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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 26, 1902.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The seventy-second annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, in this city, Friday, April 4, 1902, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The general authorities of the Church, presidents of stakes and also all engaged in the ministry, who can make it convenient to attend, are cordially invited to be present.

JOSEPH F. SMITH
JOHN R. WINDER
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

A conference of the Sunday schools of the Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday evening, April 6th, at 7 o'clock.

Stake and ward officers and teachers are requested to attend and an invitation to be present is cordially extended to the public.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
JOE M. TANNER,
General Superintendency.GEO. D. PYPER,
Secretary.

CHANGE OF FAST DAY.

To the Presidents of Stakes:
As our General Conference will be held on the first Sunday in April, the general fast day, the Presidents of Stakes are hereby authorized to appoint the fast day on the last Sunday of this month, where such a change will accommodate conference visitors.JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency.

CIVIC APPOINTMENTS.

The refusal of the Mayor to confirm the appointment by the Chief of the Fire Department, of Charles E. Wood as assistant chief, has naturally caused much comment among our citizens, particularly on account of the reason which the Mayor is alleged to have offered for turning down the nomination.

It is said that Mr. Wood is not a Republican, and the Mayor is credited with saying: "I thought it was about time to appoint a Republican anyhow."

The law requires appointments by the Chief of Police and the Chief of the Fire Department to be ratified by the City Council and confirmed by the Mayor. That is quite proper. The head of the executive part of the city government ought to have a voice in the appointment of other executive officers.

It is understood, however, that both the police and the fire departments should be kept aloof from partisan politics. This was decided years ago. It has been a settled policy in this city that both those departments should be non-partisan. Notwithstanding that, it is conceded, we believe, that the heads of departments ought to be in political sympathy with the existing administration. We do not think there will be any great objection to that by reasonable persons. But it is not considered wise to extend this in the departments mentioned any further than to their chiefs.

From what has transpired, it appears that no objection is interposed against the Fire Chief's nominee, except as to his political status. He is described as "an efficient and faithful member of the department for years, who has never had a single mark for dereliction of duty placed against him." That is the kind of men whom the people generally desire to see placed in positions of trust and importance. Such men ought to receive encouragement to work their way up to the level for which they are adapted. It makes little difference, if any, whether a fireman belongs to one political party or to another. His services in fighting fire are in demand, and public sentiment has expressed itself, in no uncertain terms, as to the elimination of both the fire and police departments from the influences of political parties.

It may be that the Mayor couples the office of assistant with that of the Chief of the Fire Department, and thinks that both should be of the party at present in the lead. But if the Chief himself is satisfied on that point, and he will have more than anyone else to do with his assistant, and if the City Council is also favorable to the appointment, it also seems that unless some other reason could be offered by the Mayor than the man's political opinions, it would have been much better to coincide with the other parties to the appointment.

There is one reflection that naturally arises in this connection; and that is, that as the Mayor has the undoubted right to dissent from the views and

action of the Fire Chief and the City Council, the rule must be permitted to work the other way, and that without those angry and ridiculous attacks which proceed from certain quarters, when the City Council does not see through the same eyes or spectacles as the Mayor uses. If the Mayor has a legal right to refuse to confirm an appointment by the Fire Chief and the City Council, then the City Council has an equal right to refuse to confirm an appointment or a removal made by the Mayor. It is a poor rule that only works one way.

It is unfortunate for this municipality that there should be a lack of harmony between the various departments of the city government. It would be much better if they could come together with a desire for mutual understanding, to subserve the city's interests and without personal motives and private purposes. The welfare of the city should be paramount. The best men for public places ought to be selected. Promotions to pay party debts and bestow political rewards are ruinous to any commonwealth. The system which permits them is antagonistic to the progress and development of the body politic. It ought to be expunged and stamped under foot. That it continues to exist is the fault of citizens clothed with the right of suffrage. Not until there is a determination among the masses of the voters to put the wisest and fittest men into public positions, will the obstacles now in the way of efficient, honest and economical city, state and national government be removed and obliterated.

OF PRESSING IMPORTANCE.

The conference between members of the City Council with representatives of the canal companies in this county, reported in another part of this issue of the News, ought to result in something satisfactory to the interests of all parties concerned. No definite action was taken as to the pumping proposition, which many prominent canal men think is the one thing needful for consideration by the city officials and representatives of the canal companies on Thursday afternoon.

