

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 20, 1906

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The seventy-sixth annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, April 5, 1906, at 10 a. m. A full attendance of officers and members is requested.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School union will convene at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, April 8, 1906, at 7 o'clock p. m. Officers and workers are requested to be present and all the Saints are invited. The subject of "Parents' Classes" will be considered.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
JOSEPH M. TANNER,
General Superintendency.

"IFS," "BUTS" AND DEMANDS.

The Pittsburgh Christian Advocate has an article about "Some intimations that have been whispered around lately." It goes on to tell what those intimations consist of. Every sentence nearly is preceded by "it is said." Not a single fact is stated and not one "intimation" is vouched for. It simply announces that "they are in the air." Then come some conclusions, "if these things should prove to be true or if the public at large should come to believe them." The purport of it all is that probably "Senator Smoot will not be expelled." The consequences of this result to the Republican party are pointed out in a threatening manner, and the concluding sentence is "It will be well for the politicians to make a note of these things and watch them."

Now, what has the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate to do with party politics and with giving instructions to party politicians? If a "Mormon" publication were to engage in that kind of "church influence," what a kind there would be from the religious weaklings of the United States! That should be perceived that all the statements, arguments and conclusions set forth by an "it," or by "it is said," and that is about the substance of the editorial attacks upon the Senator from Utah. They amount to nothing more than conjecture, report, gossip and slander.

But the Northwestern Christian Advocate, as might be expected, relies upon them as though they were realities, reproduces them and adds the assertion that "reports are widely circulated that Mr. Smoot's election to the Senate was the result of a bargain between certain party leaders and leaders of the 'Mormon Church,' and remarks that 'if this be true the facts will in time become known.'"

More "ifs" and "buts" and rumors and reports, and these are taken as excuses for misrepresenting the case of Senator Smoot. These eminently "Christian" editors do not wait for proofs, or even any reliable evidence, to support the unfounded statements to which they give place in their religious articles, but while virtually acknowledging that they are only the vapors of Dame Rumor, they endeavor to convey to their readers the impression that they are facts.

The Northwestern Christian Advocate takes the opportunity to utter threats against the "party guilty of such an act of dishonor," and predicts that "it is said will probably be taken, its days will be numbered." That paper also repeats its stupid assertion that "the Mormon Church has broken the compact made by it with the nation, when Utah became a state." That "the nation" did not and could not enter into a compact with the "Mormon" Church or with any other church, ought to be understood by even the editor of the Christian Advocate. But it appears as though that does not penetrate to his inner consciousness, or, knowing this, fallacy, he is determined to repeat over and over again the sentence we have quoted, for the purpose of keeping up anti-"Mormon" prejudice.

The State of Utah made a compact with the nation as a condition of statehood, and fulfilled that compact to the very letter and according to the spirit of the agreement. The "Mormon" Church was no more a party to that compact than was the Presbyterian church, or the Methodist church, or the Catholic church or any other church, the members of which were citizens of the United States at the period referred to. The measures that have been published concerning this matter would fill several good-sized volumes.

and ought to have no more effect upon the determination of the question before the United States Senate than so many bags of wind. The Advocate returns to its former logic (?) by making attacks on certain "Mormon" Church dignitaries, and then, while absolving Senator Smoot from being personally guilty of the offenses charged upon others, tries to cast the responsibility for them upon the Senator because he is a prominent member of the same Church as they. It declares that "no Mormon who holds an official position in that Church should be permitted to hold public office, white leaders or members of the Church" do those things which the Advocate accuses them of. The upshot of all its assertions and demands is that "Reed Smoot should be excluded from the Senate."

Here, then, is another "Christian" paper mixing politics with religion and endeavoring to dictate what the United States Senate shall do with the threat that if that paper's dictum is not carried into effect, the political party "guilty" of disobedience will go to its doom. This is the sum and substance of the "reasoning" and policy, and politics of the several "Christian Advocates" that have taken up the cudgels against the Senator from Utah.

