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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 26, 1907.

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-eighth annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday, April 5, 1907, at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members is hereby requested.

The general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Saturday, April 6, at 7 o'clock p. m.

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

The annual conference of the Sunday School Union will be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday, April 7, at 7 o'clock p. m.  
JOSEPH F. SMITH,  
General Superintendent.

## DICTIONARY AND DOCTRINE.

Judging from the comments of the press on the Senate decision in the famous case against Senator Smoot, and also from the able advocacy of several senators on the questions involved, it is safe to say that public opinion has been fairly well enlightened on that phase of the controversy concerning Utah, which relates to so-called plural marriages. It is quite generally known and acknowledged that that issue belongs to the past, and that time will further solve every problem involved therein. But the impression still prevails among the general public, that the "Mormons" are "priest-ridden," and that their "priests" are autocratic "rulers" over both spiritual and temporal affairs. This erroneous idea has been conveyed to the world by the frequent use of the term "hierarchy" which the dealers in slander and falsehoods have adopted as best serving their purpose of exciting prejudices and inflaming hatred against the Church. We have taken occasion to notice the cowardly tactics of those who rely on an argumentum ad hominem for the accomplishment of their incendiary plans, and to deny the existence of a "Mormon hierarchy," such as that depicted by the traducers of the Church. We have endeavored to "explain" the differences between a "hierarchy" and the Ministry of the Church, and we invite all the world to investigate the organization and government of the Church, for the verification of the truth that a "hierarchy" is foreign to that religious body. We hope public opinion will, in time, be enlightened on this subject, too.

The Organ that most often rolls, with apparent relish, the word "hierarchy" under its venomous tongue, appeals to Webster's dictionary for proof of its puerile contention. It might just as well have quoted Euclid, or Xenophon's Anabasis, or Don Quixote, or Baron Munchausen for that matter. In the decision of a purely theological question, neither Noah Webster, L.L.D., nor any other lexicographer, be he ever so eminent, is the final authority. If, however, Webster's dictionary is accepted as competent testimony, let it be remembered that the term "hierarchy," etymologically considered, means a body of rulers consisting of "hieroi," the term used to denote the priesthood of the Mosaic dispensation. When, however, the eminent students who depend upon the dictionary for their theological information read against the "hierarchy" they do not refer to anyone holding the Aaronic Priesthood, but to men holding the higher Priesthood, who in the New Testament language are "Presbyters" or "Elders," not "hieroi," or Mosaic priests. The logical inference from the dictionary would be that, where there is no "hieroi," there can be no "hierarchy." But where is logic among the anti-Mormons?

Theological writers on the subject tell us that the sacerdotal idea is traceable to pagan sacerdotalism which was introduced into the church by pagan converts, together with numerous other errors, during the post-apostolic age. It was not well developed until the age of Constantine, when it became the established practice to draw a peculiar distinction between the "clergy" and the "laity." Not until then was a "hierarchy" possible. But, in the "Mormon" Church the New Testament order has been re-established.

A study of the rise and prevalence of the sacerdotal idea in the apostate church, is really a study of the progress of error and corruption. Cautiously at first, the idea of an initiation of the Mosaic dispensation was suggested; then, boldly, this idea was departed from and the ministry of worldly dominion was added. So we find, finally, a long list of dignities, archdeacons, deans, archbishops, primates, cardinals, and others for which there is absolutely no authority in the Scriptures, all in imitation of the "hierarchy" of the world, where kings rule and lords exercise authority. The Lord had said, "It shall not be so with you," but the apostate church replied: "It shall be so with us," and so officers were created, not to serve the people in humility, but to rule over them, in the same manner as governors, dukes, princes, and so on, rule the world. Such "rule" is as foreign to the Church as it is to the New Testament.

The subject may not be considered of great importance in this age of materialistic tendencies, but fair-minded men and women who are asked to condemn the Latter-day Saints and use their in-

fluence against them on the ground that they are slaves to a "hierarchy," should know that few church members enjoy more liberty of faith and practice than do the Latter-day Saints. It would be as consistent to say that the Congregationalists, for instance, are the slaves of a hierarchy, as to pronounce that judgment of the Latter-day Saints. Let the truth be known.

