

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 27, 1901.

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-first Annual Conference  
of the Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-  
ter-day Saints will convene in the  
Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday,  
April 5, at 10 a. m.

LORENZO SNOW,  
GEORGE Q. CANNON,  
JOSEPH F. SMITH,  
First Presidency.

## JUDGES AND PASSES.

The bill now before the Legislature  
of Utah, making it a felony for judges  
to receive free passes from railroads, is  
an extreme measure and ought to be  
closely examined, both as to its object  
and to the motives which led to its presen-  
tation.

The idea that no one can receive a  
courtesy from an individual or a com-  
pany or corporation, without being im-  
properly influenced thereby, is a terrible  
reflection upon every person who has  
accepted such a favor, as well as upon  
the grantor thereof.

There may be objections against the  
issuance of passes for transportation,  
admission to theaters and other places  
of recreation, and to special favors gen-  
erally. But nevertheless the custom ex-  
ists, and is continued in spite of all the  
arguments made against it. People  
have the right to both give and take  
when they choose or can, providing it  
is done legitimately, and attempts  
to curtail that liberty will always be  
resented or evaded.

We would be very sorry to think that  
city councilors and other municipal of-  
ficials, would suffer themselves to be  
bribe by the acceptance of a street  
railroad pass. That legislators would  
be swayed in their duty to the people  
by free transportation, tendered to  
them by a railway company. And that  
judges and State officers would betray  
any trust imposed upon them by the  
public, because of an annual or trip  
pass, tendered them as a courtesy by  
some company or corporation.

There have been numerous attempts  
to regulate this matter by law. They  
have usually failed. First, because they  
have been infringements on the rights  
of individuals and corporations, second,  
because their promoters have commonly  
been persons who have failed to obtain  
special favors of the kind themselves,  
and third, because, in not a few in-  
stances, they have been inspired by per-  
sonal motives of a malicious and retali-  
atory character.

There have been many cases of litiga-  
tion between individuals and railroad  
companies that have been decided in  
favor of the latter. Of course there  
have been others that were against  
them. But is that any real argument  
in support of the proposition, that the  
judges who tried them were influenced  
by a railway pass? Is it not a fact  
that all wealthy corporations and es-  
pecially railroad companies, are special  
objects of suits for damages? That  
juries are very prone to give verdicts  
against the wealthy defendants in such  
cases? And that when the contest turns  
on questions of law and equity, the de-  
cisions are often in reverse of verdicts,  
because the legal points involved justify  
and demand that reversal?

Poor human nature is so frail and  
susceptible of evil, that almost any base  
insinuation obtains credence and sup-  
port in some quarters. But does it  
follow, because judges may have trav-  
eled on free passes, that decisions ren-  
dered in matters affecting the company  
that issued them, were influenced or  
purchased by such a paltry considera-  
tion? Has it been shown that any such  
decisions were contrary to the law and  
the facts? If not, the attempt to make  
it appear that they were bought with a  
railroad ticket, is as vile as it is ab-  
surd.

If judges were venal they could gain  
money in sums that would make a free  
pass but a plaything consideration.  
Unless there is positive evidence that  
judicial decisions have been swayed by  
a courtesy which most people thus fa-  
vored accept with alacrity, the intima-  
tion must be viewed with the utmost  
doubt, and with a query as to the mo-  
tives of those who suggest the calumny.

It has been argued that sometimes  
railroad companies have important  
complications, and there is danger that  
the company giving a free pass to a  
judge will probably be the victor. This  
may be met by the answer that prob-  
ably one road is no more ready to ex-  
tend the courtesy than its opponent,  
and if the litigants are equally free,  
the two favors would negative each other.

We are not arguing in favor of free  
passes. It is a matter that can be  
safely left to the companies or individ-  
uals that choose to issue them, and to  
those who accept them. It is largely an  
American custom. It is often very con-  
venient for public officers, and for per-  
sons who have to use the railroads for  
extensive transportation of merchandise.  
It facilitates the work of news-  
papers and other enterprises that are  
in the public interest. It is not likely  
to be abolished at present.