Observe, they all acknowledge that nothing has been brought to light, through the long period of inquiry into the Senator's character and conduct, that shows him to be personally unfit to occupy the seat to which he was lawfully elected by the majority of the representatives of the people of a sovereign state. Therefore his accusers and opponents have to fall back upon the alleged misconduct of some of his associates in the religious organization to which he belongs, and on that they base their improper and impertinent demands upon the highest legislative body in this nation.

That is truly "Christian," is it not? It is very convincing to a rational mind, we don't think. It should have as much influence upon the United States Senate as the babbling of babies or the cawing of rooks. Upon some religious people who do not think, but who simply adopt the views and assertions of their pastors and preachers and writers, it has no doubt the desired effect. They have our pity, and our patient hope that "in time the facts will become known."

RUSSIA AGAIN ACTIVE.

According to advices from Pekin, the Russians have already commenced new intrigues in Manchuria. A large body of Russian troops are said to have penetrated to places near the northern frontier of Korea. What the purpose of this move is, does not appear, but it looks very much like a resumption of the policy interrupted by the war.

It is possible that the Russians now consider it safe to violate the peace treaty, since the Japanese are struggling with a famine that, no doubt, prevents them from military exploits at present. It is also possible that they are hovering around China, in the hope of being able to secure some advantages, should a revolution break out in that country.

But whatever the plans of the Czar's government is, it is certain that any attempt at evading the peace terms agreed upon, will be resented in Japan and cause, perhaps, preparations for a campaign on a still larger scale than the one recently brought to an end. Japan was not well satisfied with the terms agreed on. It would not take much agitation to arouse another tidal wave of patriotism in Japan. Russian officers are being sent forward daily to Vladivostok, and the apportionment of land in Manchuria, it is said, is being made among the disbanded troops, whose families are being helped by the government to emigrate to Manchuria. This indicates that the plan is to Russify the country, in spite of the agreements at Portsmouth. However, when the next conflict comes, Russia will, in all probability be confronted by China as well as Japan.

THEY ARE "ANARCHISTS."

Judging from speeches recently delivered in various parts of the country a great number of citizens are actually advocating rebellion. In sizzling oratory they are denouncing everything and everybody, in the style of Johann Meist and kindred spirits. Anarchic conditions are compared to Russian serfdom, and everything is being done to array class against class and thus prepare, if possible, for a reign of terror. The men condemned in Chicago, about twenty years ago, for the Haymarket massacre, are being held up as innocent martyrs, murdered by "capitalist tyrants." It is not surprising that some men and women enjoying the inestimable blessings and privileges of American institutions are harboring such sentiments; for mentally and morally unbalanced persons are found everywhere. But that the number should be as large as it seems to be, judging from the agitation, is certainly astonishing. Well may those who are wise arise and watch intently the signs of the times.

It is also very significant that so many anti-"Mormon" publications take sides with the agitators for lawlessness, and pour out their vials of wrath upon anyone who ventures a word of defense for the government and of caution to the people. This is a fact. But it is really not strange, since the anti-"Mormon" agitation is, and always has been, essentially anarchistic. The mobs that in the early days of the Church attacked the Saints, drove them from place to place, murdered many of them, and covered the land with fire and blood, were in fact anarchists. They may have thought that they attacked only an unpopular body of worshippers, insignificant and poor, but in fact, in reality they made war upon the government under whose aegis the Saints came claim all the rights and privileges accorded to other citizens. The work of the mobs was anarchistic.

The same can be said of the attack still made upon the Church. It is essentially anarchistic. It may pretend to be a fight for the vindication of moral principles, but it is in reality, at least as far as it is directed against Senator

Smoot, a masked attack upon the government of this country; it is an attempt to make null and void the choice of the people of a sovereign state for representation in full accordance with law. It is therefore, essentially anarchistic, though the red colors are well hidden behind the walls of libelous untruths, that have been thrown up, to save appearances. The fight is revolutionary. It is led by "rebels," as history will in due time make perfectly clear.

Kindred spirits are attracted by each other. Those who have the same likes and dislikes, the same aims and purposes, and harmonize as to sentiments flock together. That is the reason, no doubt, why revolutionary notes, no matter by whom sounded, find a responsive echo in the hearts of so many anti-"Mormon" agitators.

And the weather predictor—he jest lay low.

