

DESERET EVENING NEWS

OFFICE of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

LORENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 26, 1930.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The seventeenth semi-annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence on Friday, October 3, at 10 a. m. in the Tabernacle in this city.

LORENZO SNOW,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

FAST DAY.

Inasmuch as one of the seasons of our forthcoming General Conference will be held on Sunday, the 7th prox., which is our general fast day, the next fast day services will be held on the last Sunday of the present month instead of the first Sunday of next month.

LORENZO SNOW,
SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will convene Sunday, October 7, 1930, at 7 p. m., in the Tabernacle. It is desired that each Stake of Zion be represented at this meeting, and that Stake superintendents, officers and teachers attending the General Conference of the Church be present.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,
KARL G. MAESER,
General Superintendency of Sunday Schools.

HORACE S. ENSIGN,
General Secretary.

RELIEF AT LAST.

For a long time the people of Salt Lake have exercised forbearance, with as good grace as possible, over the wretched condition of the pavement in the chief business portions of the city. The jolting of vehicles in the holes that have been formed has been trying to their nerves, injurious to teams and carriages, and unsightly to the eyes of all beholders. Visitors must have formed an unfavorable opinion of the alertness of our municipal authorities.

The "News" has refrained from expressing the disapprobation of the public, because it was understood that litigation with the asphaltum company that did the work of paving, was the cause of delay in making the needed repairs. But the anatomies of drivers have been both loud and deep; louder than the arguments of the disputants, and deeper than the holes in the pavement. There is now some prospect of relief, and that is why we mention the trouble.

One cause of delay in fixing the pavement, is the roundabout method of requiring every little job to be done under the direction of the Board of Public Works. That body is required to advertise for bids, such work to be done by contract. This takes time and hinders progress. That is not the fault of the Board; it has to proceed according to law. In this case bids were called for but there was no response. To advertise again would make further delay, so the City Council has ordered repairs to be done by the street supervisor, and the public may expect something to be done immediately.

It is to be hoped that no storkier for routine will attempt to stop this necessary work, by injunction or otherwise. It is street work and essential to safe traffic. The material to be used is gravel and cement, as it is not considered wise to chance freezing, or other drawbacks to asphalt paving at this season of the year. Go ahead with the patching, and let there be no further delays. Even if the material used is not of a permanent character the repairs will be welcome. "A patch is better than a hole."

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

A letter from Elsinore which appears in our State news, contains information which ought to make food for reflection to the leading spirits of the M. E. church. A lady school teacher at Elsinore, who belongs to that church, had been very successful in obtaining pupils and was so encouraged that she found it necessary to secure an assistant teacher. She attended the Methodist convention in this city, and evidently endorsed the atrocious falsehoods about the "Mormon" people which were there enunciated. On her return, it appears, only six scholars attended, much to her chagrin and to the disappointment of the now needless assistant. The half dozen pupils are non-Mormons.

This is a significant extension of the sentiments of the people of that thriving town in the beautiful Sevier valley. And it ought to prove a lesson to the

sensible portion of the Methodist society. They might know that they cannot succeed in the very sphere in which alone they look for success, by slandering the parents of the children whom they hope to capture, and by branding their homes as "godless" and "destitute of the Bible." Such falsehoods may do their intended work outside of Utah, but here they provoke contempt for every person who invents or approves them.

There are no people on this continent today who are more desirous of educational progress than the citizens of this State. The "Mormons" are uniting with persons not of their faith in the work of secular educational improvement. The number of teachers who are non-"Mormons" is evidence of this. The action of the people of Elsinore is not a protest in favor of "Mormon" influence in the district schools, nor against the employment of non-"Mormon" teachers who are truthful and capable, but it is a public expression of disapproval of malignant sectarian defamation of the Latter-day Saints by professing Christians, and a sign that such methods will not be condoned, by the employment of their authors to instruct the children of the fathers and mothers who have been held up as godless heathens.

These denominational schools, conducted by men or women who make it their business to bear false witness against their neighbors, are not suitable training places for the children of the Latter-day Saints. Let those who belong to the sects that establish them support them if they please. They ought not to be hindered or molested in any way. But it would be far better for Latter-day Saints to send their young children to the district schools, from which religious teaching is excluded, than to place them under the influence of persons who are not only hostile to their faith, but who persistently misrepresent it and join in endeavors to injure them.

Religious training is desired in addition to that given in religion classes, and in the Sunday schools and primary associations, let it be had in the academies and seminaries and colleges of our own Church, and not in the hot-beds of anti-"Mormon" error and fanaticism. Observe, we do not wish to see any measures of retaliation or vindictiveness toward the individuals who indulged in the defamation of our Church and people at the M. E. conference. Treat them with Christian forbearance and charity.

But, on the other hand, they should not be encouraged in their evil work, and certainly a man or woman who utters or endorses such vile accusations against the "Mormons" as those promulgated on the occasion referred to, must be deemed by sensible and consistent Latter-day Saints, as totally unfit to have the care and training of their children. This is only common sense. The opposite course, pursued by some thoughtless persons, is the very height of folly and the extreme of inconsistency. Elsinore has set a good example.

SPEAKING OF WAR NOW.

