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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 8, 1906.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The seventy-sixth annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, April 6, 1906, at 10 a. m. A full attendance of officers and members is requested.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency.

THE LOGIC OF IT!

As a specimen of anti-"Mormon" logic we quote from an editorial in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. It is designed to show why Senator Smoot should be denied permission to sit in the United States Senate. The argument (?) is based on the recent testimony before a Senate committee of a self-confessed covenant-breaker, whose evidence was contradicted by another witness on the same side of the case. The first of the two swore that he had taken an obligation, frequently referred to improperly in the investigation as an "oath," which he was bound not to reveal, that he would "covenant and pray, and never cease to pray God to avenge the blood of the prophets on this nation." The other witness swore that the words "this nation" were not in the obligation. But, allowing the first testimony to stand, here is what the Seattle paper deduces from it:

"The text of that oath shows conclusively, if proof were necessary, that the Mormon Church is a State within a State, and is opposed, vitally, to the government of the United States, recognizing in its adherents no obligation of citizenship to this country, but demanding of them, rather, a hatred of the country, which is restrained from taking the form of overt treason merely because of the inability of the Church to try conclusions with the government by force. As a member of a treasonable organization, bound by an oath of blood vengeance against the government of the United States, as a member of an oligarchy, which defies the laws of the United States and undertakes to carry on a secret government of its own, the decrees of which are more binding on its members than the laws which are violated by these decrees, Reed Smoot is not entitled to sit in the Senate of the United States."

There's reasoning for you, with a vengeance! If a person who believes that there have been prophets unjustly slain in this land whose blood, like that of Abel, calls from the ground for vengeance, and in accord with "the souls under the altar" referred to in the New Testament, namely Revelation vi, 5-6, he prays to God for retribution upon the guilty, that proves him to be "a member of a treasonable organization," does it? And if a number of such petitioners to the Divine Ruler join in the prayer and they are members of a church, that constitutes the church a State within a State, eh? Leaving the matter in the hands of Deity, who has proclaimed: "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord," is being "bound by an oath of blood vengeance," is it? Could anything be more conclusive? The Post-Intelligencer, which evidently it attempts to solve, and does not prove itself much of an "intelligence" in relation to it, goes further than its own peculiar logic, and intimates that proof of its irrational conclusions is not really "necessary," but rashly jumps at them and lands in the mire of nonsense and folly.

All the talk about "hated of country," "overt treason," "secret government of its own," and the rest of it, is merely the echo of a cry raised by violators of sacred promises who are filled with enmity and malice, who contradict each other under oath, and whose untrustworthy endeavors to besmirch that which they are declared to be divine and holy are repeated by venomous malice and uniform writers and preachers, to the spread of misinformation and the fermenting of malicious prejudice.

For the information of our Washington contemporary, we will state that the "Mormon" people have demonstrated in numerous ways, in peace and in war; when surrounded by hosts of their fellow citizens and when isolated in distant "desert lands; when within the domain of the United States and when settling upon the soil of Mexico; when living as parts of sovereign States and when organizing a new commonwealth seeking admission to the American Union; when suffering expatriation and when rejecting over freedom from mobs and pillage and murder; under all conditions and trials, that they love their country, are devoted to its institutions, are ready to fight for its flag and to maintain its Constitution, and that they contend only against injustice, tyranny and oppression, and are fully as loyal as their detractors can possibly be, whose patriotism is chiefly in the noise they make with their mouths.

But returning to the logic of the Seattle paper, must we not be charmed with the reasoning which deduces so much from such petty premises. Because a fully discredited witness affirms that the "Mormons" promise to pray to God to avenge the blood of the prophets, therefore a duly elected Senator against

whom not a syllable of just reproach has been uttered in the investigation of his case, must not be permitted to remain in the seat to which he was legally chosen by the political party he has faithfully served, and must be held responsible for alleged acts of others that have not and can not be attributed to him.

In repeating without sense or reflection the mouthings of anti-"Mormon" shouters, and the falsehoods uttered without the least attempt at proof by forsworn dissenters, many writers for the press and preachers in the pulpit exhibit dense ignorance of historic facts, and show but a parrot-like intelligence, while they contribute to the popular but senseless notions about a people and a faith that are decided without reason and condemned upon hearsay. Cannot the professed disseminators of news and instructors of the masses, exercise common fairness and common sense in treating upon "Mormon" affairs and "Mormon" principles?

