

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

LORENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.  
(EXCEPT SUNDAYS)  
1001 S. Third Street and East Temple Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Charles W. Penrose, Editor  
Rorace G. Whitney, Business Manager

Subscription Prices:  
In Advance.....\$2.00  
Per Year.....\$2.00  
Six Months.....\$1.25  
Three Months......75  
One Month......25  
Single Copies......10  
Saturday edition, per year,.....\$2.00  
Begin Weekly.

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Address all business communications to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE:  
P. A. Criss, 41 Times Building

CHICAGO REPRESENTATIVE:  
P. A. Criss, 87 Washington St.

SAN FRANCISCO REPRESENTATIVE:  
C. R. King-Sheridan & Co., 409 Examiner Bldg.

SALT LAKE CITY, JUNE 9, 1900.

## THE M. I. A.

The Mutual Improvement Association of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have proved to be a most excellent auxiliary to the order of Church government embodied in the Priesthood. The young men and young ladies in Church membership are organized into societies for their improvement in everything that tends to exalt and ennoble humanity. The Young Ladies' Associations are separate from the Young Men's, but they meet occasionally in joint sessions with much profit to both.

The young ladies conduct their own meetings, observing parliamentary rules, as do the young men, and these associations afford fine training to all who attend their gatherings and follow the course therein marked out. Moral conduct and religious observances are taught, and intellectual advancement is promoted, but partisan politics is carefully avoided. The associations are not debating clubs, yet various profitable subjects are discussed freely, with the object of obtaining light and arriving at the truth.

To-morrow, Sunday, the general conference of these associations will commence in the Tabernacle in this city. Meetings are to be held at 10 a. m., 2 p. m., and 7 p. m. They will be open to all the Saints and also to the general public. While the subject of mutual improvement as it affects the associations will be the chief theme, a number of interesting topics will be introduced, and the exercises will be attractive and of general moment. The Tabernacle ought to be crowded on each occasion.

On Monday and Tuesday meetings will be held of special benefit to the officers and members of the organizations, as announced in the notice to be found in our local columns. An invitation is extended, however, to all persons who desire to attend these officers' meetings.

The good that has been accomplished by the M. I. A. among the young people of this community is beyond computation. Every encouragement should be given to the youth to become connected with the associations. They should receive the support of the stake and ward authorities in every part of the Church. They have a field of labor peculiarly their own. They are not designed to supersede or interfere with the quorums or other organizations of the Priesthood, but to work in harmony with them and under the regulation of the presiding authorities in the respective localities where they operate.

The entire aggregation of these associations is under the supervision of the President of the Church, and his immediate associates, and the evidences are abundant that the Lord is with them by His Spirit, guiding, inspiring and blessing them in the grand and noble work of improvement, the fruits of which, seen now in part, will be unfolded in all their perfection and glory in worlds to come.

## THE SCANDINAVIAN JUBILEE.

The Scandinavians of Utah have for some time past been preparing for the celebration in this city, of the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of the Gospel to the Scandinavian countries, by Elder Erastus Snow, the Apostle, and his associates. The event will come off on the 14th to 17th of this month. It will consist of suitable religious exercises, and social gatherings.

A great number of visitors are expected from near and far. Friends, who have, perhaps, not met since the early days of the Church in Scandinavia, will have an opportunity to again mingle, and recall the stirring scenes that attended the planting of the Gospel banner in the lands of the three northern brother nations. We trust the occasion will be one of enjoyment and spiritual profit to all the participants.

In another part of this imprint of the "News" will be found a historical sketch of the beginning of the Scandinavian mission. Apostle Erastus Snow landed in Copenhagen on the 14th of June, 1850. At the time, Denmark had just been given a constitution guaranteeing liberty of the press and liberty of conscience. This was a result of the fight that had commenced to break over the world. The spirit of persecution still lingered among the lower strata of the people, but its power was really broken. The Lord had prepared the way for His servants, unquestionably because the time had come for the gathering of that part of the house of Israel, dwelling in obscurity in those countries.

The Scandinavian mission has been very successful. Everywhere in this mountain region can be found evidences of the industry and thrift of the Scandinavian race, as well as of their loyalty to the institutions of their adopted country, and their faithfulness to their Church and their God.

