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SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 7, 1909.

ANNUAL Y. M. AND Y. W. L. A. CONFERENCE.

The Fourteenth General Annual Conference of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in Salt Lake City, on Saturday and Sunday, June 5th and 6th, 1909.

All officers and members of the association are requested to be present at all of the meetings of the conference, and a cordial invitation is hereby extended to the Saints generally to attend the meetings to be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday, June 6th, at 10 a. m. and at 2 and 7 p. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
HEBER J. GRANT,
B. H. ROBERTS,
General Supcy. Y. M. L. A.
MARTHA H. TINGEY,
RUTH M. FOX,
MAY T. NYSTROM,
Presidency Y. L. M. L. A.

ANNUAL PRIMARY CONFERENCE.

The seventh annual general conference of the officers of the Primary Associations of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in Salt Lake City, June 4th, 5th and 6th, 1909. All officers, stake and local, are requested to be present at all the sessions of this conference.

LOUIE B. FELT,
MAY ANDERSON,
CLAIRA W. BEEBE,
Presidency Primary Associations.

A FULL AND FRANK STATEMENT.

We are pleased to make a note of the fact that the Tribune in continuing on Thursday the discussion of the question of so-called American influence upon the progress of this city, abandons its previous ruffianism and uses calm and civilized language, comparatively speaking. Perhaps it has, finally, become clear to our contemporary that an argument does not derive strength from the use of language that would not be tolerated among gentlemen but would be quickly resented. We note this change in tactics and sincerely hope, for the reputation of this community, that it may be permanent.

But the Tribune still insinuates that the "News" only mentioned the Kearns building once, and that our notice was premature and inaccurate. The notice in the "News" on March 27, was just as correct as the later announcement in the Tribune, though not so lengthy and not so detailed. The notice in the "News" on April 28, gave briefly the details, as printed the same day in the Tribune. Those are the facts, and that our contemporary should have undertaken to dispute a statement so easily verified, is one of the mysteries of Tribune polemics.

But there is another point in the editorial referred to, which should be contradicted, in the interest of truth. The Tribune says:

"During all the years that the city has been in church control, it was held back by reason of the non-progressive ideas of those in charge. Every proposed improvement was resisted and condemned. Sewers were objected to as useless, an expense without benefits; street paving was opposed, and sidewalks were denounced. Every step in improvement has been fought by the church parties."

A double misrepresentation is embodied in these sentences. The first is that the city was at some time controlled by the church and second, that the church members were opposed to improvements. Both insinuations are without any foundation in truth.

It is true that when the Latter-day Saints first settled in this valley, their organization naturally was ecclesiastical, but as early as 1849, a civil government was formed and a state constitution adopted, and in 1851, Great Salt Lake City was incorporated by legislative enactment. And from that time till now the city has never been under the control of the church. The Latter-day Saints have always believed that the church and state are separate; that the mission of each is different from that of the other, though both have divine sanction; and that both are best served when each is independent in its own sphere. This is a fundamental principle of American government, which the Saints believe to be of divine origin. To them it is, therefore, a religious duty to uphold that principle, and they have done so, and are doing so now, notwithstanding all assertions to the contrary by those who are not their friends. It is not true that the city has been under church control, or that there was any necessity for rescuing it from such control. It has been controlled by the People's party, by the Liberal party, by the Democratic, the Republican, and the American party, but never by the church.

We do not deny that influential church members have at times exercised influence upon the affairs of the city. So have other church members, and even preachers; but that is not church influence. Let us get away from the confusion of terms, and it will be easy to understand each other. Most of the misunderstanding in Utah is due to the use of ambiguous and misleading language.

As to the second insinuation that church members have always opposed improvements, we need only point to

the progress that was made here during the first ten or twenty years after the arrival of the Pioneers. Were they non-progressive?

The Pioneers came here in 1847 and found a desert. Destitute though they were, they went to work with improvements the very first day. In March, 1848, this city had 423 houses and 1,971 inhabitants, an increase of 1,523 souls in eight months. They had already 5,133 acres of land under cultivation, of which 575 acres were sown with winter wheat. About that time a post-office was established.

In 1850 the first number of the Deseret News was published.

In 1852 there were 5,979 Church members in Salt Lake, and in 1859 the population had increased to about 9,000.