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CROWE.

If a number of cases of kidnapping follow the verdict in the notorious case against Pat Crowe, who is to blame? Scarcely have the comments on that miscarriage of justice died away, before word comes from New York of a banker's son who is held for a ransom of \$20,000. The abductors in this case are foreigners. They say they need the money, and unless it is paid, the life of the boy will be forfeited. It is no wonder, if foreigners imitate the Americans when they see how justice sometimes is administered. In the case of Pat Crowe, the accused confessed that he had done the kidnapping. But the jury said there was no evidence sufficient to justify conviction. Therefore, they said, he was not guilty. He did not kidnap Young Cudahy, or receive any money for the safe return of the boy. Pat Crowe himself, when he heard the verdict, made the following comment: "There are a good many people in this world who do not like the way in which Cudahy got his money, any better than the way he lost it." In the same way, the New York imitator of Crowe may have argued that many do not like the way in which some bankers make money, and based hopes of immunity from punishment on that fact.

We hope the New York kidnapping case will not end in a farce, as did that of Omaha. Unless full justice is meted out to the class of criminals that figure in such cases, the lives of children of wealthy parents will not be safe in this country. The risk of engaging in the abduction of boys and girls should be made so great as to discourage evil-doers from making the experiment.

CAUSE OF RIOTS.

The official Chinese reports on the riots in that country against certain missionary stations, prove the utter lack of regard for the natives, from which some of the representatives of western civilization are suffering. No less than eleven missionaries have been put to death in China by mobs, since last October. During that month five American Presbyterians were killed at Lenchow, and at Nanchang, only a short time ago, six French Catholic priests were the victims. On both occasions the foreigners seem to have needlessly stirred up the fury of the Chinese.

According to what is accepted as a reliable report of the tragic incident at Lenchow, a festival was celebrated there by the populace, near a hospital connected with the American mission. A platform, the report says, built for the occasion happened to encroach slightly upon the ground belonging to the American missionary society. Dr. Machie desired its removal and seized three consecrated cannon on the altar. This act excited the indignation of the village people and brought on a riot.

The other side of this story may, possibly, be that the Americans objected to the noise in the vicinity of the hospital, and hoped to have the assembly and the program, whatever it was, removed to some more appropriate location; but the seizure of the "consecrated cannon" was, nevertheless, an unpardonable act of indiscretion. What would be the fate of any Chinese in this country, who should enter a church and seize any of the property set apart for sacred ceremonies? We fancy, in some localities their time on earth would be brief indeed.

In the Nanchang affair, the French were more than indiscreet. The Catholic missionaries, it is claimed, issued an appeal for subscriptions to their church in the form and with the characters used for official documents. The authorities protested and the priests refused to acknowledge that they had done anything wrong. Another account says: "Serious blame attaches to the French Catholics. Chinese friendly to the missionaries object to priests exercising civil functions." These missionaries, in other words, endeavored to raise money and, to give their appeal to the public the appearance of an official document, imitated the form used by the regular authorities. That was an act of arrogance and trickery.

A Japanese diplomat recently deplored the lack of tact of missionaries he had come in contact with, and he clearly knew whereof he was speaking. The trouble is that many of those missionaries do not go out to the world as ambassadors of peace and good-will. They go as standard-bearers of western civilization, its land-hunger and commercialism, not to say its prejudices and even vices. Foreign missionaries should be men and women with no other aim than the establishment of the kingdom of God upon earth. Even then they might find martyrs to the cause, but they would be innocent of offense, and their death would bear fruit.

China will, we presume, be called to account for these mob murders. It is necessary that the foreigners there are protected, as far as possible. But if full justice is to be done, the provocations to anger must be given due weight.

BRAIN AND MIND.

The London Tribune, discussing the fallacy of arguing from the size of the brain to the capacity of the intellect, points out that the result of a statistical comparison of large numbers of brains and skulls goes to show that the connection between the size and weight of brain on the one side and intellectual capacity on the other is of a secondary character. "A skull reputed to be that of Dante," our London contemporary says, "is found to have a probable brain weight which is eighty or ninety grains below the mean of the English general hospital population. But the average inmate of an English hospital is not capable of writing a fresh 'Inferno.' Benham's brain is only a few grains above the English mean. But the average Englishman would need something more than the addition of a tiny percentage to his intellectual outfit if he were to undertake, with any hope of success, the codification of English law. Taking averages of different races, we find that the English brain falls short of the Bavarian by twenty-seven grains, of the Hessians by fifty-seven, of the Swedish by sixty-five, of the Bohemian by 120." Mental superiority, then, can not be proved from the weight of the brain, as some have thought.

