "Mormons" are holding
the center of the stage. There is
scarcely a Protestant preacher, or
editor in the land who is not telling
all he knows and a great deal he does
not know about the Latter-day Saints.
How would it do to say something
about the places these "Mormons"
come from? Why not discuss the why
and wherefore of the success of the
"Mormon" propaganda in the chief
strongholds of Protestantism, in which
we have been so often told the light of
knowledge has dispelled the errors of
Rome which could linger only amongst
the comparatively uneducated Latins
and Celts?Converts to Mormonism are drawn
almost exclusively from the New Eng-
land states, England, the south of
Scotland, Scandinavia, Denmark, Hol-
land and the north of Germany. This
belief has gained no foothold in Ire-
land, France, southern Europe or any
other Catholic district. In the last
named countries "Mormon" missionar-
ies have totally failed to make any im-
pression or create any excitement. Pro-
testant Germany is trying to expel and
exclude them, but Catholic Spain is not
worrying about them.According to our Protestant friends,
these "Mormons" are an exceedingly
bad lot—much worse, in fact, than the
Catholics, who used to come in for all
the kicks and cuffs.Before the Catholics are altogether
lost sight of in the dust of the fray,
rise up and explain why all these hor-
rid "Mormons" come from the lands
where progress and education, as they
have been telling us all these years,
have proved too much for Rome?Truly the floods have descended upon
Iowa."Tell for the brave!"
The brave that are no more."It is quite proper to speak of the Isl-
and of North Topeka, Kansas.Citizen George Francis Train has
smallpox. He is to be pitted.It is the time when the fields are with
daisies and violets blue.Marshal Heywood was arrayed in
white, brighter than the noon-day sun.The cowboys owned the town yester-
day, even if they did not all own their
horses.Kansas is a state of extremes. It is
either drought or floods, just now being
the latter.Having abandoned infant damnation,
the Presbyterians have taken up "Mor-
mon" damnation.Mr. Maehen says that his arrest is
a grand stand play. A sort of a plu-
bus unum affair, then.Chamberlain's reciprocity policy must
make Cobden and the reform bill fight-
ers turn in their graves.Dr. Sims of Syracuse university, says
that "hazing is wholesome." Likewise
killing frogs was fun for the boys.A movement is on foot for a union
against divorce. A continuance of the
marriage union is the very best remedy.The supreme court of Minnesota has
decided that the "masher" is a para-
site. This being so, the parasite
should be mashed.Strange that the departure of the
Liberty Bell from Philadelphia was
simultaneous with the going into effect
of the Grady-Salus law."Mr. Cleveland is the husbandman
of his own interests," says Colonel
Watterson. He is also the husband
man of Mrs. Cleveland.Rock Sand, an English horse, won
the Derby, but Maher, an American,
rede him to victory. Americans will
always be found on top.In Boston it is thought that the pro-
jection observed on Mars by Percival
Lowell was nothing but a cloud. If
this is so, it puts a cloud upon his title
to be called a great astronomer.There still seems to be some negro
slavery down in Alabama. If negroes
can be deprived of their political rights
with impunity, why should they not be
sold into peonage with impunity?Point Reyes has the reputation of be-
ing the windiest place in the world.
From May 14 to May 22 there were 11-
22 miles of wind. Old Boreas must
have been making campaign speeches.That was good advice the President
gave the school children yesterday—
"Play hard when you play, and work
hard when you work." He may be sure
that they will heed the first part of it.The Brotherhood of Railway Train-
men has resolved against the sympa-
thetic strike. A most manly and sensi-
ble thing to do. The Trainmen will
have the sympathy and good wishes of
all who believe in the rights of em-
ployees and employers.Rabbi Hirsch is quoted as having
said: "If Jesus Christ should return to
the earth tomorrow he would be wel-
comed in every Jewish synagogue in the
land, and every Jew would say, with
David, 'Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors;
and the King of Glory shall come in.'"The Deseret News received numer-
ous words of praise both for Thursday
evening's and Friday evening's edi-
tions, both of which were entirely sold
out. Full particulars of the day's dis-
cussion appeared in Friday evening's issue
with every line spoken by each speak-
er on that day in full. The cuts as well
as the reports were creditable to the
nimble and faithful reporters under
able and untiring direction and man-
agement.The beautiful transparency in the
Tabernacle on Friday, was the design
and work of Dan Weggeland, the well
known artist of this city. He conceived
the idea of painting a full length por-
trait of President Roosevelt in khaki
uniform, and succeeded so admirably
that it was pronounced by members of
the President's party the finest thing
exhibited on the whole trip. It is grat-
ifying to note that home art, in paint-
ing as well as in music, was conspicu-
ous at the grand reception accorded the
nation's chief. That should be appre-
ciated by Utah's people, as it was by
our distinguished visitors. We congrat-
ulate friend Weggeland on his admini-

stration.