It is true that the first settlers here had difficulties to overcome of which the people now, who see only the fruit of their sacrifices, can have any idea. But they were untiring in their work of improvement. In 1851 the Saints decided to build the great Temple, and in 1853 the Temple block was dedicated. In 1851 schoolhouses were built in most of the wards in the city. In 1851 work was begun on the Old Tabernacle. The University of the State of Deseret was opened in the City, Nov. 11, 1851. In 1852 the Territorial Library was opened in the Council House. A Deseret Emigration fund was established for the benefit of settlers, and in 1852 the first assisted company arrived. In 1853 a wall 12 feet high, 6 feet thick at the base and 2 feet 6 inches at the top, and nine miles in length, was constructed as a protection against hostile Indians.

The spirit of progress and improvement was noted by almost every visitor in the early days. Ex-Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, Hugh McCulloch, wrote in the New York Tribune, March 29, 1877:

"The ride from Ogden to Salt Lake City, over the U. C. R. R., built and owned by the Mormons, is a vast and one. I forbear a description of this singular, and in many respects, beautiful city. I have to admit I never gazed upon a scene so charming or so picturesque as the one presented in looking over Salt Lake Valley, from the bench behind the City. There are, among the Mormons, many clever people—scientific architects, artists, and tasteful landscape gardeners. This is indicated by their public buildings, their workshops and factories, grounds. The roof of their Tabernacle (120 by 250 feet) rests upon the walls without any support. The granite Temple, when completed, will be surpassed by no building in the western hemisphere, in solidity, or appropriateness and beautiful architecture. The organ, built entirely by the Mormons, is second in size to only one in the United States, and is excelled by none in tone or beauty. Many private dwellings are handsome, and gardens are models of taste and culture."

In view of such testimonies as to the spirit of progress by which the early settlers here were animated, it is rather late in the day for the Tribune to offer the gratuitous insult to the descendants of those men and women who laid the foundations of the State, that they were non-progressive and resisted "every proposed improvement." It is a falsehood, of which it seems to us, the Tribune, on second thought, ought to be thoroughly ashamed.

The church members have always been the first and foremost in the work of improvement, and the "News" has consistently voiced the general sentiment. But we have opposed the pirate policy of some party manipulators, whereby the city has been plunged into debt for the benefit of grafters. We have opposed every proposition to rob the people, as has been done, at times, in the matter of public work. Our opposition has been directed against fraud and false pretenses, and not against improvements. We have counseled the people to elect honest, capable men for office, and pleaded for sufficient funds to enable them to carry on necessary improvements. When it became clear that an increased water supply was needed for the development of the city, we were among the first to support the Council in its request for a loan of a million dollars, because we believed in the honesty of the men in charge. When, later, another crowd had obtained control—a crowd not even elected by the people—which did not use the money borrowed according to the pledges made, we opposed another loan which was asked for ostensibly for improvements but in reality for the perpetuation of that crowd in power. Why not try to be fair in the treatment of even an opponent?

The Tribune, speaking of the so-called American party, continues:

"Then came the vitalizing leaven of the American party victory of 1895. From that first victory going to the country, Salt Lake leaped into new life. Every one in the United States understood that this city had shaken off the priestly chains, and was in line as a progressive, splendid American city."

As we have shown, there were no "priestly chains" to shake off. That kind of talk is only a bid for the vote of the most ignorant of bigoted party followers. The leaders of the so-called American party simply were determined to obtain control of the city government. They had no nobler end in view than the capture of the County and finally the Legislature for the purpose of sending back to the United States Senate a man wholly unfit for that position. There was no "chain shaking" about it, but a cold-blooded proposition of forcing upon the people a representative who was not wanted.

That it will readily be admitted, was not very much of a "vitalizing principle." The party leaders sowed the seeds of discord at home. They made enemies out of neighbors. They did all in their power to create hatred between different classes.

Further, they told the world the infamous falsehood that Utah is a priest-ridden, sin-soaked commonwealth, in which decent people cannot live. They published octopus maps. They assailed one of the people's representatives in the United States Senate, and endeavored to make Utah a hiss and a by-word in all the world. That is what they have done for Utah, and for Salt Lake. Is that anything to brag about?

Salt Lake has advanced during these years, because its natural advantages and resources are numerous; because people generally have learned that the traditions of Utah are not worthy of belief; and because public-spirited citi-

zens have invested money here. In the firm belief that the policy of hatred and bitterness will have to go, and that a new era is about to dawn. Those are the reasons for the present progress of Salt Lake. The Tribune policy, which is utterly contemptible, has no more to do with that progress than with the rise in the water of the Lake. Progress has come in spite of it. And there will be still further advancement when business men and other citizens take the matter in hand and bid the storm-brewers to stand aside and be silent, and all unite in the work of building up.