## THE ORGAN WOULD NOT.

"Even if the Mayor of San Francisco should confess, would anybody believe him?"

The above question is propounded by the organ of the Knowers' crowd in Salt Lake and impels us to ask in reply, even if Sheets and Raleigh were to openly proclaim their guilt to all the world in the McWhirter robbery and in other irregularities of the police department, would the Tribune believe them? On the contrary it would vociferously denounce them and say that they were altogether mistaken and not competent to give testimony against themselves on the ground of self-incrimination and manifest injury to the "American" party of which they are such brilliant exponents.

It will be remembered that when a judge of the district court held Sheets to answer before a higher tribunal for an offense that would make any other peace officer in the United States hang his head with shame, his supporters set up the hue and cry, that inasmuch as the boodle officials of San Francisco were permitted to remain in the public service, he should enjoy the same privilege. Such a defense is the defense of thieves and rascals generally. Because unfortunate and gang-ridden San Francisco is compelled to stagger with bowed head and bent form under her load of graft and shame, which she is just arousing herself to throw off, should Salt Lake be called upon to undergo the same ignominy? The idea is preposterous as are most of the ideas advanced along "American" party lines of the political regeneration scheme so flamboyantly launched upon a local stage a year and a half ago by a convention whose chief presiding officer declared he was ashamed to register from Salt Lake when he was traveling away from home. We wonder how much prouder the gentleman is of the Salt Lake of today with its police scandals and regime of protected crime in high places! Is he not beginning to think, and that strongly, that the present head of the police department is a mill stone around the neck of the municipality whose welfare makes it essential that he should go into private life? Or has he, too, with the more eminently respectable portion of the "American" party arrived at that point where, like the organ, they will not believe he is guilty even though he blew it in trumpet tones from the house tops?

## THE STRUGGLE IN RUSSIA.

Advisers from Russia have stated that the government's program, as announced to the Duma, includes laws for free speech, liberty of worship, habeas corpus, local self-government and popular education.

These are the privileges promised in the famous decree of the Czar a couple of years ago, but when the first Duma demanded their embodiment in law, it was promptly dissolved. The second Duma, now in session, may make similar demands and meet the same fate.

It seems, however, that the prospects of harmonious co-operation with the government are brighter now. The character of the second Duma is different from that of the first. As the London Times correspondent expressed it, not long ago: "The new house is more democratic, but at the same time the unsophisticated peasants who formed such a large contingent in the first Duma are remarkably scarce."

And again: "Just as M. Mourouloff, the veteran professor, embodied the first Duma, so may M. Golovin, the young Zemstvoist, be regarded as the ideal representative of the present house. Doctrinaire rectification gives place to practical business."

The clouds that darken the sky over the Czar's domain will not lift until that program, which is said to include liberty of worship, is carried out to its fullest extent. Especially the Hebrews in that empire must be accorded the rights that belong to every human being. One of the ancient prophets of this continent pronounced judgment upon those who "spurn" the Jews. "Therefore," he said, "ye need not suppose that ye can turn the right hand of the Lord unto the left, that he may not execute judgment unto the fulfilling of the covenant which he hath made unto the house of Israel." (III Nephi, xiv: 3, 9). History bears ample testimony to the remarkable fact that the countries and nations that have dealt mercifully with the scattered remnant have been blessed abundantly, while persecutors have not prospered permanently.

## IS THAW INSANE?

No case in recent years has been so productive of sensations as the Thaw murder case, and the most dramatic incident of the trial occurred when the prosecutor declared the defendant insane and asked for the appointment of a commission to examine his mental condition. This move took the defense by surprise. It was a master-stroke. If the commission declares Thaw insane, he will be sent to an asylum. If he is found to be sane, the defense will be confronted with the difficult task of proving to the satisfaction of the jury that Thaw was insane when he fired the fatal shot, and that he recovered immediately.

