

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.  
(Sunday Excepted.)  
Corner of South Temple and East Temple  
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager  
SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.  
(In Advance)  
One Year \$2.00  
Six Months \$1.25  
Three Months \$0.75  
One Month \$0.25  
Saturday Edition, Per Year \$2.00  
Semi-Weekly, Per Year \$2.00

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.  
Address all business communications and all remittances to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice at Salt Lake City as second class matter according to Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, SEPT. 23, 1907.

### CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-eighth semi-annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday, Oct. 4, 1907, at 10 a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members of the Church is hereby requested.

On account of the general Conference being held on the first Sunday of October, it is suggested that the last Sunday in September be observed as fast day in the Salt Lake, Ensign, Liberty, Pioneer, Jordan, and Granite stakes.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

JOHN R. WINDER,

ANTHONY H. LUND,

First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

### THE POLITICAL RULE.

"There is no law, written or unwritten, that prohibits an American citizen from interesting himself in the government of the community in which he lives, because of any ecclesiastical position he may hold."

This self-evident proposition the daily exponent of un-American principles characterizes as "an audacious falsehood." Why then not present the law, written or unwritten, that contains such a restriction of the rights and duties of American citizens? A mere reference to the existence of such a law, by which it could be found, would save the organ some of its billingsgate, for future use, and it may need the entire supply after a while.

The manner in which Moses Thatcher is referred to by the sheet, would lead one to suppose that the so-called political rule promulgated in 1896 contains restrictions upon the duties of citizens. It does not. Since the Tribune did not "dare" to print it, to use one of its favorite expressions, we will. Here it is:

"We unanimously agree to and promulgate as a rule that should always be observed in the Church and by every leading official thereof, that before ACCEPTING ANY POSITION, political OR OTHERWISE, which would interfere with the proper and complete discharge of his ecclesiastical duties, and before accepting a nomination or entering into engagements to perform new duties, said official should apply to the proper authorities and learn from them whether he can consistently with the obligations already entered into with the Church upon assuming his office, take upon himself the added duties and labors and responsibilities of the new position."

Now, everybody can see that this rule does not prohibit anyone from interesting himself in the government of the community in which he lives. It is an agreement to the effect that no leading official of the Church shall accept any office before having ascertained whether the duties of the new position, in the judgment of his associates, will interfere with the obligations he already has entered into by accepting office in the Church. And the rule is not limited to political appointments. It takes in all positions, political and otherwise. It is a rule that obtains, we presume, in every church, and every business establishment. A clergyman engaged to care for a congregation would not accept a political position without consulting those who had engaged him, if he expected to retain his ecclesiastical office, too. The manager of a business would not accept a new business engagement without consulting his firm. That is all there is to this rule.

We have quoted the first part of the Rule. The second reads:

"We declare that in making these requirements of ourselves and our brethren in the ministry, we do not in the least desire to detract from their concerning THEIR DUTIES AS AMERICAN CITIZENS, or to interfere with the affairs of the State; neither do we consider that in the remotest degree we are seeking the union of Church and State. We once more here repudiate the insinuation that there is or ever has been an attempt by our leading men to trespass upon the ground occupied by the State, or that there has been or is the wish to curtail any of its functions."

That is the Rule. Is there anything in it contrary to the principles of American liberty? If not, who is guilty of "audacious falsehood?"

Too long the daily spokesman for un-American principles has deceived the public by misrepresentations and endeavored a feeling of distrust and even hatred toward one class of citizens. Were it not for such misrepresentations, there would be no occasion for conflict or strife here. All could work together harmoniously for the rapid development of the City. This does not suit the grafters that live, like vampires, by the wounds from which they can suck the life-blood of their victims, but it should suit the citizens who are here to build in the City and their honest business. The tax-payers should be interested in the establishment of peaceful conditions and the election of honest officials.

### THAT PLATFORM.

The so-called American platform charges by implication, or directly, that "ecclesiasticism" is a factor in politics in Utah; that the division on party lines is a farce, and that the

public schools are under church control. It contains other charges equally absurd.

Now everyone of these accusations were brought before the impartial tribunal of the United States Senate, in a vindictive effort to have one of Utah's representatives in that body expelled as a malefactor. The charges were thoroughly investigated during a long and searching inquiry, and since the accusers knew that they were preferring false charges, they did not rely on the testimony of their witnesses but they did all in their power to overwhelm the Senate by an avalanche of petitions. But, notwithstanding all their efforts, the Senate declared that the accusations were not sustained by the evidence.

In what light does that place the hypocrites who repeat the same charges in a "platform"? Why did they bring their sickly case before the Senate, if they had no intention of abiding by its decision? Is it not clear that the framers of that platform of false accusations are endeavoring to brand the Senate as a body of false judges? And is it not evident that all who endorse that platform place themselves in a similar position of hostility to one branch of the national government? Pray, call you that "American?"

