

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

LORENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 25, 1900.

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The seventieth semi-annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence on Friday, October 5, at 10 a. m. in the Tabernacle in this city.

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

## PAST DAY.

Inasmuch as one of the sessions of our forthcoming General Conference will be held on Sunday, the 7th prox., which is our general fast day, the next fast day services will be held on the last Sunday of the present month instead of the first Sunday of next month.

LORENZO SNOW.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will convene Sunday, Sept. 27, 1900, at 7 p. m., in the Tabernacle. It is desired that each Stake of Zion be represented at this meeting, and that Stake superintendents, officers and teachers attending the General Conference of the Church be present.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,  
KARL G. MAESER,  
General Superintendency of Sunday Schools.  
HORACE S. ENSIGN,  
General Secretary.

## ABOUT "MORMON AGGRESSION."

This is the time of year for newspaper reports about the "Union of Church and State in Utah," and the secret power of the "Mormon" Church over the people who compose its membership. This is a presidential year, and opportunity is afforded opponents of the Church and political partisans on either side, to claim that the Church authorities will "order" the "Mormons" to support their respective candidates. So we are not surprised to find a long editorial in the Boston Transcript on this subject, containing the customary errors and betraying the common ignorance of eastern editors on "Mormon" affairs.

The Transcript refers to two dispatches received in the East, one from Utah, the other from Arizona, and thus explains their purport:

"The Utah dispatch announced that the Mormon Church stood ready to swing the ballot of Utah in favor of the Republican party; the Arizona dispatch declared that Arizona would shortly be a sovereign State; and the relation between the two is simply this: The Mormons, having solemnly promised to sever the union of Church and State, are breaking their promise in Utah, and they are preparing to break their promise in Arizona. Where their numbers are already large enough to assure them the balance of power at the moment Arizona attains Statehood. Indeed, it is the Mormonite element in Arizona that has most to gain by emergence from territorial control."

This is followed by a column of comment, most of which is mere conjecture founded on the statements in the two dispatches, and ringing in the everlasting lament about the "menace of polygamy." The Transcript admits that "the actual facts concerning the 'Mormon' movement are exceedingly difficult to get at." Yet it swallows the two dispatches, as though their transmission by telegraph established their authenticity, and rendered worthy of full credence that which originally was a matter of doubt, and therefore news that was unreliable at the point of inquiry, became a disclosure of "actual facts" on reaching Boston by wire. The situation here on this point is thus described by that paper:

Salt Lake City is the recognized Brighamite capital, and it is to Salt Lake City that one naturally goes for information; but, once arrived in that center of the Mormon empire, one discovers that he must sift evidence and analyze testimony with infinite caution. One hears the tales of four quite distinct classes. First, there are the Mormons, who lie about themselves, next, the Mormon sympathizers (called Jack Mormons), who repeat the lies of the Mormons; then the apostates, who lie about the Mormons; and finally the gentle opponents of Mormonism (loosely known as "Mormon-baiters"), who repeat the lies of the apostates. Mormons and Jack Mormons deny the union of church and state. Apostates and Mormon-baiters affirm it. Whom shall one believe?

The question would naturally arise in a mind so well informed (?) as to the division of classes here—all have, by the by, according to the Transcript—as to the source of the dispatch from Utah. And no matter from which class it emanated, how much reliance would be placed upon it, considering the kind of people that compose Salt Lake society? As to the Arizona news, it is made to toggle onto the Utah tidings in such a clumsy manner, as to tinge it with the

same suspicion that beclouds its mate.

But what is the trouble about the "Mormons" in Utah and Arizona just now? Why this is it, according to the editorial genius at the "hub?"

"In Idaho, in Nevada, in Wyoming, in Colorado and in California, the Mormon vote is large enough to decide an election when added in toto to that of either party. It constitutes a real 'balance of power.' That was the design; and despite the protestations of the Saints, it is still the design. Arizona must therefore be raised to Statehood. New Mexico will come next."