To restrict it by law is, in our opinion,

labor in vain, for it can be so easily ac-  
complished by some arrangement that  
will not violate the letter of the law.  
To say that no public officer may ac-  
cept a pass on a railroad, or other  
similar privilege, is to deny both the  
giver and the receiver a personal right.  
And to claim that the acceptance of  
such a courtesy is necessarily in the na-  
ture of bribe-taking, is to charge that  
venality is a common crime, and that  
judges and other officials are unfit to be  
entrusted with public interests, and  
must be guarded from taking paltry  
favors by stringent laws.

We do not believe there is any public  
demand for the passage of the pro-  
posed bill, but consider it as a slap at  
the legislators and others who have  
been fortunate enough to receive such  
favors, as well as at the judges of our  
courts who, we hope and believe, are  
above such influences as the bill, by  
implication, charges them with having  
been swayed. It ought to be killed  
forthwith.

## THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

A contributor to the Independent,  
commenting on the anti-saloon move-  
ment in Kansas, explains that the situa-  
tion there is the outcome of conditions  
for which "hard times" originally are  
responsible. During the nineties most  
of the towns were hard pressed for  
money. Valuation on property was fall-  
ing, taxes were high, and the population  
was decreasing. Interest on bonds was  
becoming a burden. Then the saloon-  
ists started business. They were fined,  
but they were permitted to keep run-  
ning. They were fined again, but their  
places were not closed. City councils  
held "executive sessions," and saloon  
keepers, by some sort of an agreement,  
were assessed \$50 a month, or every other  
month. Most towns had two saloons,  
and some had from five to ten. The  
financial stress was relieved, and the  
custom spread. In other words, the sa-  
loon keepers were made tax collectors,  
through whom the consumers of liquor  
were made to pay to the public treasur-  
ies considerable sums of money with  
which to run the municipal govern-  
ments.

As long as hard times lasted, the joint  
keeper was tolerated, but now the pro-  
hibition sentiment has again become so  
strong that a woman of Mrs. Nation's  
character can with impunity lead a  
crusade of violence against the vendors  
of liquor.

This is the explanation offered by the  
writer in the Independent. Whether that  
tells the entire story or not, it is cer-  
tain that one general argument in fa-  
vor of the saloon traffic is, and always  
has been, that it is needed for the sake  
of the revenue. That this reasoning  
rests on a fallacy has often been pointed  
out. Drunkenness is responsible for a  
large amount of crimes, insanity, pov-  
erty, and domestic unhappiness. It did  
not exist, the cost for the maintenance  
of police forces, prisons, asylums, and  
poor houses would be largely reduced.  
It is a poor financial policy that main-  
tains a ruinous traffic for the revenue—  
a traffic that brings a vastly  
larger expense indirectly, than the  
direct income it yields. It is like  
burning the floors, doors  
and window frames of a house,  
in order to save cost on fuel. It is to  
give away the goose and receive in ex-  
change the feathers. Kansas, being a  
prohibition State, should not have le-  
galized, in any way, the business which  
is now the object of a crusade. This  
will, according to all indications, before  
long, cost the State dearly. There is  
anarchy now. Murder has been com-  
mitted. Strong efforts must be made to  
bring order into the confusion.

An entirely different question is  
whether it is possible, under present  
conditions, to suppress the liquor traf-  
fic—whether, in other words, prohibi-  
tion really prohibits. Many hold that  
it does not, and if this is true, regula-  
tion by law would certainly be better  
than a law that cannot be enforced.  
Even the Ruler of all men sometimes  
substitutes a "carnal" code for the  
higher law until the children of men  
have obtained the moral and intellec-  
tual education needed for a more per-  
fect condition.