The experiences of settlers in foreign countries, where language and customs are strange, and where the memories of childhood seem to fit nowhere,

are not always of the most pleasant character. It is but natural that "strangers in a strange land" should at times appear to be inclined to what has been called "melancholia." But we believe the Scandinavians have proved themselves, particularly under the influence of the Gospel, valuable acquisitions to this region. Thousands of their countrymen have settled in other parts of the United States. They came to better their conditions. They heard the glorious descriptions of the opportunities this country offered to those accustomed to farm labor. They came to join friends and relatives, and to make their fortunes.

The motives that actuated the first Scandinavian immigrants to Utah were entirely different. The trail to this country was strewn with the evidences of unspeakable sufferings. Many of them were well off, temporarily, in the old country. But they came to help along the work of God; they came in order to be taught the laws of their Father, by His inspired servants; they came to perform ordinances for the living and the dead in the holy Sanctuary.

This being the case, it is most appropriate that they should rather in remembrance of the introduction of the Gospel into their native countries. It was an event of immense importance to themselves and their descendants. It was an event of the greatest historical moment to the nations from which they have come.

We again express the sincere hope that their gathering at this time will be of benefit to them; that they will find a hearty and hospitable reception, and be able to return to their homes with renewed determination to serve God faithfully to the end.

There are a number of establishments and families in this city, where Scandinavians are employed. We would suggest that employers, wherever it is possible, arrange it so that their Scandinavian employees be given holidays part of the time if not during the entire jubilee, in order that they may be enabled to take part in the proceedings. We believe they will highly appreciate such courtesy and it could probably be extended to a great many without serious inconvenience.

## THE BICYCLE NUISANCE.

New York, June 4, 1900.

To the Editor:

Dear Sir—Enclosed please find clipping, an account of bravery on the part of a policeman, who risked his life in a mix up with bicycle riders. In sending you this, it is with the sincere hope that you will call the attention of the councilmen of the city to this heroic act, that it may prompt them to protect the people of Salt Lake City by either putting the bicycle off the sidewalk or putting the police into the streets.

Salt Lake has a record for injuries received by people on sidewalks that should cause some action to be taken.

Since leaving home, May 20th, to this date, I have been in many towns and cities and in not one has the bicycle fiend been found on the sidewalk astride the "byck."

Will the council give back the sidewalks to the people, who, through necessity and maybe choice, walk, or grant the boon of turning us off and put us in the road?

K. The act of bravery referred to in the foregoing letter written by a Salt Lake physician now in New York, is thus mentioned by the Journal of that city:

"A swiftly moving hansom cab was going north in the East Drive when Coyle started to pilot the woman with the baby carriage across the road. He was half way across when two bicyclists scorching down hill appeared. He at once realized that either the cab or the bicyclists would run him and his charges down, and thrusting the two far behind him as possible, he stood still as the cab passed on one side of him."

"Both bicyclists struck him, knocking him down and throwing their riders to the ground, but the woman and her child escaped without a scratch."

"Coyle, despite his injuries, promptly arrested both bicyclists for fast riding. The policeman was just off the sick list as the result of injuries received in stopping a runaway horse."

The ordinance now under consideration by the city authorities, as the Deseret News has already explained, does not meet fully the demands of the walking public. Further, it is not very likely to be enacted by the council. But something will have to be done for the protection of the rightful users of the sidewalks in this city, particularly of ladies and children. To provide for this merely during four or five months in the year, is almost absurd. To banish bicycles from all the sidewalks in every part of the city would perhaps be unnecessary. Therefore it would seem that either a new measure should be introduced, or some amendments must be made to the ordinance that has been proposed.

We suggest that the troubles complained of could be avoided by forbidding the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks at any time, within certain defined limits, embracing those parts of the city which are more crowded than others. All the sidewalks in the business streets and those immediately adjacent, should be freed from the danger that threatens pedestrians, and all vehicles should be compelled to take to the streets when they are in use.

While we have strongly advocated the right of the people to the free use of the sidewalks in this city, we have had no desire to deprive the riders of the wheel of any proper privilege. There are many children as well as adults who use the bicycle, and all should enjoy it within reasonable regulations. There are many rough streets within city limits, but outside of the business and crowded parts, where a bicycle could not be used except on the sidewalks. If the "scorchers" could be suppressed or kept off the sidewalks entirely, there would not be so much objection to the wheel in those portions of the city thus liberated.