The chief objection to taking the steps proposed towards securing a present adequate supply of water both for city and county purposes, appears to be the unsettled condition of water titles, particularly in reference to Utah Lake. These are now in litigation, and it is urged with some degree of plausibility that the first thing to do is to definitely quiet those titles. The City Engineer and the Mayor with him, we believe, insist that this legal obstacle shall be removed before further action is taken.

On the other hand, the pressing necessity of immediate proceedings, to secure a sufficient water supply for the coming season's use is evident, and the people who will have to depend upon it are justified in their earnest endeavors to push the matter to a speedy issue. Litigation is proverbially tardy. The law's delays are notorious. While they linger, crops may perish and immense losses thereby be entailed. The propositions made by the canal companies, if entertained by the Council, will make the project easy of attainment, and the benefits to be derived will be mutual, the rights of the respective parties receiving definite recognition. This will hold good whatever may be the result of the litigation.

This is a matter of such vast importance and requires such speedy attention, as to warrant our request on behalf of the great body of the people of Salt Lake City and county, that all obstacles in the way of reaching a proper conclusion, having in view the benefits and rights of all parties to the controversy, shall be removed at once. Small personal objections or pet projects should be swept out of the way, and that which will be for the best interests and immediate demands of the public be held in view. Gentlemen, get together and settle this question while there is time, and before disaster can overwhelm our agricultural and civic concerns.

PEACE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

From conservative reports about the situation in the Philippines, it appears that the rebellion has about exhausted itself, and that pacification is virtually an accomplished fact. Agriculture, industry and commerce are, according to the testimony of Senor Buencamino, recovering life, and the people show a great application to learning at the thousands of schools established in the towns. The province of Batangas, he further states, is the last province to accept the new conditions, but this is not strange considering that Mabini, Agoncillo, Dr. Apacible, Ilustre and Sixto Lopez are all natives of Batangas, and are upholders of the policy of no concession. But even in that province the insurrection is almost stamped out. With the surrender of Guevarra in Samar, the island will be completely subdued.

Acting Governor Wright is quoted as having said in a private letter, that in 95 per cent of the territory of the islands there is no insurrection, and Americans go about singly and unarmed with about as much safety as they would in a large majority of the States at home. The people are rebuilding their houses, tilling the fields and pursuing their ordinary vocations.

With the war in the Philippines ended, the most difficult task, probably, remains that of effectually aiding the people to rise to as high a level of civilization as their moral and mental capacities may permit. To accomplish this, it will be necessary to deal with them in the truly American spirit which recognizes that consent is necessary to successful government. Dr. Schurman has recently pointed out that it is folly to endeavor to Americanize, all at once, the Philippines. It cannot be done by edicts, or by any other means. A Malay cannot, at the command of any power on earth, in the twinkling of an eye become an Anglo-Saxon, in sentiments, thoughts and aspirations. The Filipinos have their social customs, their ideas of right and wrong, their modes of living, and these may be very inferior in every respect to ours, but

still they are theirs, and they are natural to them. Any development must be on the basis of that which exists. If we can apply ourselves to the work before us in the Philippines in that spirit, success will come. Education will do the work before the magnitude of which laws, unaided by the dissemination of knowledge, are impotent. It is, perhaps, difficult to respect a race which may appear inferior in everything, but unless this is done, troubles will never cease. Great Britain has not made Europeans of the Hindus. Each race must be permitted to develop from its own sources toward the degree of perfection of which it is capable.

CUBA LIBRE.

The "News" acknowledges the receipt of the "Monthly Summary of Commerce of the Island of Cuba, August, 1901," with "Complements of Henry Page, collector." It is a large pamphlet containing much valuable information on the agriculture, commerce and industries of the island, that is about to launch out as a free and independent state. It shows that the resources of the country are such, that, if properly developed, the most sanguine hopes for the future are justified, provided the people will work untidily for the common interest.

The pamphlet shows that the manufacture of sugar is progressing, with modern machinery. Coffee plantations were generally destroyed during the war, but reconstruction has commenced in one province. Farms and cattle ranches are being restored, and special activity is being displayed in the building up of small farms.

The chief agricultural products seem to be corn and beans, of which two crops are harvested every year, one in the wet and one in the dry season. Peas and rice do well. The former are sown all the year round and are picked as soon as ripe. Barley and oats are easily cultivated, but it seems no one has devoted his land to these grains except as an experiment. The Indian fig tree grows wild, and an abundant variety of fruit is grown. Rubber, cotton, hemp can be grown to advantage.