An anthropologist of Prague has given a great deal of time to the study of this subject. He found that the average weight of the male brain is 1,400 grammes, and the female 1,200 grammes. The average weight of the brains of professional men, such as physicians, teachers and others, he found to be 1,500 grammes. A curious conclusion of this scientist relates to those who are engaged in the manufacture, or sale, of alcoholic drinks. The average weight of the brain of brewers, saloon keepers and bar tenders, he found to be 1,415 grammes, while it rises to 1,442 in cabinet makers, 1,416 in shoemakers, and 1,417 in blacksmiths, locksmiths and other workers in steel.

Look out for spring fever and dandies.

This weather is not a sign of spring but is spring itself.

Mayor Thompson has started the ball rolling, will he keep it up?

The Russians have a written manifesto, not a written constitution.

There are no seedless apple seeds in the free seed distribution. The matter should be looked into.

A good many checks have been encountered at Algiers but they have not been on the bank of Morocco.

For corporation magnates to go to Europe now arouses almost as much suspicion as when formerly they went to Canada.

At Algiers, Germany and France have reached a modus vivendi and it is expected that they will soon reach an agreement.

Since Uncle Sam's tariff concession to Germany, Great Britain wants the most favored nation treatment. That country always did want the lion's share.

A Los Angeles woman is charged with swindling Texas people out of \$20,000 on a silk worm proposition. And now the worm has turned and had her arrested.

Will Counsel Hughes reopen the life insurance investigation to give "Andy" Hamilton a chance to tell "all he knows"? If report be true, he could a tale unfold.

It seems very strange that Salt Lake has to import its lettuce from California and Texas. Local truck gardens should be able to stop this "foreign invasion of the home market."

There is talk of nominating Charles E. Hughes on the Republican ticket for governor of New York. The politicians are sure to object to him. But they did the same thing when Roosevelt was named for governor, and see where he is today.

"American women don't have large families, but they are very fond of their children. Too indulgent, perhaps; America is the paradise of the young of both sexes and of women at all ages," says Mrs. Crazli (Oliver Hobbes) in an interview in a London paper. Another reason why European women should "see America first."

The reason why the Deseret News is so "vehement" in denouncing the indecent organ of fakes and falsehoods, for publishing particulars of an alleged business meeting in this city that never took place, is not because of any mistake on the part of the infamous journal referred to as to the day, but because the story was made out of whole cloth from beginning to end. No such meeting was held, either on a Sunday or on a Saturday, or on any other day of the week, and consequently no discussion such as that alleged did ever take place. The story was concocted and published for evil purposes. Therefore the "News" denied it emphatically.

Though he has signed the joint resolution instructing the interstate commerce commission to make an investigation into the subject of railroad discriminations and monopolies in coal and oil, the President doubts very much whether it will accomplish little or anything. If the investigation establishes the fact that the alleged discriminations and monopolies exist, it will certainly do much to strengthen the demand for governmental regulation of railroad rates, a matter dear to the heart of the President. It may be that no future investigation of anything will result in such finds as did the life insurance investigation. The discoveries then made were almost on a par with those of Columbus. The idea is abroad that in investigations will be found a panacea for all the ills

from which the body politic suffers. The idea is erroneous.

TAKE A VOTE.

Springfield Republican.
The San Domingo treaty should be brought to a vote and either approved or rejected by the Senate. The old habit of pigeon-holing a treaty should not control the final disposition of this particular convention. If no action whatever should be taken by the senate a peculiar situation might arise. The president has announced in his official papers that the arrangement for collecting Dominican customs, now in vogue, under which a certain percentage is deposited in a New York bank, would continue until the senate had definitely disposed of the treaty. Hence the present arrangement in San Domingo may continue indefinitely if the treaty is not brought to an actual vote.

"OLD-FASHIONED" FLOWERS.