## GENERAL OTIS TALKS.

General Otis, now on his way to Washington, in an interview in Chicago, spoke freely on the situation in the Philippines, and reiterated the statement made formerly, to the effect that the war is practically over, and that the American troops now are engaged in defending the peaceful inhabitants of the islands against the depredations of bandits.

He added that the work of establishing order necessarily would go on for years, though the Philippines now have no organized force. He also asserted that the great majority of the inhabitants want peace and are anxious to resume their wonted pursuits.

It will be said, of course, that the general does not state the facts as they really are, but as they appear when viewed from an optimistic standpoint. But surmises are not proofs. In the absence of facts proving the contrary, the public is perfectly justified in assuming that General Otis knows what he is talking about, whatever those critics may do, who have no personal knowledge whatever of the situation in the islands.

The war being actually ended in the Philippines, the yellow journals at home ought now to lay down their arms too, and go to work and establish liberty and order in the sorely afflicted islands.

## AID SOLICITED FOR INDIA.

The "News" has on different occasions referred to the terrible distress in India, on account of famine and pestilence, and noted the efforts made by philanthropists of this country to reach the sufferers with needed relief. We are now in receipt of a circular from the "Committee of One Hundred on India Famine Relief," of New York, in which aid is solicited for the sufferers.

The circular says in part: "Three weeks ago, a 'Committee of One Hundred on India Famine Relief' was formed in New York. Since its formation the committee has received from many parts of the country earnest requests that it place itself at the service of all those who might desire its facilities. Such offer, accordingly, the committee has made, and now renews, with no wish to do otherwise than promote interest in the famine relief agencies. Our literature, our direct and constant communication with India, and the treasurership of Messrs. Brown Brothers & Co., 59 Wall street, are freely at the command of any one who finds them available; while, at the same time, we suggest that funds raised in any locality be sent to the nearest relief committee."

An appeal is, further, made to the papers of the country to receive donations, and to forward them to this committee or to the nearest relief committee. The express companies, it is stated, have agreed to transmit relief funds free of charge, and the telegraph companies have consented to transmit the official and business messages of the committee free of charge. The following are the officers of the committee: William E. Dodge, chairman; L. T. Chamberlain, chairman executive committee; Elgin R. L. Gould, secretary; Arthur W. Millbury, assistant secretary; Frederick D. Greene, assistant secretary; John Crosby Brown, treasurer. Headquarters is at 73 Bible House, New York.

The millions of sufferers in India need help speedily. The policy that is responsible for the regularly recurring calamities may deserve censure, perhaps. But at present there is no time for that. The hungry should be fed first. Then there will be time to ascertain where the fault lies, and to find some remedy. It should be possible to prevent famine from becoming general in an empire, in this age of rapid transit and at a time when there is plenty of food in the world.

## TOLSTOI ON SUICIDE.

Some time ago there was considerable discussion in this country as to the sinfulness of committing suicide. It started through some public utterances on the subject by the late Col. Ingersoll.

Count Tolstoi has recently expressed himself on that topic, and it need hardly be said in an entirely different way from that of the American agnostic. The views of each are perfectly consistent with the ideas of life and death, as found on either side of the dividing line between faith and doubt.

The famous Russian philosopher says suicide, in the first place, is not sensible. Life cannot be destroyed. Death can only change its outward form, and shorten the existence in this world, but who can tell whether the life in this other world will be more agreeable than this? Is it sure that by committing suicide one can escape the troubles and sorrows that seem unendurable? May they not follow, and may not new ones be added? How senseless to try to escape from one evil by plunging into an abyss where perhaps others, and of a worse nature, are awaiting!

Besides, Tolstoi argues, life on earth has not been given us solely for pleasure. It has been granted to us for our perfection and for our general welfare. It is senseless to throw it away because it may sometimes appear to be disagreeable.

But suicide, the count says, is also immoral. As long as man lives he can perfect himself, and by so doing, he serves the entire community. This is one of man's duties, the shrinking of which must be regarded as sin.

Tolstoi does not believe that those enjoying most fortunate circumstances in life always are doing the most good. He illustrates his views on this subject by the following legend: "In the wilderness of Optina, so relates the aged poet, lay for over thirty years a paralyzed monk, who could only use his left hand. The doctors asserted that he suffered unutterably, but he never complained of his fate, but gazed, smiling peacefully, at the image of the Holy Virgin. Thousands of persons visited him, and one can scarcely imagine how much good this unhappy man did by his silent suffering. He still thanked God daily for the spark of life which had remained to him. I am sure that unfortunate man did more good than thousands upon thousands of happy, healthy persons who boast of serving the general welfare by different institutions, etc."