But this is, as to prohibition, a moot-  
ed question. In some places prohibition  
would probably prohibit, while in oth-  
ers it would not. Some communities  
are on a higher moral level than others.  
Local option seems to be an effort at  
recognizing this fact, and the principle  
should, perhaps, be more generally ap-  
plied than it is at present.

## THE UNREST IN SPAIN.

The fact that Spain's young king will  
attain the mature age of sixteen this  
year, at which time he is supposed to  
be able to rule in person a kingdom,  
suggests the question whether the end  
of the regency, and the commencement  
of a new regime is not likely to bring  
on a crisis. Alfonso XIII, for whom the  
queen mother has ruled, has not ob-  
tained a warm corner in the hearts of  
the Spaniards. The people ascribe the  
misfortunes of the country to the ineffi-  
ciency of the government, and probably  
not without some good ground. The  
latest stroke of policy, the marriage of  
the princess of Asturias to a Bourbon,  
was intended to draw the clerical party  
nearer the throne, but the recent riots  
indicate that even if that object is  
gained, the people are not thereby recon-  
ciled. The condition in Spain is de-  
scribed as one ripening for revolution.  
Freedom of the press and of speech is  
denied. Everywhere and under any  
kind of pretext the government exer-  
cises the right of repression. Educa-  
tion is at a low ebb. Official corrup-  
tion is rife, retrenchment and reform  
a sham.

The trouble in most monarchies is  
that the rulers have forgotten the ob-  
ject for which they have been placed  
in exalted positions. Kings and princes  
are apt to look upon their stations in  
life as "divine rights," whether they  
fulfill their obligations or not. They  
are apt to look upon the people as ex-  
isting for their benefit, rather than they  
for the good of the people. Their own  
"prerogatives" are first; the needs of  
the subjects second. The Spanish  
queen regent acted, apparently, on such  
false principles. All during the war  
about Cuba her first thought was for  
what she called the inheritance she held  
in trust for her son. The possibility of  
losing that almost broke her heart.

But she said little, if anything about  
the thousands of human beings  
who were being starved to  
death under the policy of Weyler,  
and the thousands more of young  
men from her fair land, who were com-  
pelled to leave home, mothers, wives,  
and all, and die in Cuban trenches, in  
order that her son might have the hon-  
or of ruling an island across the sea. It  
is always the prerogatives of the crown  
that have to be considered; the pre-  
rogatives of the citizens who have paid  
for that crown, some monarchs have en-  
tirely lost sight of. Hence the rule is  
maintained by force of arms. Armies  
of paid paves are held in readiness to  
oppress the people, at the first sign of  
rebellion.

It is believed that all that Spain now  
needs for a real revolution is a compe-  
tent leader. And perhaps if such a  
leader should arise, that would be a  
great blessing to the country. Spain is  
rich. It has natural resources enough.  
But her government has neglected the  
development of those resources, while  
at the same time it has impoverished  
the people for the maintenance of far  
away colonies, useful chiefly for the  
purse of corrupt officials could bring away  
from them. A Spanish republic led by  
intelligent citizens would cure many of  
the ills under which the people are suf-  
fering. And if the recent war is in-  
strumental in bringing liberty not only  
to Cuba but also to Spain, it will yet  
be said that that war was a blessing in  
disguise.

## CLASS DISTINCTION.

Rear Admiral Sampson's "turning  
down" of the application of gunner  
Charles Morgan for the position of en-  
sign in the navy, cannot fail to be  
more or less severely criticized through-  
out the whole country. He finds him  
professionally competent but that he  
lacks in social position. If there is any-  
thing the American people resent it is  
the idea that one class of the people  
is better than another. And Rear Ad-  
miral Sampson has emphasized this  
very class distinction. In the old navy  
it was not as it is now; and great  
and gallant as is the new navy, the old  
navy was in every respect its equal.  
Deatur and Bainbridge, Porter and  
Barrett were the equals of any men  
who ever trod the decks of an Ameri-  
can ship, which is to say they were  
the equal of any men who ever trod  
any ship. They were not Annapolis  
graduates, for Annapolis was not found-  
ed when they learned the arts of sea-  
manship and war. Such facts as  
these are sure to be brought forth to  
meet Admiral Sampson's argument. It  
looks as though his letter were a mis-  
take. It is pleasant to know that Sec-  
retary of the Navy Long has not heed-  
ed the objections to gunner Morgan's  
promotion, but has recommended him  
in accordance with his (Morgan's) re-  
quest. Morgan did valuable service in  
establishing the theory that the Maine  
was blown up from the outside.