New York Times.
What some persons are pleased to call "old-fashioned" flowers (as if any of nature's blooms ever could be old-fashioned!) are coming into vogue in certain cities. Washington is one place. Mrs. Roosevelt has been devoting much pains to the cultivation of red and white double petunias, and the south windows in the living portion of the White House are abloom with these showy blossoms. Scarlet runners make the same rooms gay, and hot house asters have been added to the collection with gratifying results. Mrs. Honaparte, who has preceded Mrs. Roosevelt in her horticultural progress, has brought Japanese lilies to her Washington apartment, and they are making excellent progress. But one could hardly rank them as "old-fashioned"—at least, as far as their appearance in America is concerned.

A "GOLD BRICK" OF OLD TIME.

London Post.
In one of the Tell-tell-Amarna letters, written during the eighteenth dynasty, the King of Babylon accuses Amenophis III, of Egypt, of sending him a mass of base metal for gold. He says: "The twenty min of gold you sent me contained, when melted down, only five minas of pure gold."

MILITARY MILEPOSTS.

Springfield Republican.
It needs a very little war to make a score of new generals. This was thoroughly developed in the debate on the clause abolishing the rank of lieutenant-general of the United States army. We have today a lieutenant-general for almost every year that has elapsed since peace was made with Spain.

JUST FOR FUN.

A Little Knowledge.
Harper's Weekly.
A recent school examination in England elicited the following definitions: "Noah's wife," wrote one boy, "was called Joan of Arc." "Water," wrote another, "is composed of two gases, oxygen and cambrigen." "Lava," replied a third youth, "is what the barber puts on your face." "A blizzard," insisted another child, "is the inside of a fowl."

Mrs. Jessie Tyson, a Baltimore belle, declares that Woman Suffrage is "hard on the complexion." It is not stated how she arrived at this conclusion, but it is the greatest setback Woman Suffrage has received for a long time.—Sacramento Bee.

A Bootblack's Estimate of Folk.

Lippincott's.
Of the many points of view from which to judge the success of a lecturer the one revealed in this incident is unique.

The bootblack at an Illinois Chautauque Assembly was asked, "Who was the greatest lecturer on the program this year?"

"Gov. Folk," was the quick reply.

"Why do you think Governor Folk was the greatest lecturer?"

"Why, sir, I made \$6.25 the day he was here."

A Kind Invitation.

An honest country gentleman said to a painter: "I want you to come to my house, for I have just bought a picture by Rubens. It is a rare one. That fool, Dauber, says it's a copy. A copy! If any man living dares to say it's a copy, I'll break every bone in his skin. Now, I want you to see it and give me your candid opinion."—T-J RH.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The March number of the Improvement Era has many good articles contributed by well known writers. Among these are: "Concerning the Education of Young Men," by Milton Bennion; "Life of St. Paul for the Young," George Lindgren Wood; "A Splendid University," Major Richard W. Young; "Memorial Monument, Dedication," Susie Young Gates; "Christianity in Japan," Dr. J. M. Tanner; "Why Do We Fail?" Albert R. Lyman, and many others. On the "Editor's Table" is found a vigorous reply to some falsehoods proclaimed by Rev. F. De Witt Taft, made through the columns of the Christian Herald. The reply is by Pres. Joseph F. Smith and completely refutes the allegations made. Other interesting features are: "Messages From the Mission," "In Lighter Mood," and "Our Work." There are several fine pieces of poetry. "Events and Comments," by Edward H. Anderson completes the number.—Templeton Building, Salt Lake City.

Bob Taylor's Magazine for March comes with a number of short stories, verses, and articles on various topics, all very interesting. "Beautiful Women of the Old and New World" is one of the prominent illustrated features. "Some Confederate Monuments at Chickamauga" is another good article. "The Trade of the World in Furs" is an interestingly described and illustrated. These are only a few of the many good offerings of the number.—Vanderbilt Law Bldg., Nashville, Tenn.

Socialism is one of the features of the March number of The Culturist. Eugene V. Debs discusses the outlook for the Socialist movement under the title "Toward the Sunrise." Other contributors consider Socialism in its different phases. Prof. Edgar L. Larkin, director of Lowe observatory, gives a psycho-sociological study in "A Great Menopausal Crime," dealing with the hanging of Mary Rogers. "The Sociologic Function of the Jew" presents the Jewish problem in a novel light and offers a solution that certainly has the merit of originality.—Cincinnati, Ohio.

Among the notable articles in Collier's Weekly for March is one in which the "square claims" that the greatest sort of bills before Congress are intended not for public benefit but for private graft. Other articles deal with current topics and they are interestingly discussed.—New York.

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