Some countries, by nature less bountifully endowed than Cuba have started as independent states, and done well. But success has been achieved by the people devoting themselves to the development of the natural resources, and keeping peace with the neighbors. "Cuba Libre" should do as well as, if not better than, some of the small European states that now enjoy material prosperity to a high degree.

The turning over of the Cuban government to the Cubans is a most important event in the history of the island and also of this government. During the time the United States has administered the affairs of the island the inhabitants have been given a great opportunity to see and study government administration, and no doubt they have profited greatly by the opportunity. A month and a half hence they will be in control of their own affairs. That they will make some blunders at first is inevitable; plenty of blunders are made by governments many decades older than Cuba's, and they will continue to be made so long as they are run by man. May Cuba realize all her hopes and aspirations and become a happy, prosperous country. May her future be as bright as her past has been dark.

CHARGES OF BRIBERY.

There is some hitch, it seems, in the completion of the transfer of the Danish West Indies, to this country, although the news has been sent out from St. Thomas, that the Stars and Stripes has been hoisted over public buildings on the island.

There is some opposition in the Danish Rigsraad to the ratification of the treaty, and the opponents have asked for the correspondence relating to the contemplated transfer, in the hope of substantiating, perhaps, a charge of bribery that has been made in connection with the sale. Similar charges, it is claimed, have been heard in Washington.

If an investigation is instituted, it will probably be found that the rumors of scandal set afoot in two capitals, have no foundation in fact. The Danish government has for years been desirous of transferring its sovereignty to some other country better capable of carrying out the burden of administration. No bribery was needed to induce the government to place the colony on the market. Nor was bribery needed in this country. Our government naturally appeared as a buyer, since it was not deemed desirable to permit any other power to obtain a foothold there.

The story is that a Danish agent has disbursed heavy sums in this country in order to influence the government in favor of the purchase. If such sums have been paid to persons here representing themselves as government agents, the alleged Danish negotiator has simply been taken in. But the probability is that the story is made up for the purpose of influencing the vote on the ratification of the treaty, perhaps by persons who are charged because their expectations of private gain were not realized. Such are the tactics of some virtuous patriots.

History, statesmen and photographs all repeat themselves.

There are two sides to every story, and often truth is found on neither.

If so minded Prince Henry is in a position to tell the German people how good American meats are.

Florida producers want more protection for bananas. (If not careful they will slip up on their own peak.)

Flour at Thunder Mountain is fifty dollars a sack. Unless a man has a "sack" he cannot buy a sack.

General Butler and Mr. Balfour are after each other in fine style. It might be called the Battle of the B B shot.

HOOVER'S NEW WORK IS "THE BUSINESS OF EMPIRE."

Senator Tillman isn't a drawing card on the lecture platform in Massachusetts. Yet he has a very striking manner.

The pending ship subsidy bill is said to be a blow to sailing ships. A "blow" should be the very thing to send sailing ships along.

When it gets so late in the season no one speaks of it as "the beautiful snow." It is called by another and far less poetical name.

General Miles is revising his remarks about the army reorganization bill. Which means that he has decided not to throw up his commission.

Formerly Mr. Bryan was called the "Boy orator of the Platte." Since he has taken to living in a barn he has been called the "Barnstormer of Nebraska."

The Russian bear will evacuate Manchuria in its own good time, if at all, and not when some nation or nations may desire. Russia is as surely sliding down China as the great ice-cap slid over Russia ages and ages ago.

The fate of the negro porter who so brutally outraged an old lady passenger who had asked him to guide her to her sleeping car, is no more than he deserved, but that he should have met it at the hands of a mob of lynchers is to be regretted.

"The Royal or Royal Book," which Caxton translated and printed in 1484, brought \$2,225 (\$11,125, in Sotheby's London auction-room the other day. The price was some \$5,000 higher than any previously given for the book, but was justified by the beautiful condition of the present copy, one of five known, which was entirely uncropped as issued from Caxton's Westminster press. It certainly was a royal price for a book.

The discharge of Mrs. Kimball by Judge Diehl was an eminently proper proceeding. The evidence went to show that the lady complied with the law to the best of her understanding.

The purpose of the regulation was effected. The case was duly reported by a practicing physician at her request. To hold her as having neglected to comply with it because she did not report in person, would be straining the law beyond reasonable bounds. While it is important that cases of contagious disease shall be reported to the board of health and be duly quarantined, whether the sufferers or those attending upon them believe in disease or not, it is also important that people shall not be persecuted for individual opinion, particularly when they honestly endeavor to comply with lawful demands and regulations. Mrs. Kimball has been put to needless trouble and inconvenience.