## NATIONAL IRRIGATION.

The question of federal aid for the  
reclamation of the arid lands of the  
West, is being solved step by step, and  
the probability is that this vast enter-  
prise will at some time be undertaken.  
The irrigation congress which met in  
Chicago some months ago, suggested  
that an appropriation of \$10,000,000 a  
year for fifteen years for this purpose.  
He asked for of the present Congress.  
The memorial has not yet been acted  
upon, but a Senate amendment to the  
river and harbor bill provides for \$200,-  
000 to be expended on dams and reser-  
voirs in Wyoming, and this proves that  
the irrigation question is forcing itself  
upon the attention of our national legis-  
lators.

It is an undertaking of tremendous  
importance. It is claimed that with  
sufficient water stored in the right  
places, 600,000,000 acres of land can be ad-  
ded to the cultivable area of the coun-  
try, and that 50,000,000 people can be  
sustained on this now useless waste.  
The land is there, and the water is  
within reach. The country has money  
and muscle enough to bring the vivify-  
ing element to the thirsty soil. All that  
is needed is intelligently directed effort.  
Irrigation is practical. It is not a  
doubtful experiment. What has been  
accomplished in Utah may be done on  
a vastly larger scale throughout a  
stretch of territory including Colora-  
do, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming and  
Montana. To reclaim this entire re-  
gion is the work of a nation with the  
resources and enterprise of the people  
of the United States. Its final result  
will be of incalculable benefit to every  
section of the country.

Dewey is said to be hard pressed. It  
may be because he has proven himself  
to be a "brick."

The United States is the greatest ex-  
porting nation in the world. No wonder  
Uncle Samuel's waistband continues to  
expand: it is justifiable.

Gen. Kitchener is preparing a coup  
to catch Dewey or Botha, or both. The  
chances are that they will "fly de  
coup" when least expected.

Editor William Allen White positive-  
ly declares that there are no breakers  
left in Kansas. Tut, tut, breaks  
White. What are you talking about?

In the Austrian reichsrath yesterday  
there was a free fight between Pan-  
German and Czechs. Members of the  
reichsrath would do well to remember  
that free fights do not make a free  
country.

Once again Aguilardo is reported to  
be dead. It may be so, but so often  
has this report been put in circulation  
that until confirmed by the production  
of his body people will not credit it.  
He has been killed too often.

President Schuman, of Cornell uni-  
versity, and the late Philippine commis-  
sioner, says that in the Philippines we  
have not annexed great advantage, but  
we have assumed grave responsibilities.  
And he might have added with the em-  
phasis upon grave.

The mine disaster at Kemmerer,  
Wyo., is a terrible thing and recalls  
the disaster at Scofield some months  
ago. It isn't so great but it is all too  
great. No death seems so horrible as  
that where men are entombed in the  
bowels of the earth. Not many of the

victims of the Kemmerer disaster are  
residents of Utah but they are our fel-  
low men, and to their families and  
friends our deepest heartfelt sym-  
pathies are extended.

It would be interesting to know what  
Col. Roosevelt's opinion of the life that  
Mrs. Carrie Nation is leading is,  
whether or not he deems it a strenuous  
one. Whatever else it may be it cer-  
tainly is not an idle life. And that is  
much in this day of leisure and luxury.

An Indiana mob yesterday lynched  
a negro and then burned his body. This  
is bad and barbarous. But not so bad  
and barbarous as the burning alive of  
a negro at Victor, Colorado, and at  
Leavenworth, Kansas. Indiana may  
still claim the palm for high civiliza-  
tion.