This has been, in fact, the contention of the defense from the beginning. Thaw's counsel have exhausted every possible effort to establish the fact that he has been intermittently insane during his entire life, and more particularly for several years prior to June 25 last and for six months thereafter. They have also advanced the theory that since the date of his trial was definitely fixed, he has been perfectly sane. The insincerity of this contention is seen in their opposition to the appointment of a lunacy commission.

The experts talk learnedly about the difference between the delusions that cause acts of insanity without previous meditation, and those which they de-

signate as systematic. The former are the result of "brain storms," the latter of "paranoia." The "brain storms" are outbreaks of insanity without any known reason for them. They arise suddenly, and as suddenly subside. In "paranoia" the mind is permanently affected. The disease is chronic and very often incurable. The systematized delusions which induce a patient to commit murder are quite likely to recur with reference to some other victim; or they may take a new turn and lead up to some other form of crime. Therefore a person who suffers from paranoia, it is argued, should be placed in confinement, to protect his fellow-men from his repulsion. From brain storm a man may recover. Thaw may be cured, established by scientific observations, but will a jury be justified in turning a murderer loose upon society on the plea that the crime was the result of a violent "brain storm" which passed quickly? What guaranty is there that another "storm" may not occur?

The Thaw case is one of the notorious cases in which justice is opposed by Mammon. But for money there would be little difficulty in determining both the moral and mental condition of the defendant.

## TO REPRESENT UTAH.

Readers of the Deseret News are already apprised of the important peace congress which has been called to meet in New York next month; and they know something, too, of the great movements for a universal tranquility among the nations of the world, conspicuous among which have been the annual gatherings at Lake Mohonk, under the far-seeing, fostering care and most generous hospitality of the Hon. Albert K. Smiley, millionaire philanthropist and high-minded American citizen. For years these gatherings have constantly grown more important until the eyes of the promoters of peace from many lands are now focused upon them. In an editorial last evening the "News" suggested the advisability of Utah being well represented at the forthcoming session, and we note with pleasure that the commercial club of this city which holds a membership in the organization, in pursuance of what we said, promptly named Hon. Hoyt Sherman of Washington, to attend that conference. The appointment is an altogether happy one. In Utah where Mr. Sherman's acquaintance is very wide he is known as a man of peace. It will be remembered that it was his distinguished uncle, a general in the Union army, who gave to the world the famous and oft quoted expression that "war is hell." And that is the nephew's opinion of all sanguinary strife and conflicts. Mr. Sherman of today stands for peace at all times, not the peace that may come at any price, but that which comes as the result of the most advanced thought of the age on the best means for preventing nations from waging war with one another. In short he is an arbitrationist of no mean ability.

Abel Ruef is between Henry and the Globe Gate.

Now you see it and now you don't—Thaw's insanity.

Nicaragua has won and Bonilla is dying. And he feels that some one pursueth.

So zealous and watchful are the game wardens that if a man draws the color line near a trout stream, he is arrested.

Conditions in the stock market again are such as to cause Wall street to cast wistful sidelong glances towards Secretary Cortelyou.

Thomas F. Ryan, the capitalist, says that the railroads are really owned by the people and not by Wall street brokers. Really, this is news indeed!

Nine hundred veterans at the national soldiers' home at Leavenworth have been poisoned by eating fish. Whoever eats hash takes his life in his mouth.

Ghent is to have women policemen. It would be an interesting if not instructive sight to see them undertake to quell a mob of London suffragettes.

Bonilla evidently believes with Goldsmith that "he who fights and runs away may live to fight another day; but he who is in battle slain can never rise and fight again."

A New York divine sought a sermon in the slums and now trust answer to his bishop. In future in searching for sermons let him confine himself to stones and running brooks.

Chairman Knapp of the Interstate commerce commission is rather in favor of federal control of the railroads. Federal officials favor federal control and state officials are for state control. The railroads are for neither.

Ex-Senator Burton of Kansas charges that his trial and conviction were due to the vindictiveness of President Roosevelt. Is he not suffering from exaggerated ego, in attributing to himself so much importance in the President's mind?