This is all we ask for. The Church does not claim the right to control the city. It never has claimed that right. If it has any claim at all it is equal rights for all American citizens, no matter what their creed may be.

ARMENIAN ATROCITIES.

The atrocities in Asia Minor this time do not arouse the world, as they ought to do. It is estimated that 23,000 persons were killed in the Province of Adana. Of these many were children and women, and old, defenseless men, while others were slain fighting for life and home. And yet, the Christian world is tranquil.

Fourteen years ago, when Mohammedan fanatics stained the earth with the blood of Armenians, Gladstone raised his voice in their defense so earnestly that the conscience of nations was awakened. Meetings were held in European countries, and protests were entered against the massacres. Twenty years before that time he had done the same when the people of the Balkan states were butchered, with the result that Russia made war upon Turkey and Bulgaria was liberated. But today the Armenians appeal in vain to Christendom for liberation. What has become of the great men of the world, that they are silent when assassins are at work at the very threshold of civilization and the death-cries of agony are heard in the drawing-rooms of society?

Christians send missionaries into Asia to preach the gospel of brotherhood. They hope and pray for conversions, but when the Asiatics are murdered in cold blood and cry to the Christian world for the help that the Christian powers are fully capable of rendering, there is no reply. Instead of reaching out a helping hand, our wise men are merely discussing the question whether the victims of the atrocities are entirely innocent, or not.

The world realizes that the murders were instigated by the deposed sultan. It knows that the crusties had his endorsement. It hopes that they will not be resumed under the present regime, and this hope makes it wait in patience. But if this fails, and the sanguinary drama is continued, the United States may have to emerge from its exclusiveness and tell Turkey that race murder must cease. Our country can issue that mandate in the name of outraged civilization; and if it does, it will not be in vain.

Many a man hits a pillow when it is down.

It wasn't a lemon that the house of Orange got.

A good waiting maid is worth her wait in gold.

Some would make it a tariff for revenue only for the beneficiaries.

Beware of the girl who affects simplicity. She is fooling thee; trust her not.

Almost all the moves for economy in national expenditures prove to be false moves.

John D. Rockefeller has a rainbow lake. Will he stock it with rainbow trout?

America sending silk worms to France is like Pittsburg sending coal to Newcastle.

It is said the strawberry crop is ruined. There is nothing else equally as good as a strawberry.

No Indian ever found such happy hunting grounds as Colonel Roosevelt has found in Africa.

It cannot be a very wise witness to whom a ten-thousand word hypothetical question is addressed.

Has Senator Aldrich adopted as his motto, The maximum shall become minimum and the minimum maximum?

A quantity of jewelry has been found in a garbage can in Plum alley. When will people learn not to cast pearls before swine?

Oh, for some one to stir the conscience of Europe over the Armenian massacres as Gladstone stirred it over the Bulgarian atrocities!

Castro says that his physicians have advised him to go to the Canary Islands. It is just the place for him, for it ever there was a bird he is one.

A man acquitted on the grounds of temporary insanity of the charge of murder probably would shoot a man down for saying he ever was insane.

The Second National Peace congress resolved that "public war is out of date." But war preparations and modern armaments are strictly up to date.

The legal standing of the cold storage egg is to be determined by a California court. Columbus' experiment is still the best for giving an egg a standing as either end.

When the cold weather checks the flood waters the street department employs somehow or other get and give the impression that it is their vigilance that has done it.

If the so-called Americans were not in control of the city's affairs, the Tribune would charge that the damage done by floods in the canyons is due to "hierarchal influence."

Placed on the witness stand "Billy" Whittia, famous as the hero of the kidnapping case, was asked if he knew

where boys who told lies went to and he promptly answered that they went to the "bad place." They also go to circuses, ten-cent shows and swimming holes.

CUBANS SHOULD BE GRATEFUL.

Philadelphia Press.
This second army now retires and Cuba is left in the hands of the Cubans. And with a free Cuba the people have better roads, better schools, cleaner cities, less sickness, a more honest government, greater self-respect and more prosperity than the island had ever enjoyed since the days of Columbus. It has cost the United States scores of millions in money and a great many human lives to do all this for Cuba, and it receives nothing in return except perhaps the gratitude of a race and the admiration of all students of world history.

ORGANIZE FOR FRIENDSHIP.

New York Herald.
An interesting outcome of Li Sun Ling's visit to Pekin is the formation of a "China-American Friends association." The modern tendencies of the Celestial empire are illustrated by the fact that this movement was the culmination of a banquet given to the Hongkong newspaper proprietor by "leading Chinese journalists." They, with many officials, listened with appreciation to the story of their guest's experiences in the United States and toasted President Taft as a warm friend of their country.