The execution of Boxer leaders con-  
tinues to pursue the even tenor of its  
way. It may possibly be that it is ne-  
cessary to have public executions in ev-  
ery Chinese town in which foreigners  
were murdered or outraged, but such  
"necessity" shows that the powers de-  
manding it are actuated by anything but  
Christian or civilized motives. They  
are simply motives of revenge. There  
is a feeling of satisfaction in knowing  
that Special Commissioner Rockhill  
pleaded with the ministers for more  
humane treatment.

## THE KANSAS HATCHET.

Chicago News.  
While Mrs. Nation has not in so many  
words urged the shooting down of joint-  
ists or of their wives, she has succeeded  
in popularizing in Kansas lawless meth-  
ods in dealing with the drink evil. That  
she has found ready disciples who have  
carried her teachings to their logical  
and inevitable results is at least one  
case, ought to be sufficient to open the  
eyes of her followers as to the conse-  
quences of the hatchet policy. Nothing  
good can or will come of lawlessness  
in a republic. Where the people do not  
make their own laws and elect their  
own officers to execute them, violence  
may sometimes be not only excusable  
but commendable. In America it is not  
only inexcusable, it is a folly com-  
pounded to that the man who "dred  
the Ephesian dome." It is easy enough  
to conjure up the spirit of lawlessness  
and anarchy; it is not easy to lay it.

## New York Evening Sun.

It seems like old times in Kansas.  
The warfare now is about rum, the sale  
of which the Constitution forbids, but  
which the legislature allows to be sold  
under the understanding that twice a  
year the proprietors of saloons shall be  
arrested and fined. Such a queer law  
could be found in no other books only  
in Kansas, the land of mental strabismus.  
The attitude of the saloon men is:  
"What is a little thing like the  
Constitution between the liquor traffic  
and the State?" Mrs. Carrie Nation  
was supposed to be for the Constitution,  
but her notoriety hunt in Chicago has  
shaken confidence in the woman's sin-  
cerity or sanity—there seems to be a  
difference of opinion in the family about  
her.

## Milwaukee Wisconsin.

Mrs. Nation is a vigorous apostle of  
a strenuous life. But though she has  
been the theme of admiring declamation  
in several pulpits, the Methodist minis-  
ters of Chicago rejected a proposal to  
welcome her to that city, and the Chi-  
cago Press club, after inviting her to  
lecture at the Auditorium, thought bet-  
ter of it and cancelled the engagement.  
There are many Americans of ex-  
emplary conduct who regard Mrs. Na-  
tion as an uncomfortable freak.

## Boston Herald.

Those persons in Kansas who are re-  
ported to be congratulating themselves  
that the efforts of Mrs. Nation and her  
coadjutors are to be successful in ban-  
ishing all liquor saloons from that  
State, will do well to reflect upon how  
their alleged success has been achieved.  
If the saloons are abolished in this way,  
it will be a proof that what law could  
not achieve in Kansas, violence as em-  
ployed against law had brought to an  
end. We find it difficult to imagine a  
worse example to be set up in a State  
than this. It is a demonstration that  
lynch law is better suited to the  
condition of Kansas than is respect for  
that legal authority.

## Kansas City World.

Now that the Kansas authorities have  
lauded Mrs. Nation in jail, they might  
devote a few spare moments to enforc-  
ing the laws of the State which prohibit  
the liquor traffic. If Kansas wants sa-  
loons it should legalize them. The leg-  
islature should be compelled to "fish  
out bait or so ashore" on the prohibi-  
tion question.