Andrew Lang in Longman's gives a
splendid specimen of the "amenities"
of literature:They were very controversial in those
days.

1. Bowles wrote a book about Pope.

2. Campbell abused Bowles' book on
Pope.3. Bowles replied to Campbell's abuse
of Bowles on Pope.4. Byron wrote an answer to Bowles'
answer to Campbell's abuse of Bowles'
book on Pope.5. "John Bull" wrote a letter to
Byron about Byron's answer to Bowles'
book on Pope.6. Dr. Garnett has a theory of the
authorship of John Bull's letter to
Byron about Byron's comments on
Bowles' answer to—it is like "The
House That Jack Built."Commissioners of Pensions Ware has
addressed to First Assistant Postmaster
General Wynne, apropos of some ad-
vice to stick "to his job," the following:"I have no doubt your impulses and
inclinations are in favor of throwing up
the commission, resigning the place
and getting back to such life with the
good newspaper boys. I remember very
well what you said to me one day and I
have ventured to put it into verse. It is
yours, not mine:The President put me here,
It's improper to repine,
It's disloyal for me to die,
Insubordinate to resign.""So there you are on guard, and if the
ashes fall down and bury you, you will be
dug up hereafter and put in a museum and
pointed at with pride. Yours very truly,
E. F. WARE."

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

Springfield Republican.

No change in the name of the Prot-
estant Episcopal church is desired in
Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and
the same feeling is manifest in the ma-
jority of dioceses in the country. A
church that is old and well-established
has not much more reason for changing
its name than a nation. Some Euro-
peans suggests that the United States
of America get a new name, and how
surd that seems.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

While there has been no radical de-
parture from the faith of the fathers,"
the changes in the confession of faith
tend to place it more in accord with
the spirit of the present age. The aim
of the revisers was to simplify the
creed, clear away obscurities, and at the
same time preserve intact the essentials
of the Presbyterian doctrine. There
was at first strong opposition from
those who feared the pruning knife
might cut too close and so weaken the
plant that had thriven so well, but the
conservatism of the revisers allayed
fears and inspired confidence, so that
the final result is almost unanimous in-
dorsement.

Christian Intelligencer.

The creeds of the centuries are expres-
sions of the life and thought of the
Church at the time of their promulga-
tion. As such they are to be re-
garded and held as historic utterances
of the church's faith. But progress must
be written about these historic symbols
of the faith. Religious faith is not de-
clining when it calls for a new state-
ment of the truth as it is in Jesus."
In the twentieth century, any more than
it was declining when it demanded a new
statement to meet the problems of the
sixteenth century, or earlier still, gave
its verdict from the lips of Athanasius
upon questions at issue in the patristic
days. The cry of a declining faith may
come from those who confound relig-
ious faith with its expression in creed.
Religious faith is a stronger and deeper
power than can be expressed in any
creed. Definition cannot catch all its
meaning any more than it can life.

Christian Work and Evangelist.

The passing of the agnostic spirit is
one of the portentous signs of the
times. Professor Tyndall's Belfast ad-
dress has neglected on the top shelf of
the modern library; and Professor Hux-
ley's bout with Mr. Gladstone over the
Mosaic cosmogony is forgotten, like his
earlier plea for the substitution of a
pair of chimpanzees for Adam and Eve.
The origin of life without the impulses
and resources of a creative mind is now
regarded by the Nestor of the British
association not as a profound mystery,
but as an unscientific and imposed
hypothesis. Miracles are not only in
the Bible, but also in every plant with
the vital principle of growth—in every
human creature swayed by a free will.

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Byron about Byron's comments on
Bowles' answer to—it is like "The
House That Jack Built."Commissioners of Pensions Ware has
addressed to First Assistant Postmaster
General Wynne, apropos of some ad-
vice to stick "to his job," the following:"I have no doubt your impulses and
inclinations are in favor of throwing up
the commission, resigning the place
and getting back to such life with the
good newspaper boys. I remember very
well what you said to me one day and I
have ventured to put it into verse. It is
yours, not mine:The President put me here,
It's improper to repine,
It's disloyal for me to die,
Insubordinate to resign.""So there you are on guard, and if the
ashes fall down and bury you, you will be
dug up hereafter and put in a museum and
pointed at with pride. Yours very truly,
E. F. WARE."

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

Springfield Republican.

No change in the name of the Prot-
estant Episcopal church is desired in
Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and
the same feeling is manifest in the ma-
jority of dioceses in the country. A
church that is old and well-established
has not much more reason for changing
its name than a nation. Some Euro-
peans suggests that the United States
of America get a new name, and how