At the Moroccan conference all the nations save France and Germany are silent partners.

It sounds terribly like cant for a multi-millionaire to say that "wealth lessens happiness."

The Boise orchards are not attracting nearly so much interest just now as the Caldwell Orchard is.

Kansas hasn't a man big enough to put the lid on the cany gas well and to sit on it and keep it on.

Oakland Socialists want to run Jack London for governor of California. He would run like a scared "Sea Wolf."

There is lots of sympathy for the slain Moros, but there is none for the American soldiers killed by the Moros.

Colonel Henry Watterson predicts that William Randolph Hearst will control the next Democratic national convention. As a political prophet the colonel long since lost caste.

Andrew Carnegie is said to be trying to reunite Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Corey. Corey is head of the steel trust. It promises an interesting diversion from founding libraries.

Governor Gooding and the Idaho authorities are accused of having trumped up the charges against Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. However that may be they certainly seem to hold the trumps.

General Wood says that the reporters added all the sensational features to the account of the fight at Mount Dajo. The public is not informed as to whether any such features were subtracted from the official account.

Rev. Dr. Parkhurst says that the routing of the Moros from their stronghold at the battle of Dajo was not a "brilliant feat of arms," any more than "smoking bees out of a hive or rats out of a nest." Rats!

Some of his foolish friends are trying to start a presidential boom for President Woodrow Wilson of Princeton. There is this to be said in his favor—he knows more about "Congressional Government" than any man living.

The Chicago Federation of Labor has decided to declare war against the Chicago Undertakers' association, branding the body as a "trust of the worst order." The undertakers have, without doubt, a mortal clinch on people.

The House committee on naval affairs has decided to recommend an appropriation to put the frigate Constitution in repair, and thus save it from decay. Such an appropriation will meet with general favor. Secretary Bonaparte's recommendation to use Old Ironsides as a target was most unfortunate but happily met with no favor anywhere.

A new exchange, The Kansas City Post, is welcomed to the exchange table of this office. It is a live newspaper, with brief, vigorous editorials and up-to-date in every respect. The paper promises to be an exponent of democratic principles, representing the Democratic party of Kansas City and Jackson county, but it will not engage in factional disputes or personal quarrels.

The launching of the Dreadnought is said to have revived interest in the building of warships of gigantic dimensions, and it is now believed that this country will commence the construction of a bigger Dreadnought, to be called the Constitution. The plan is to leave the question of size to the board of construction. It is believed this board will recommend a very large vessel, probably twenty thousand tons.

The experience of France in the late ministerial crisis furnishes another illustration of the folly of attempting constructive work by negative forces. Tearing down is sometimes necessary as a preliminary to building up, but it is useless unless conducted with a view to reconstruction. In the Chamber of Deputies a combination was formed strong enough to overthrow the Rouvier ministry on a question of confidence in the wisdom of its anti-church policy. But this combination was made up of factions hostile to one another and only united, for the time being, on the one question of antagonism to the government without any common ground on which to cooperate after the vote. The consequence was that they were incapable of forming a new cabinet. The new ministry is made up of members belonging to the political groups of which the late government was composed. There is, therefore, no prospect of any change in the policy that was condemned by the vote of the Chamber. What was the use of the change?

POWER OF ORGANIZATION.

World's Work.
Organization will work miracles. Take as an example the American Anti-Saloon league, which was started

a dozen years ago in Ohio. It is made up of "temperance" people of every creed and kind. They do not agree in ultimate aims, but they do agree in the wish to abolish the saloon in politics. Eight thousand churches are identified with its work, and three hundred thousand qualified voters are pledged to support it. Seventy-five Ohio legislators who opposed the league have in the last ten years been defeated in re-election or re-nomination by its agents. Of those legislators who did not have the local option platform put forward by the league, only 25 per cent have won office.

WHY THE CZAR WEAKENS.

Troy Press.
Russia must borrow \$400,000,000 in order to defray the expenditures of the next two years, and to the lay observer it would seem impossible to raise this, or any considerable amount, in existing conditions. It has a stupendous national debt and France is its heaviest creditor by far. Nevertheless, Paris bankers agree to raise this loan, providing Count Witte be retained as prime minister, and the state Douma be allowed to meet according to the program, with the further provision that this body formally sanction every previous French loan, together with the new one required. This lets in a lot of light on the retention of M. Witte; the Czar is obliged to side with him in order to replenish his exhausted treasury.