A committee composed of influential men has been formed in London to raise funds for a statue of the late Marquis of Salisbury, prime minister of England. The German idea would be to have him represented as a lion painted to look like iron.

The court-martial that tried Major Penrose acquitted him but found that the shooting-up of Brownsville was done by men of the Twenty-fifth Infantry. A court-martial composed of army officers generally gets at facts in the case, and no doubt it has done so in this instance.

The editor of the Anarchist organ published at Paterson, N. J., has been warned by the "Vigilance Committee of the Law and Order League" that so soon as he oversteps the boundary they will take the case into their own hands and drive every Anarchist out of the city. This looks as though a special parasite had been sent to stop a plague.

## M. CASIMIR-PERIER.

## Providence Tribune.

To those acquainted with the public life of M. Casimir-Perier, ex-president of France, there will be nothing to surprise in the view that his death will be regarded practically as an impression upon the French people save that of the mild interest of momentary duration insipidly caused by one who has occurred excited station. M. Casimir-Perier reached the presidency of France through the commonplace advances of opportunity. If for the most part inconspicuous, legislative and administrative office in which he failed to demonstrate the possession of any extraordinary ability. As president he disappointed his friends while affording his enemies but little satisfaction. In the main he was an inoffensive, because in some degree a colorless, statesman and it can be said of him that his services to his country were of a character to entitle him to a place among those worthy to stand forth in his country's history. Like certain French politicians now living, M. Casimir-Perier cared more for a kind of moral assistance than for a kind of moral aid he did for substantial national interests in the furtherance of which he was not immediately concerned.

## NO RETALIATION.

## Washington Star.

There is a good deal of talk of retaliation on the part of railway managers. It is reported from Nebraska that the railroads have reduced the number of their trains and have even gone so far as to compel passengers from outside states to buy fresh tickets and recheck their baggage at the Nebraska state line. A threatened retaliation against the public is a shortsighted policy. The people will not be retaliated against, and a company which resorts to this device is a candidate for stringent and thorough regulation. One of the best friends of the railroad corporations has uttered the warning that the railroads are in a position to be the railroad would be suicide. The obvious course of prudence is for the railroads to submit patiently to a process of regulation and to accept in return the security of inalienable constitutional rights, which is so unmistakably an expression of the public belief that the transportation lines should render service for lower rates than have heretofore prevailed. Good sense will ultimately dominate in this propaganda of reform.

## A POOR ARGUMENT.

## Argonaut.

An Oakland farmer found a score of men putting up telegraph poles all over his best field. He ordered the men away, but they wouldn't go. They showed him a paper which he then authorized to put up their poles wherever they wished. The old man looked at the paper, saw it was lawful and walked away in silence. He went to the barn and turned a savage red bull into the field. The bull made for the men, the men fled at top speed and the farmer shouted: "Show him your paper!"

## JUST FOR FUN.

## The Best Way.

"I often wonder," remarked the soulful young man, dreamily, "what's the best way to find out what a woman thinks of you?"

"Maturity," snapped Peckham, Philadelphia Press.

## Cause and Effect.

Mrs. Chittie—What a worried, anxious look Mrs. Goode has.

Mrs. Chittie—Yes, I hear she's stopped doing her own work and engaged a servant.—Cassell's Journal.

## But Not so Many Tongues.

"A mile is as good as a mile," they say, "but in one way it's not true. A mile has more than five thousand feet. And a mile has only two."

—Boston Transcript.

## Folly to be Wise.

"But why should I keep books?" "Well, you would know just where you stood at the end of the month."

"But, my dear fellow, why rub it in?" —Life.

## Force of Habit.

Mrs. de Style—Mrs. Gotrox asked her chauffeur to take her baby out in the park and what he thought of the park, and what do you think the absent-minded fellow did?

Mrs. Gotrox (anxiously)—What?

Mrs. de Style—Wore his auto goggles and filled the baby's milk bottle with gasoline.

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