The contemplated statehood of Arizona and New Mexico seems to alarm the Boston oracle. Why this has been "the design" of the people of those Territories for more than a quarter of a century. It has had no relation to any "Mormon" movement. It is and has been the natural development of those incipient States, towards that full liberty which all American citizens desire, and which was contemplated in the organization of all the Territories. "Arizona must be raised to statehood," New Mexico also? Certainly. Why not? The Transcript says:

"We shall do well to think twice before admitting Arizona to the Union." Only twice? Then there is some chance for our neighbor on the South. Congress has already thought of it about a score of times and has not yet made up its mind. Perhaps two more thinkings may decide the matter, and justice will be done to both the Territories still seeking for it eagerly. But that paper says: "The Saints only wait for statehood to control Arizona."

Strange, isn't it, that one has to go to Boston to find this out. Singular, that there is no sign of it either in Utah or in Arizona. In both places the Saints are divided in politics, and each party struggles for supremacy, with all the ardor—and some times more—that is exhibited in older commonwealths, and the Church utters no word of command or counsel as to the voting of its members in any State or Territory of the Union. The truth is that there is less occasion for the cry about "union of Church and State" in Utah than almost any other part of this country. The "Mormon" people are left perfectly free to choose, in conventions and at the polls, the persons whom they wish to occupy political offices national or local. There is no evidence whatever to the contrary. No official instructions can be produced in proof of the old, old story about the domination of the Church in politics.

The alarm about "the restoration of polygamy" is merely an echo of the past, taken up by clerical enemies of the "Mormon" Church, and faintly sounded in the reverberations of a portion of the press. It would be amusing, perhaps, to learn from which class of "liars" in this city the Boston paper obtained its alleged information on these points. Its story that the "Mormons" "already number no less than a million, whose missionaries brought in something like a hundred thousand converts last year," is a fitting tale to couple with the statement, that they hold the "real balance of power" in Colorado, Nevada and California, and leads a discriminating mind to query, whether both did not come from the "Mormon-baiters," of whose veracity the Transcript dilates in such glowing terms.

Seriously the two dispatches are merely ante-election "porkbacks," having partisan ends in view. The truth is the political contest in Utah this year promises to be close and animated. No one with brains can witness its conduct without seeing clearly that each party is in "dead earnest," and that the "Mormons" take opposite sides with a vim and determination that utterly preclude the nonsensical idea, that they are acting under orders from any ecclesiastical or other power on earth. Every citizen in Utah is free to vote according to his individual convictions of the right, and all stories to the contrary, no matter from what source they spring, are untrue and unworthy of serious consideration.

## THE DIVORCE MILL.

In looking over the reports of the court proceedings in this city, one can hardly escape the impression that Utah is rapidly forging ahead in the matter of divorces. On Monday, the 25th inst., there were no less than thirty-two cases on the calendar of Judge Hiles, of which twenty were disposed of by the plaintiffs being granted the relief prayed for, while the remaining cases were either passed or continued. The business was transacted in a couple of hours. No cases were contested. In all of them, it was only a question of hearing the complaint and the corroboratory testimony, and granting the decree.

As to the complaints made, they were almost invariably desertion and failure to support. In a majority of cases such neglect appeared to be entirely uncalculated. The husbands had work at reasonable wages, and nothing but a deplorable lack of moral stamina can account for the estrangement.

But whatever the cause may be, the ever-increasing number of divorces, which after all, represent only a part of unhappy unions, indicate the existence of an evil which may become one of the most serious menaces to the State. Even if the marriage relation is viewed only in its bearing upon life on this earth, it is the best school for moral and intellectual education. In men and women are trained in unselfishness, forbearance, integrity. If marriage is what it is intended to be, it is the safeguard of morality, and fits human beings to become rulers in truth and righteousness over the more or less extended part of the world they have been given the privilege to inhabit. What would humanity become without the refining influence of marriage and the home? With passion unrestrained, how long time would it take mankind to sink to the level of brute, were it not for that institution, without which civilized society would be impossible?

People in years gone by have pretended to be in mortal fear of the menace of "Mormonism," but the menace of broken marriage ties and desolate homes is, like the poor, always with us. And the wonder is that some Elijah is not raised up to denounce amid thunder and flashes from heaven the desecrators of the home, which should be sacred to the living God.

Without doubt laws are needed for

the better protection of the home.