We are aware that a cowardly effort has been made to make it appear that the Senators who refused to join the platform in their assault upon the Constitution, were in collusion with the Church. But what of the press of the country that fully indorsed the Senate decision? Among this part of the press was The Outlook. This ably conducted periodical said:

"We have not read all the evidence in this case. It is too short. But we have read with care the protest against Mr. Smoot's election signed by representatives of the 'League of Women's National Organizations' and presented to the Senate by Senator Dubois, of Idaho, and we find in it no reason stated that justifies their demand for Mr. Smoot's exclusion. They have not expressed and they cannot express too strongly the importance of protecting the purity of the home and the sanctity of the family. But this cannot be done by asking Congress to violate both the spirit of the Constitution and the principles of political justice. To refuse a seat in the Senate to a man of irreproachable moral character because he entertains a religious faith and is a member of a religious organization which are oppugnant to the judgment and conscience of a vast majority of the people of the United States does violate the spirit of the Constitution."

In the same article The Outlook said of Senator Smoot, referring to another charge:

"A society might be avowedly organized for the purpose of destroying the Nation, and a representative of such a society should be refused a seat in either House; but there is no pretense that the Mormon Church is organized for any such treasonable purpose. Evidence that Mr. Smoot had taken an oath or made a pledge of hostility to the American Nation or of supreme allegiance to the Mormon Church, putting it above his allegiance to the Nation, would be good ground for excluding him from the Senate. But the vote of the Senate we take to be equivalent to its declaration that he has taken no such oath and made no such pledge."

As we have contended, every charge made directly or indirectly in the so-called American platform, which is un-American enough to be Russian, or savage, was refuted by the decision of the Senate in the case brought before it by the "American" party sponsors. No one can successfully deny this. The platform, therefore, is a colossal falsehood, worthy of its authors.

### THOROUGHLY UN-AMERICAN.

In this city alone among all the municipalities of the Union there is a party the essence of whose platform is really a single plank, or at most two planks, both of which are a menace to the existence of free institutions and in direct opposition to basic principles upon which the Republic is founded.

The two real planks in the platform, apart from its wordy declarations about liberty, are that it will wage unceasing warfare against the members of a certain religious faith, and that it will do anything to get or to keep in power.

No truly political party in America has ever gone so far in its open opposition as to constitute the sole excuse for its existence its attempt to deny to the members of a religious organization the right to participate on common ground in representative government in the land of their birth or adoption.

And the party that does so here is not a political party; but a ring of office-seekers who desire to control the public money and the affairs of this city from other motives than those that look to the good of the people.

It is true that some men are by nature so un-American and have learned so little of the meaning of the fundamental principles of true Americanism—equally before the law—that they ignorantly proclaim their "Americanism" while violating its most sacred principle.

The so-called "American" party proclaims that there must be no mingling of religion and politics, and straightforwardly adds that it will therefore mingle religion and politics by constituting an organization whose main object is to wage a religious warfare upon a body of free and law-abiding American citizens, simply because the latter refuse to do the bidding of the false and treacherous leaders of that grotesque party.

Can a party claim respect and continue to exist when its only object is religious persecution and its principal results are public plunder and national dishonor in office? Can strife, unrest, and ill feeling among those who should not be enemies, but friends, be a sufficient inducement to the mistaken followers of that party to continue to support leaders and to aid and abet an organization that fosters hate and tolerates iniquity?

The support given to these so-called "American" leaders by the comparatively large number of our fellow-citizens who voted for them at the last election, would hardly be possible if their followers realized just what sort of assault they are making upon the most cherished of American institutions in so doing.

The masses of the people of the United States would not tolerate, if they knew it, a religious warfare upon

any people, much less upon any part of the citizens of this free country.

The fact that such a warfare is urged here and actually applauded as a sample of "Americanism" shows either how little certain people know of the basic principle of a republican form of government, or how easy it is for them to be blinded as to the real facts in the case by a few disappointed political schemers.

### RAPID ADVANCEMENT.

In answer to a correspondent: The dimensions of the Great Eastern and Lusitania respectively are as follows:

Great Eastern, Lusitania.  
Length ..... 680 feet 785 feet  
Beam ..... 83 feet 88 feet  
Depth ..... 48 feet 77 feet  
Gross tonnage ..... 18,135 tons 32,560 tons.  
The Great Eastern was launched in 1888 after several unsuccessful attempts to place the big ship in her proper element. The designer, Brunel, did not live to see the boat sail on her first voyage.