GEN. MILES' PLAN.
Boston Herald.

The proposition of Gen. Miles, to be employed by the President to end the war in the Philippines after a manner of his (the general's) own, evinces, it may be, a laudable interest in the subject, and is certainly characteristic of himself. It only results, however, in a polite intimation that the administration is disposing of this subject in its own way, and does not desire any such aid as Gen. Miles proffers. The lack of tact in the latter is seen in his assumption that this Philippine problem is a more difficult matter than it is regarded to be at headquarters.

New York World.
If Gen. Miles has a plan of pacification more humane, more in accordance with American ideas and theories and more effective, the conscience of the nation will demand that it be tried. And, by the way, what is the plan? If Secretary Root declines to publish it Congress should ask that it be laid before it.Worcester Gazette.
The various departments of the army are now loosely organized, and the idea of the reorganization scheme is to bring them into proper correlation and harmony. A general staff with the head of each department, subject to the authority of the chief, is the system of army organization that prevails in Europe, and the effectiveness of which was well demonstrated in the Franco-Prussian war. Von Moltke devised the general staff system of the German army, and that is its main element of strength today.

The great majority of American officers favor the system, and Gen. Miles is distinctly in the wrong in the position he takes.

Hartford Times.
Why it is a crime for General Miles to do what General Grant did, and what so many other military men have done, it would be hard for these gentlemen to explain. President McKinley and his Ohio military friend, General Corbin, shrewdly foresaw in 1898 that if General Miles were allowed to play a prominent part in the war with Spain he would return from Cuba a popular idol and would inevitably become talked of for the presidency. This would interfere with the plans for the re-election of the President in 1900 and it was necessary to keep Miles in the background. That is the explanation of the course that has been pursued in the war department during the past four years.Kansas City Star.
General Miles seems to enjoy being in hot water better than any other man who has been conspicuous in the army during the past campaign. But it probably was not in the Washington program that he be given opportunities to display his talents for semi-civil manly conduct in a general way, but in a more direct and more commendable manner. He is a very capable man, but he is not a very good one.Los Angeles Express.
In necessary reference to public opinion General Miles was placed in command in Porto Rico. It was foreseen that no fighting of consequence would be done in that campaign, but it probably was not in the Washington program that he be given opportunities to display his talents for semi-civil manly conduct in a general way, but in a more direct and more commendable manner. He is a very capable man, but he is not a very good one.

General Miles is revising his remarks about the army reorganization bill. Which means that he has decided not to throw up his commission.

greater disfavor at the war office than he was before. This is also seen in the reception that was given to his recent suggestions as to the continuing war in the Philippines, and, as it is understood, his offer to assume the role of pacificator of the people of those islands.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Frank Leslie's "Popular Monthly" for April opens with "April Verses," by Edna Kingsley Wallace. The frontispiece is entitled "Neighbors," and is a splendid drawing by Charles Livingston Bull. The following are among the contents: "A Daughter of Ransay," a story, chapters 1-11, William McLeod Raine; "A Chronicle of the Rear Guard," a story, Leo Crane; "Leaves From a Hunter's Sketch Book," Charles Livingston Bull; "Northern Kentucky in War Time," John Uri Lloyd; "Samuel M. Jones," golden rule mayor of Toledo, Elwood Salisbury; "The Vengeance of Bett Adams," a story, Eliza Wallace Durbin; "Mrs. Leslie Carter," a study, Franklin E. Fyles; "The Mongrel Child," a story of Chicago's prison for juveniles, Thomas V. Steep; "Lead Kindly Light," Cardinal Newman; "The Barred Window," a story, Charles Raymond MacAuley; and "The Life Principle," John Dickinson Sherman—Fifth Avenue, New York.

Harper's Magazine for April has a wealth of high class reading, artistically illustrated. In the list of contents we notice "Society in Washington," by A. Maurice Low; "Dickens in His Books," Percy Fitzgerald; and "The Relations of Animals and Plants," N. S. Shaler. There are several stories, among which are "A Spartan," by Cyrus Townsend Brundy; "Prosper's Old Mother," by Bret Hart; "The House of Monsieur Alphonse," Thomas A. Janvier; "The Gay Cavalier," Sydney H. Preston; and "Victor," Octave Thanet. The number also has a fine selection of poems. The contributors to the "Editorial Drawer" are Hayden Carruth, Stuart Patterson, Caroline McCormack, Charles McVaine, M. A. B. Alice Reid, H. V. Marr, L. M. S. Albert Lee—Harper & Bros., New York.

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