THE MAKING OF A HERO.

Yone Noguchi in National Magazine.
One generation does not make a man like Togo. And also one generation does not make the fellows who went into the terrible gulf of Manchuria and on the eastern seas. The Japanese culture and atmosphere made them that. I pray to God that they will remain so, as they are. Already there's a whisper of degeneration and sophistication in Japan of today. Togo is the best model of the Salsuma province, whence Marquis Oyama, Admiral Kamimura and others hailed out. There in that province plain living and high thinking; and, above all, devotion to the country, and emperor, almost reach a religion.

A SHORTHAND TYPEWRITER.

Technical World.
M. Bivort of Paris has just patented a shorthand typewriter. From one to three syllables of a word are printed in plain type at each stroke of the keys. It is said that 50 words a minute can be written after a few days' practice, while a normal speed of from 125 to 150 words a minute is obtained in less than two months. Speeds of 200 words a minute and more are not unusual among expert operators. Since no conventional symbols but plain types are employed, the "notes" are readable by anyone familiar with the process.

PHONOGRAPHS IN COURT.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.
The use of a phonograph as a witness occurred for the first time on a recent trial in the United States Court at Boston. In this connection it is recalled that photographs had to fight their way to the witness stand. The right to put telephone conversations in evidence has been upheld in some cases. If the use of the phonograph as a witness becomes a general thing it will also become a universal memorandum. Contractions of all sorts, from a merger deal to a promise of marriage, can be recorded as infallibly as on paper or parchment. In and for the confidentially read "battle phonograph" would be of great value.

JUST FOR FUN.

Suggested a Makeshift.
The danger of sending telegrams is shown in the following story: A member of parliament was to have made a speech at Derby, and being unable to do so because the heavy rains had destroyed the branch railway, sent a telegram as follows: "Cannot come; wash out on line." In a few hours the reply came: "Never mind; borrow a shirt."—Ex.

"If she wants to be revenged on him why doesn't she get a divorce?"
"How foolish! He don't suppose she wants to make him happy by leaving him, do you?"

"I see that Yvette Galibert has grown stout."
"Think it will reduce her popularity."
"Why should it? You see more of her for the same money."

The Extremist.

"Miss Fluff's brown suit is exactly the color of her hair."
"It ought to be; they were dyed to match."—Detroit Free Press.

Trouble Ahead.

A bill abolishing capital punishment for murder, except in the case of a second offense, has been passed by the Ohio State Senate, and numbers of natives with homicidal tendencies are said to be now choosing victims for their "first bite."—London Punch.

The Canal at Present.

Kansas City Star.
Anyhow, a look canal would be more satisfactory than a mock canal or a link canal, or a walk canal.

When Legislatures Get a Move On.

Philadelphia Press.
Gov. Stokes has threatened to call an extra session of the New Jersey legislature unless the regular session results in a proper tax bill. That means business. When legislatures have to do things they do them.

Biggs—Old Brown died last night.
Diggs—Well, he was a man of his word, anyway.

Biggs—What do you mean by that?
Diggs—Forty years ago he proposed to an aunt of mine and declared he couldn't live if she refused him.
Biggs—And did she refuse him?
Diggs—Yes; and now, true to his word, Brown has ceased to live.—Chicago News.

"The Queen of Leon"

Balf's Beautiful Operetta.

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Wednesday, March 21, at 8 p. m.

ADMISSION 35 CENTS

Maria Delores, Queen of Leon (Soprano).....Mrs. Lizzie T. Edwards
Donna Agnes, Maid of Honor (Contralto).....Miss Judith Anderson
Philippe D'Aguilar, a young exile (Tenor).....Mr. Thos. Ashworth
His Excellency, The Regent (Baritone).....Mr. John Robinson
Prof. W. C. and Master Clive, Piano and Violin.

The action passes at the Court of Leon and ends over a summer's afternoon. Fourteen pieces of exquisite music. Don't miss it.

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