To an intelligent being whose mind is open to receive truth, the contrast between the views on this subject, of agnosticism and of faith are strikingly different. They appear as much of a contrast as night and day; as the

chilling blasts of a blizzard and the life-giving rays of a beautiful summer day. In one are despair and death; in the other sweet hope and life. One points to annihilation of the noblest work of creation, without even the dim, dreamy vision of a "nirvana;" the other sheds light over the mysteries of sufferings, temptations, failings, and directs attention to the perfection that can be attained only through the patient endurance of that which life's journey may bring.

There should be no need of argument to prove which of the two views is false, and which true. What would be thought of the mariner, who because of the stormy voyage would urge his fellow travelers to jump over board in midocean? Would he not be deemed insane, and dangerous? But the agonists that urge suicide as a means of escape from real or fancied sufferings in life is that mariner.

One of the tendencies of the age is to underestimate the value of human life. The consequence is an alarming increase in self-slaughter and homicide. But the beginning of the evil is in the disregard of the laws of the Almighty. There is no remedy against the evils of the age except the acceptance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Two more American war vessels have been sent to Taku. The government means to do its level best to guard Americans in China from harm.

For a month past a reign of terror has prevailed in part in St. Louis, owing to the railway strike. It is time stern measures were adopted to effect a change.

An intimation is made that the San Francisco quarantine of Chinese is a sort of blackmail affair. The charge made needs looking into by somebody who will reveal the truth.

The London Times, nettled because the United States will not join the European concert of action against China, asserts that Uncle Sam is "on the fence." Perhaps he is; but it's his own fence.

It is said that Lieut. Peary may have reached the North Pole, and have started on his way back. If he has, then it is to be hoped that he has made a path by which others can take the trip in safety, too.

Now the Emperor of Korea has insulted Japan. That heathen ruler has Russia as a rock at his back, or he would have gone sprawling ere this. As it is, he may find that his action was far from being in the interest of retaining his throne.

This morning's dispatches from London said the war in South Africa was regarded as over, but this afternoon's dispatches tell of a change of opinion. It will be just as well to keep from shouting till the clearing in the woods is sighted.

It is observed now that the Boers, in three exploits, took more than 1,600 prisoners from Lord Roberts' army direct. But Roberts was saved from disgrace by having about doubled that number of prisoners at the outset to balance accounts as drawn.

Stripping clothes from women and tarring and feathering, or daubing them with paint, as is being threatened and done in St. Louis, is a condition that requires a heroic remedy. There is nothing baser than the methods of Missouri mobocrats, as the telegraphed news from St. Louis shows.

Alabama officers removed two prisoners from jail when they learned a mob was coming, and thus prevented a lynching of two prisoners suspected of a heinous crime. The officers did right in thus upholding the law; and their example should find emulation in other States.

Wheat bounded up in the Chicago market on Thursday and Friday, and rebounded to a medium point on Saturday. The upward rise was accredited to the drought which promises to reduce the crop, and doubtless a portion of it was, but some of the advance was merely the work of speculators.

Lord Roberts' communications have been cut at Roodeval, about thirty-five miles north of Kroonstad, by a force of two thousand Boers, having six field guns, and reinforcements are being hurried north from Bloemfontein and Cape Colony, in an effort to drive off the Boers. This kind of annoyance, and even worse, may be looked on as in store for the British.

A significant step in the suppression of the Filipino rebellion is the capture of Gen. Pio del Pilar, the most aggressive of the Filipino leaders. An interesting feature is that he was taken six miles from Manila, by native police, aided by a detachment of troops. As the natives engage in active opposition to the rebels, the task of pacification is rendered easier.

Britain is in a tight fix in the Far East when she requests American interference and tacitly admits that she would accept assistance from other European powers to hold Russia back from seizing China. The situation is ominous of trouble; for should Russia proceed against the protest of Great Britain, the latter would not fall, when relieved of South African trouble, to seek to recover lost ground.

It looks now as though China intends to war against all foreigners. The government there has condemned the Chinese commander who endeavored to stop the Boxers' advance, so the only course left for the powers interested is to compel China to come to terms. Russia is on hand, determined to jump in; but Britain, who, a year ago, seemed to be in a position to take a leading part, is tied up by a few Boers in South Africa, and now finds herself in an almost humiliating situation in the Far East.