CURB RECKLESS CHAUFFEURS.

New York Tribune.
Automobiles are a necessity of modern life, and their general use ought to be encouraged, but there is no reason why they should not be used with due regard to the rights of nonusers, who are an overwhelming majority of the public. Those who have at heart the progress of the country as a whole, and a spirit of a means of transportation will find it to their interest to suppress the many reckless drivers who bring their own occupation into disrepute.

RAISE MORE CEREALS.

New York Journal of Commerce.
There is no longer any danger of overproduction of breadstuffs and meat and dairy products in this country. Extension of the area of cultivation approaches the limit more and more, and it does not keep pace with the increase of population. The demand of the domestic market for consumption advance out of proportion to production and the surplus for export is relatively diminishing, while the world's requirements increase. The exports of farm products is still our mainstay for paying for imported merchandise, and will continue to be so while the cost of manufacturing is artificially kept up, for exports necessarily come into competition with foreign products of the same kind. We not only need to extend the area of land cultivated for the staples, but to improve methods of cultivation and reduce cost of production so far as practicable.

JUST FOR FUN

"How fast was he going?" asked Magistrate Krotel.
"So fast that the bulldog on the seat beside him took a dachshound," replied the copper. And the accused was held for sessions.—London Graphic.

The New Wife—John! It's 8 o'clock, and you must get up. You said you wanted to spade up the garden before breakfast.
The New Husband—Yes, but I forgot to say that I didn't breakfast till 11.—Cleveland Leader.

"Matrimony," said the lady who had just secured her third divorce, "is after all an unbroken sea."
"I take it, then," her friend replied, "that you have not engaged in your various ventures for charting purposes."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The country parson was condoling with the bereft widow. "Alas!" he continued, earnestly, "I cannot tell you how I sympathize with you. Your husband had gone to heaven. We were bosom friends, but we shall never meet again."—Lippincott's Magazine.

Mrs. Sunflower—Pete Green am getting to be quite an actor. Dey say he am wedded to his art. Do you think ye could be wedded to yo' art, Sam?
Sam Sunflower (with a yawn)—Wall, ye are out would ye call a sinner in tobacco money.—Chicago News.

Bulzer—Pennter told me that the best magazines were clamoring for his contributions.
Knolrham—No wonder; he writes full-page ads.—Lippincott's.

"Did she marry for love?"
"That's what everybody is wondering. Her husband is charming in manner, wealthy, has no bad habits and moves in the best of society."—Judge.

Griggs—Did you ever know that milkman never drinks?
Riggs—Why not?
Griggs—Because he's always on the water wagon.—Princeton Tiger.

Even—Dearest, when shall I get the marriage license?
Flo—Not until I have worn for a few months the engagement ring you are going to buy for me.—Chicago Tribune.

"I heard Crittich remark," said the playwright's friend, "that some of the passages in your comedy were worthy of Congreve."
"Oh!" exclaimed the playwright, "that's too bad!"
"Why, that surely means a compliment!"
"Not much! It means that he's on to me."—Catholic Standard and Times.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The following is the contents of Harter's Bazar for May: "The Future Life," Thomas W. Higginson; "A Lute Song," a poem, Clinton Scolland; "Peter, Peter," a novel, chapters XIX and XX, Maude Radford Warren; "Girls," Mary Mills Patrick, Ph.D.; "A Confidence," a dialogue, Elizabeth Jordan; "Three Things," Mary Eastwood Knevels; "The Householder's Problem," a story, "Three Robin Songs," poems, Charlotte Louise Rice; "Early Summer Fashions," "Street Gowns and Coats," "Summer Fashions from Paris," and "Economy in Dress," a story, "The Lady in Black," a story, Eleanor H. Porter; "Seed Time and Harvest," a poem, Anna Hamilton French; "The New Baby," a poem, Margaret G. Hays; "Interesting Women of the Capitol," H. F. B.; "Habits of Childhood," M. B. Harris; "Fashions in Jewelry," Lydia Le Baron Walker; "Some Resources of Old Age," C. S. Scheffer; "Roadside Tea Rooms," a story, "The House-keeping for One," M. B. Calhoun; "For You, Dear," a poem, Charlotte D. Wilbur; "Simple Outwork Designs," Gaile Le Baron Walker; "The Great Design of the World," the most famous living chef; "Spring Fatigue and Rest," Martha Cutler; "Menus for a Children's Party," illustrated, Lydia Holland, Harper & Bros., New York.

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