## Worcester Spy.

Incredible as it may seem, there was  
a minister of the gospel who had so  
far forgotten the honor and dignity of  
his office as to join the mob. When  
he had seen how the "smashing" was  
conducted, he knew he was simply one  
of a violent, and lawless mob drunk  
with excitement. He tried to atone for  
his foolishness by attempting to  
restrain the rioters. But for his pains  
was called a coward by Dr. Eva Har-  
ding and other woman crusaders. The  
minister's wife took exception to Dr.  
Harding's remarks and a personal en-  
counter between the two women was  
narrowly averted.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In the March number of Modern Cul-  
ture will be found an illustrated article  
on the "Social and Domestic Life of the  
Modern Greek," by B. F. Fisher, in  
which the author compares the charac-  
ter, customs, and achievements of the  
Greeks with those of the Italians of  
our day. Three short illustrated articles  
follow on "The Chinese Quarter of San  
Francisco," "Two Features of German  
University Life" and "Sugar Making—  
The Festival Spring." Marion Har-  
ding describes "An Episode of a Sum-  
mer at the Spa." The next three arti-  
cles, "Why The Fourth of March,"  
"Ohio's Presidents" and "Theodore  
Roosevelt—The Typical Man of the  
Twentieth Century," present three suc-  
cessful phases of inauguration day top-  
ics. Two March songs are celebrated in  
an article entitled "The Shamrock  
and the Leaf," by Emma Stevers Jones.  
The last of Sidney Lanier's Shakespeare  
lectures is followed by a sketch of the  
Southern poet's life as a Confederate  
soldier, written by Clifford Lanier.  
"A Filipino Hymn," translated by Hen-  
derson Deingfield, and a "Filipino  
National March," are two unique fea-  
tures of this number. The third instal-  
ment of Mrs. Denton Wilson's "Glimpses  
of Life in the Philippines," is very well  
told. Under Current Events G. Mercer  
Adam pays a graceful tribute to Queen  
Victoria and the Editor discusses "After  
the Fourth of March" and "The  
Game of Philanthropy," while to this  
department is assigned an original  
sketch by Thomas Nast—Caxton Build-  
ing, Cleveland, Ohio.

The superintendent of the press de-  
partment of the Buffalo exposition has  
issued a neat little pamphlet, illustrat-  
ing the grounds and structures of that  
pan-American show that is to open  
on the last day of May next. The center  
of the booklet shows a birdseye view of  
the exposition, and gives one some idea  
of the enterprise upon which about 115,-  
000,000 is being expended. The grounds  
contain 320 acres. Other pages show  
horticulture, graphic arts and mines.

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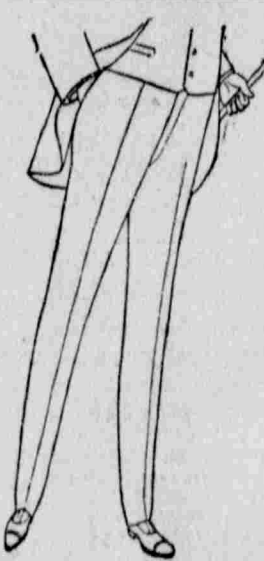
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T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

## GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.



Kind of between hay and grass

with you! Don't want to buy your spring  
suit yet.And the old one getting kind  
of shabby.You can fix it up by getting a  
pair of odd pants.You'll be surprised at the  
change they'll make.You'll be surprised, too, at  
how near we can come to match-  
ing your coat and vest.Several hundred pairs here to  
choose from.A full hundred and fifty that  
we're selling at a fourth less  
than regular price.

The others are our regular stock of chevots, serges,

worsteds.  
\$2.00 up to \$10.00.ONE  
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Who has it? Have you? Then let  
us fix it. Better still. Let us put an  
entire new set in. We have the finest to  
be seen in the world. ROYAL WOR-  
CESTER. In gold and palissy decora-  
tions. Special SEVRES finish. Old  
Ivory and Gold Bath Room tiles in all  
colors. And then our beautiful  
MANTLES. Mahogany, Bird's Eye  
Maple, Curly Birch, Golden Oak.  
Come and look at them. Do. You  
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Is your home insured? If not the Home  
Fire Insurance Company of Utah will give you  
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time. "Insure today; tomorrow may be too late."  
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