Divorces should not be granted hastily, or for slight causes. It should not be made easy for a husband to desert a wife, or vice versa. And wise legislation can do much towards improving the general moral tone of a community, by setting forth clearly a moral ideal, drawing the line of demarcation between right and wrong. But something more than laws is needed. There is no hope of reform, without a correct understanding of the nature of a marriage contract and its binding force both for time and eternity. When this understanding is obtained young people will not hastily enter into the obligations it carries with it. They will be less apt to trust solely to their own immature judgment in a matter of such importance. Were marriages contracted more in a spirit of serious contemplation of its duties and responsibilities, there would be fewer divorces, fewer broken hearts and shattered hopes. As it is, the divorce evil is one of the serious problems of our time, whether this is generally conceded or not.

## MEDICAL DEFENSIVE UNION.

The Medical Record discusses editorially the advisability of forming a medical defense union. One of the reasons given for the urgency of such an organization is the fact that the medical profession has many difficulties with which to contend, and especially do the members thereof labor under disadvantages in defending malpractice suits. An action of this description, says the Record, does not only affect the physician concerned, but the entire fraternity. This being so, it is reasonable to expect that every effort will be put forth by the accused to win his suit, as he is as a matter of fact, fighting in the interests of the medical profession. "But," the Record continues, "unfortunately it often happens that the money necessary to employ the best measures to insure success is lacking, and that consequently irreparable injury is done to physicians throughout the country."

To remedy this it is proposed to organize a mutual association, the membership of which shall be confined to those who belong to a State or some properly organized medical society. This association is to undertake the defense of cases of alleged malpractice, whenever such cases have been favorably passed upon by a committee appointed for the purpose of investigating the merits of the case. A similar organization seems to be in existence in Great Britain, and it is presumed it is much needed in this country.

It would perhaps not be entirely proper for laymen to discuss a matter of immediate interest to the medical fraternity, but a question is naturally suggested by the proposition made, and that is whether such an association would not in some degree reflect on the courts and juries of the land. Suppose the union formed and an accused member given the funds needed for his defense: would that not be tantamount to saying: "This man is innocent, but unless he has plenty of money, he is likely to be condemned as a malefactor; unless he has money, there is no sure way of establishing his innocence." Is this reasoning sound? Is it a fact that justice in this country must be bought? Is it a fact that poor men have not before the courts an equal chance with the rich men?

If so, it would seem necessary to form organizations for defense by other fraternities as well as the medical. The joiners, the masons, the printers, the tailors, etc., should all consider that an accusation of one of their members is a reflection upon the brotherhood to which he may belong. Especially is this the case, if he is a member of a religious organization. The escapades of ministers, for instance, are sure to reflect discredit on that fraternity. Would it be advisable for all such to have defensive unions for the purpose of championing in the courts any member that may have urgent business there?

If there is some defect in our jurisprudence by which the poor are discriminated against in favor of those who command the dollars, that defect should be remedied. There should be no necessity in this country, as it is where tyrants rule, to have sums of gold to throw in the balances of justice, in order to make it incline in favor of innocence. There is an impression that gold sometimes has the effect of opening the door of escape to guilty parties, but no association should be formed for the purpose of defending crime. No reputable member of any fraternity would consider a proposition to do so, for a single moment.

## ON A BUSINESS TRIP.

According to a letter received by Consul P. Hansen of this city, a number of prominent business men of Copenhagen, Denmark, will arrive here this week and stay a few days looking over the field with a view of ascertaining what the chances are of establishing more direct business relations between Utah and their own country. The party consists of "Eustachius Gluckstadt, Mr. V. With, president and director of 'Landmandsbanken,' Wholesale Dealer Emil West, president and director of 'Privatbanken,' and member of the firm Weit & Stokkeby; Consul Erick Hennius and cement manufacturer Raffel. The gentlemen have visited New York, Chicago, Omaha, Denver, San Francisco, and some other centers of business. They have, we are told, established depots, or warehouses in these cities, where such articles as are exported from Denmark to this country are kept, to be distributed by retail dealers, as there may be demand for them. And the intention is to establish a similar depot in this city, if it is found practicable and advisable.

The gentlemen come as representatives of the business interests of their country, and not merely as representatives of private enterprises. They are backed up by the entire export trade, and by the government.

producing first-class articles. The dairy products, for instance, are now recognized as of most excellent quality, and they command the highest prices. Lately a concerted movement of the exporters has had the aim of making consumers all over the world acquainted with the products of this country. And it is in pursuance of this object that the warehouses in this country have been established.