## THE CENSUS TAKING.

Chicago News. It is said the most difficult task of census enumerators is to ascertain the ages of people. Almost invariably people report themselves younger or older than they actually are, girls and boys and very old people belonging to the latter class, while those between 25 and 45 as a rule prefer to be younger than they are. On account of this peculiar-

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# Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

It is almost impossible to ascertain whether the average length of life is increasing or decreasing, or to learn accurately how many men of military age there may be in the country. Of course every one knows a woman is only as old as she looks, but the census-takers know also that a man is frequently much younger than he looks—that is, according to the census.

**Superior Telegram.**  
The principal work for the next few months will be the counting of the population. It is proposed to do this by what is called the Hollerith tabulating machines, which have heretofore been described in these columns. This branch will require 1,800 clerks. The expectation is to count 800,000 names per day for 90 consecutive days. It is hoped that by December 1 the entire population may have been counted, and that Congress can then make the congressional reapportionment.

**Cleveland Plain Dealer.**  
No good citizen will put obstacles in the way of the enumerator, for his work is of the highest consequence and he will make no inquiries to which any reasonable man can take exception. The work when completed will show in minute detail the country's growth in a decade, and will contain statistics of population, wealth, education, religion and commerce and industry in all their branches. It will be an epitome of the social and industrial progress of every city and township in the land.

**Boston Transcript.**  
A leading paper in Georgia calls upon the citizens of Augusta to sign a protest to Supervisor Smythe, setting forth that the employment of Negro enumerators would not only be distasteful to the people of that city, but would make a farce of the census. If they can establish the latter claim, Mr. Merriam is likely to pay attention to their appeal, for he has a faculty of doing thoroughly whatever he deems. He is not at all likely to draw the color line, however, merely to satisfy the claims of those who regard this as paramount.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The second number of Zion's Young People, published in this city, has for frontispiece a good likeness of the Prophet Joseph Smith. "Child's Life of Brigham Young" by W. A. Morton, is continued. Then follows this list of contents: "The Woodcock Business," E. L. Bangs; "Elixir of Life," H. L. Jerome; "Loving Face in the World," Phoebe Cary; "Around the World," B. W. Ashton; "When School Lets Out in June," recitation; "Editorial," "Mother's Page," "Children's Games," etc.; "Father," Lucile; "Her Awful Dream," poem; "Class Exercise—Good Manners," The Pilgrim and the Great Bear; H. C. Cooke; "Sunday Experience," Carola Schlatzer; "Book Notices," the Editor; "Mirth," selected; "Young Folks' Bible Stories," the Editor; "Baptism," Harold Timpson; "Music," Word of Wisdom; "John's Reference," Success; "Id Lake to be a Boy Again," selected.

"The Modern Farmer in His Business Relations," is the modest title of a vigorous treatise on the American farmer and his relation to modern progress and problems of our general government, recently published by the N. J. Stone company of San Francisco, California. Its author, Edward F. Adams, is a writer whose wide and varied experience as a farmer and man of business eminently fits him to depict in a plain, incisive and common-sense manner the relations which up-to-date farming bears to the educational, social, business and political conditions which constitute its environment. If in the struggle for success and the race for wealth the modern farmer finds that he has not kept pace with the wonderful progress made in other lines of business, the author believes it is due largely if not wholly to the farmer's lack of thorough knowledge of his business and its requirements, and of its intimate relation to various other public and economic affairs. In discussing present farm conditions, the author holds that the only hope of the farmer is in greater knowledge. In the long run, on the farm as elsewhere, those who know most about matters which directly concern their own income have most money, accumulating through the intelligent application of knowledge to a business and a competency. "The Modern Farmer" is a careful and comprehensive study of the principles underlying the art of profitable farming and marketing, and is one of the best practical manuals for farmers who think an inspiration to every progressive and aspiring tiller of the soil.

The National Geographic Magazine for June opens with an article by William E. Curtis on "The Road to Bolivia." Jean C. Bracy writes on "The Colonial Expansion of France." This article is illustrated with a map illustrating the subject. "The Prevention of Hailstorms by the Use of Cannon." "The U. S. Signal Corps." "The Revolt of the Ashantes," and Geographic Miscellanea form the balance of the contents.—Washington.

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