The first English-built steamboat to cross the Atlantic was the Great Western, also designed by Brunel. While this ship was under construction, experts declared that the voyage could not be made, and an array of figures was presented as proof. But the voyage was made in 1838. The Great Western was 212 feet long. It was a wooden vessel of 675 tons net burden. She sailed from Bristol on the 8th of April, 1838, and arrived at New York on the 23rd, direct, in 15 days. Her best day's run was 243 knots and her average 238, or equal to 3.2 knots per hour. And thus the critics were confounded, who had asserted that as for the idea of a steam passage from Liverpool to New York, "It was . . . perfectly chimerical, and they might as well talk of making a voyage from New York or Liverpool to the Moon."

Another steamboat, the Sirius, somewhat smaller than the Great Western, cleared from London and arrived in New York a few hours ahead of the latter ship.

What an advance in the steamship building during the comparatively short time between these first efforts to bridge the great deep, and the Lusitania! When looking at the advancement of civilization, we generally presume that progress is always very slow and that ages are necessary for any noticeable improvements. But sometimes it goes by leaps and bounds. The development in navigation is an illustration of this.

Raisell still holds Cold MacLean as a quick asset.

Governor Hughes' whiskers should attract the Granger vote.

Is clam chowder to supplant sauerkraut in the Fatherland?

The Hague peace conference is nearly ready to sing the Swan song.

Railroad men say that it is the rate and not the pace that kills.

"I am in good shape," says Mr. Cleveland. And yet he is no Adonis.

Salt Lake telephone girls still say "please." They are a most pleasing lot.

Thirty thousand shoemakers in St. Louis have struck. Their sole is in the strike.

There are ninety-eight thousand pupils in the public schools of Boston. A discount of two per cent.

If he wishes to pacify the Moors, General Druce should study the methods used in pacifying the Pullanes.

Sometimes presidential booms are started in the same manner that Alpine avalanches are—just by yelling loud.

Says Mrs. Hotty Green: "There was a time when guilty oppressors of the innocent (in finance) went to jail." It was a prophetic time.

Ernest Thompson Seton has written "The Natural History of the Ten Commandments." The title is suggestive of a good deal of nature faking.

That \$400,000 bequest to Yale left by Archibald Henry Blount, an Englishman who never saw it, proves that it is the unexpected that always happens.

The French have given a woman a prize for finding out a method by which people can tell whether or not a person is dead. Can't the method be applied to political issues?

To the look-on from afar it appears that those who tortured Mrs. Greenbaugh to death while trying to exorcise evil spirits from her rheumatism-racked body were possessed of a devil.

Frank J. Constantine, convicted of the murder of Mrs. Louise Gentry, says he is descended from Italian royalty. His name indicates, if he has royal blood in his veins, that he is descended from the most famous of the eastern emperors.

Ten hits out of ten shots with a ten-inch gun at a distance of four and a half miles, is a pretty good record for the One Hundred and Fifteenth company, coast artillery. Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett or Natty Bumppo couldn't have done any better.

"Will somebody please hurry forward with an explanation of the turbine engine that the public can readily understand?" asks the Chicago Record-Herald. There is the Lusitania as an example, and example is better than precept or explanation.

Bicycle stealing seems to be quite a branch of the general "profession." According to a statement in a magazine, 4,000 bicycles were stolen in Los Angeles this year. It seems that not long ago five hundred unclaimed bicycles which had been accumulating in the hands of the Los Angeles police were sold at auction, and the money thus raised was turned into the sick benefit fund. This sale affair brought out the fact that, during the year 4,000 bicycles were stolen in that city. More than half of them were recovered and returned to their owners, while half a

dozen of the bicycle thieves who were captured were sent to the penitentiary. In Salt Lake City, it seems, bicycle thieves are very seldom apprehended, though many wheels are stolen every year. What is the reason?

### DEFECTS OF CHILDHOOD AND THEIR CAUSE.

Los Angeles Examiner.  
A committee of prominent educators has reported that twelve million children in the United States are behind in their school grades because of preventable physical defects. Among the most common of these defects are malnutrition often due to insufficient food, improper breathing, impaired eyesight and enlarged glands. Almost a half million children are thus affected in New York alone. In the country at large it is estimated that approximately one-third of the boys and girls of school age are physically defective. To alleviate this startling condition the committee suggests the improvement of school and home hygiene and the stricter enforcement of health, tenement house and child labor laws.

### TSI AN'S RESIGNATION IMPROBABLE.

Washington Star.  
Tsi An abdicate? It is unlikely. Not until her almond eyes are closed in her last sleep will that indomitable woman cease to direct the affairs of China. Of course, unless meanwhile a revolution occurs or the powers intervene. As long as the great dynasty reigns and Tsi An lives she will be the real ruler of China. It cannot be otherwise. She is too strong-minded, too smart, too intensely devoted to her theory of government to step aside and allow others to manage affairs. The world at large probably rates Tsi An below her just measure. For this, of course, she is liable to blame. She has not adapted herself to the conditions of the day. If she had been a better advertiser she would at this time be known throughout the range of human habitation as one of the greatest women of history.