There is no reason why the trade between this Republic and Denmark should not be increased to mutual advantage. The total value of the imports from Denmark during the financial year 1898, is given as \$211,877, while the value of the exports to Danish ports from this country was \$12,630,619. It is but natural that a country which buys so liberally here should endeavor to offer some of its own products in exchange. The improved means of communication makes this possible.

We trust the stay in the city of the distinguished visitors will be pleasant and profitable to them.

Peace is to be declared in the Transvaal. So far as reports come, there do not appear to be enough Boers left in the country to make up a good fight.

When there are two sides to a proposition affecting the public, it is well to take time to consider it dispassionately and carefully.

In the Chinese negotiations, Great Britain mainly stands by the United States. Where else could she stand in wisdom and safety? These both attend the American policy in China.

The school teachers who want to go to Manila will not find a position there to be a sinecure. Yet good teachers will get places by applying direct to President Taft, of the Philippine commission at Manila.

The butchery of European missionaries in China still continues. This, with other events, shows that Europe's settlement with China is not close at hand, and may be marked heavily with blood and fire ere it is reached.

News comes that Li Hung Chang has been ordered to raise an army and recapture Peking. The order may have been given, but its "dollars to doughnuts" that Earl Li knows better than to attempt to carry it out.

The premier of Cape Colony now calls President Kruger a thief. Such reference to the aged and defeated Transvaal ruler is far from becoming at this stage of the game. Besides, it is probable that the determined old burgher has been quite as honest as politicians who now descend to calling him names.

Forty-five thousand Chinese Catholics are said to have been massacred in the recent agitation in China. This makes a humane war, to clean out a government allowing such proceedings, look a reasonable proposition to those who want such slaughters to cease.

The order to withdraw American troops from China has been issued. A guard of reasonable strength only will be left under Gen. Chaffee. By this course President McKinley is avoiding all danger of this country being involved in the European muddle on the Chinese situation. It is wise statesmanship.

In the Minnesota tornado on Monday, the wind caught up a barn and hurled it at a saloon, killing seven persons who had taken refuge in the latter place. The incident hardly can be used as an argument against running into a saloon to get out of a storm, though it is a bad place; yet the victims would not have found the barn any safer.

The way the dispatches from Shenandoah read, one might easily imagine that the militia called out were in the employ of the operators, and not merely to preserve the peace by calling down either side that began to promote a disturbance. This taking of sides by the militia is a dangerous proceeding. Pennsylvania's troops had better keep in the middle of the road, favoring neither side, but insisting that both shall observe good order.

## ROUMANIA AND BULGARIA.

## London Standard.

If Europe is justified in believing that the rupture will not involve an armed conflict, the reason for this confidence must be sought outside the circumstances of the quarrel and the temper of the disputants. So long as Russia and Austria, acting in conformity with the views of Germany and Italy, are determined to prevent any irretrievable breach of the peace, none of the minor states can afford to disregard the double veto. At present the great powers are far too much preoccupied with affairs in the far east, and the indefinite prospect of further entanglements opened up by the capture of Peking, to interest themselves, as participants in the petty conflicts of politicians at Sofia and Bucharest. Whatever may be the sympathies of Vienna and St. Petersburg, the two foreign offices will concur in insisting that the difference must be settled without blows.

## London Chronicle.

Knowing what a hotbed of political conspiracy Bulgaria has been for many years past, one can not withhold sympathy from the Roumanian government in a situation for which it does not appear to be in the least degree responsible. At the same time there must surely be some less expensive method than war of calling the Bulgarian government to a sense of the duties which it owes to neighboring countries; to a recognition of the principle that its dominions must not be permitted to become a refuge for political assassins, and that if it is not strong enough to check such nefarious proceedings of its own volition, it must seek for outside the necessary assistance. We trust that the public opinion of Europe will be strong enough to compel her adhesion to the law of morality, whether willingly or unwillingly.

## Paris Temps.

Despite appearances it is not likely that the dispute will become dangerous. The best proof is that King Charles has just left Bucharest for his annual journey abroad. He will stay two or three days of Iechi with the Emperor Francis Joseph before going on to Ragatz. The king and queen have announced that they will not return to Roumania before the end of September. On the other side, Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, who has been in the Salskammergut since the beginning of the crisis, dined on August 21 with the German emperor and empress at Wilhelmshoehe. He, no doubt, received the same advice which is being now given to King Charles at Iechi. He has not returned to Bulgaria. Doubtless he

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