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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Saturday, October 3, 1891.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-second Semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will commence at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, October 4th, 1891, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City.

A cordial invitation is extended to all the officers and members of the Church to be present at the meetings.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

MORALITY AND THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

THE necessity of moral training for the young is beyond dispute. Religious instruction is at least of equal importance, or it is so considered by religious people and by some who, though undevotional in their make-up, regard religion as necessary to the general welfare.

As we have shown heretofore, religious teaching is excluded from our public schools. There would be great difficulty in making it unsectarian, and denominational teaching is barred by territorial statute. But moral training is another thing. True, it may be argued that all morality is part of religion and springs from religious sentiments and principles. But there are moral people who are not religious, in its full sense, and there are some people considered religious whose morality is certainly not of the highest type.

Morality may and ought to be taught in the public schools, and need not be introduced in a way to trench upon any theological dogma or non-religious idea. Without moral training mere intellectual culture is inadequate, and education will be a failure. The cultivated rogue is the greater scoundrel. Mental development without moral development will produce monsters instead of men and women fit for civilized society.

And while denominational teachings are forbidden in Utah by law, moral training is required in the dis-

trict schools. The statute says: "Moral instruction tending to impress upon the minds of the pupils the importance of good manners, truthfulness, temperance, purity, patriotism and industry shall be given in every district school."

We do not know whether this requirement of the law is complied with or not. We presume the Superintendent in this city, who is a very thorough disciplinarian and competent officer, sees to it that the law is complied with in this particular. It should be enforced in all the public schools in the Territory. Another requirement of the law is that teachers shall give to pupils sufficiently advanced: "Special instruction concerning the nature of and effects produced by the use of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics."

This may be regarded rather as scientific than moral instruction. Yet it partakes of the nature of both. Immorality is undeniably promoted by the excessive use of intoxicants, and if scholars are taught the effects of narcotics and stimulants upon the human system so as to impress the mind with the evil consequences of their habitual use, a moral influence will be exerted in the interest of sobriety and temperance and social order and obligations, which cannot fail to have beneficial moral results.

The public should understand that though denominational teaching is forbidden in the District Schools of Utah, yet that atheistical and infidel teachings are also forbidden, and that moral training is an essential part of the curriculum. Any violation or neglect of the law in these particulars should be noted and reported, so that the public schools may be kept free from evil and be made productive of as much good as possible to the youth of our Territory.

The schools are free to all the children, but they are maintained by the taxes of the public. They should be patronized and encouraged, and the teachers should receive the support of the parents, so that these public schools may come up to the desired standard, and that the school system of Utah may be known throughout the land as one to be admired and emulated, instead of being misrepresented and condemned.

"LIBERAL" ILLIBERALITY AGAIN.

THE illiberality of so-called "Liberalism" received another illustration at the session of the City Council on Tuesday evening. The deputy-Treasurer having resigned, the Treasurer, Mr. Walden, nominated Mr. M. B.

Sowles to fill the vacancy. When it came to a vote it was rejected, the "Liberals" voting against Mr. Sowles and making a small majority.

The gentleman nominated was once a member of the City Council and of the Board of Public Works. In each position he showed marked ability. That he is eminently fit for the place now vacant no one disputed or will dispute. What is the matter, then? Mr. Sowles is a non-"Mormon," so the common objection does not stand in his way. But he no longer trains with the "Liberal" faction. He dares to have opinions. He is not under the "Liberal" boss. He does not cringe to the "Liberal" lash. He is in favor of the division on national political party lines. And so he cannot obtain a public office while "Liberalism" holds control.

Before the "Liberals" seized the reigns of power they charged, untruthfully, that the "Mormons" would not appoint or engage any but "Mormons" for either public or private service. Notwithstanding well known instances to the contrary, they reiterated this accusation whenever they thought they could gain by the misrepresentation. But since they have had an opportunity of exhibiting their own "exclusiveness," it has cropped out on every possible occasion. "No Mormon need apply" has been the standing sign, in effect if not in word, over every department of the municipal service. More than that. Every "Mormon" who was employed in any public capacity has been ejected by the "Liberal" manipulators of civic affairs. And now they go still further in their offensive partisanship, and plainly announce that only "Liberals," and they of that class who are subservient to the ring-leaders, will be permitted to occupy a place in the public service while "Liberal rule obtains.

The public should take notice of all these things. What is needed in city affairs is competent public servants. Party or faction should not dominate in such matters, and when a competent man is put forward for a position which he could fill with honor and profit to the municipality, the fact that he is not a subservient follower of a faction the days of which are numbered, ought to have no influence against his appointment. The "Liberals" in the City Council on Tuesday evening made a very bad blunder.

Roswell P. Flower, whom the New York democrats have nominated for governor, is the gentleman who once made a speech in congress in which he got leave to print the whole of the constitution of the United States as a part of his remarks.