### JUST FOR FUN

#### A Dark Secret.

The bleached blond's method of keeping her hair light is a dark secret.—Chicago News.

#### Careless Speech.

Missionary—Sire, my daughter, King of all the Camibals—Pleased to meet you.—Life.

#### A Brick.

Bertie—Well, mother, I don't care what you say. I think she is a regular brick.

Mother—Very likely. She certainly seems to be throwing herself at somebody's head.—Punch.

#### A Dream.

"You must have been dreaming of some one proposing to you last night, Laura."

"How is that?"  
"Show me, heard you for a whole quarter of an hour crying out, 'Yes.'"  
—Fleegende Blatter.

#### The Emergency Pocket.

They had planned to elope all alone, these two—

The groom, Baboon, and the bride Kangaroo.

And so they were both clandestinely wed.

When the groom of a sudden bethought him, and said:

"My parson I've forgot. A plague on this marriage!"

Can't help it my dear, you must furnish the carriage."

So the groom stepped in and they galloped away.

Singing "High and Ho" on their wedding day. —Harper's Weekly.

### SALT LAKE THEATRE

Three Night Starting TONIGHT.  
MATINEE WEDNESDAY AT 2:15.  
By special arrangements with Walter N. Lawrence, Madison Square Theatre, New York, Stockwell and MacGregor present the great comedy success of New York and London,

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A company of superior merit headed by FRANKLIN C. STOCKWELL.  
Prices, 5c to \$1.50. Matinee, 2c to 1c.

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Friday Evening SAPHO!

Saturday Matinee CARMEN!

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Prices—5c to \$2.  
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ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE.  
All This Week.

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Every Evening (except Sunday).  
7c, 5c, 3c, Box Seat, \$1.00.  
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A Powerful and Startling Play of Startling Realism

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Three nights starting Thursday, "An Old Favorite in a New Play, 'BIR' IN NEW YORK—A story of Indiana Rural Life.

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Direction: Sullivan & Considine.

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Beatrice Moreland and Stanley Johns, "Fanny & Husband,"

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The Troupe.  
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Lyricscope Improved Motion Pictures.

Evenings, two shows, 7:30 and 9:15, matinee except Sunday.

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## "Schramm's"

Where the cars stop. All Depot Cars Stop Here Now.  
Bell Phone. Ind. Phone.  
Exchange 7. 86.

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Fountain and family syringes, in all sizes and many styles. Hot water bags that will relieve your aches, rubber gloves, cushions and sheeting, baby comforts, everything in rubber usually carried in a drug store. It will pay you to call. Selling at way down prices. Both Phones 67. Remember the number.

42 Main Street.  
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10 ft. 6 in. x 14 ft. Wilton Velvet Carpet, regular price \$75.00, this week .....\$60.00  
10 ft. 6 in. x 12 ft. Wilton Velvet Carpet, regular price \$62.50, this week .....\$50.00  
9 ft. x 12 ft. Wilton Velvet Carpet, regular price \$50.00, this week .....\$42.50  
9 ft. x 12 ft. Bigelow Axminster, regular price \$50.00, this week .....\$42.50  
No. 6000 9 ft. x 12 ft. Wilton Velvet Carpet (seamless) \$37.50, this week .....\$30.00  
No. 4000 9 ft. x 12 ft. Wilton Velvet Carpet (seamless) \$32.50, this week .....\$25.00  
\$24.00, this week .....\$25.00  
\$30.50, this week .....\$30.00  
9 ft. x 12 ft. Smith's Best Axminster, regular \$32.50, this week .....\$25.00  
9 ft. x 12 ft. Smith's Saxony Axminster, regular \$30.00, this week .....\$24.00  
8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Smith's Best Axminster, regular \$27.50, this week .....\$21.50  
9 ft. x 12 ft. Roxbury Brussels, regular \$27.50, this week .....\$21.50  
8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Roxbury Brussels, regular \$24.00, this week .....\$21.50  
9 ft. x 11 ft. Smith's Tapestry Brussels, regular \$15.00, this week .....\$12.00  
9 ft. x 12 ft. Best Hoge's Fiber Rug, regular \$15.00, this week .....\$11.50

During next week the prices on all small Rugs will be greatly reduced.

## LACE CURTAIN REDUCTIONS ALL WEEK.

This includes our new and entire line of fall curtains—Battenbergs, Brussels, Irish Point, Novelities, Nottinghams, during this week will be placed 25% off on sale at .....  
All odd Portiers, one pair 33 1/3% off lots .....

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