It is possible that the Shanghai correspondent of the London Morning Post, in cabling his paper that there are reasons for believing that Germany intends declaring war upon China, was actuated by a desire to give the world a piece of sensational news, without too strict regard for the actual facts, and yet it will be admitted that such action by Germany would not be surprising. That country has suffered indignities at the hands of China, which no strong, self-respecting power can bear with indifference. The emperor, at the dispatch of the German forces to the scene of trouble made a declaration of policy, which if carried out logically must result in war. And now the demand for the surrender of the leaders of the rising indicates clearly the intention of Germany to take revenge to the fullest extent possible.

Should this rumor prove true, the withdrawal from China, of the troops that were sent there not for conquest but to protect life and property, is an immediate necessity. Their position as neutrals could not be maintained between two warring armies.

A declaration of war by Germany would put a stop temporarily to all further negotiations for a peaceful arrangement of the trouble. China cannot consistently enter into any agreement with any one power, as long as it is ignorant of what further demands may be made by another power. The Chinese authorities would naturally ask as a preliminary condition of any concessions, that the war cease. They regard the Europeans as allies, and they would not accept the pledges of one ally, without some guarantee that they be not broken by another.

If war is declared, it may be taken for granted that China is to be dismembered, and that Europe is about to carry out her own program, for Germany does not act entirely on her own responsibility. France is definitely said to support Germany, and that is a pretty sure indication of Russia's position, whatever the official assurances may be. The American policy of preserving the integrity of China cannot be maintained if the fate of the country is to be decided after a long and expensive war, and it may be added that American interests will not be considered, when our troops are withdrawn and the fight for territory shall have been fought to a finish.

The position of Great Britain at present is in accord with that of the United States, but in that country there is a strong sentiment in favor of "reaping the fruits of English exertions in China," and when the land grabbing commences, it would be strange if the British government should not insist on some part of the spoils. Lord Salisbury may have replied to Germany's note in terms identical with those of the United States government, but he is not known to have promised armed intervention to prevent Count von Waldersee from carrying out any instructions he may receive, and nothing short of such interference with Germany's plans is likely to avail.

The Chinese situation then is really more critical than ever. The concert of the powers is broken. The Chinese government is either unable to stop the outrages committed upon foreigners, or

it is indifferent in the matter. Rumors of massacres are still reaching the outside world, and public opinion demands vigorous action to put a stop to further atrocities. Count von Waldersee himself is doing what he can to create an unfavorable impression of the Chinese situation. It looks as if eastern Asia were to be the battle ground upon which the East and the West are to meet in sanguinary conflict, and the great question is whether this can be fought without ending in that general world war, which far-seeing statesmen have for years predicted as the logical outcome of the policy of the so-called Christian powers.

RELIGION AS A BUSINESS.

The resignation of the pastor of the East Side Baptist church, and his sudden departure for other fields, though in itself an event of no great importance, deserves notice on account of the reasons the reverend gentleman assigns for his action. His frank confessions should open the eyes of our "Christian" friends to the present status of the "ministry."

Mr. Shanks is quoted as saying that his relations with the members of his church have been most pleasant, and this is corroborated by prominent parties of the flock. But notwithstanding this, he has for some time contemplated leaving, because "the organization is small and they cannot afford to raise my present salary of \$1,000 a year, and I owe it to my family to earn more."

That this is in perfect harmony with nineteenth century denominationalism is not disputed, but is it "Christian"? Fancy the "pastors," on the great day of reckoning, endeavoring to plead, before the Judge of all men: "We have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?" when it is on record that the only thing they have forsaken is the flocks that were too poor to pay more than \$1,000 a year! How can they claim to be servants of him, who urged His followers to give freely that which they had received freely? Is it possible to imagine the Apostle Paul leaving Corinth because his salary was too small there, and seeking a pastorate at Rome, to earn more money? Can we think of the beloved disciple forsaking the churches of Asia, because his family needed more money?

Pastor Shanks is perfectly frank in the matter. He states that he is going to Chicago to commence a work of "revival," and this taken in connection with his expressed hope of "earning" more money, is only open to this construction that he regards the "revival" business back East more profitable than the "pastor" business in Salt Lake City. "I owe it to my family to earn more," he says, and then leaves for Chicago to commence a "revival," with appropriate hymns, prayers and exhortations. Is it possible to imagine a greater absurdity than the common ministerial practice of making a "business" of that which cannot be bought or sold, but which is given freely to those who shall ask in faith and humility?

We do not wish to treat the subject lightly, but we are forcibly reminded of the remark of the late Kjerkegaard, who pitied Judas for his lack of enterprise in his treacherous business transaction, and marveled at the sagacity that can turn out alleged religion at the value of thousands of dollars annually. Does it need any argument to prove that "revivals" as money enterprises are worse than frauds?

It is perfectly legitimate for a minister to desire more money for the comfort of his family, but he should then engage in some honest calling, and not pretend to sell that which he has not, and which, if he had it, would be beyond value and price.

BRITISH ELECTIONS.

By proclamation of dissolution the British Parliament, the fourteenth of Queen Victoria's reign, expired on the 25th of this month, after an existence of five years, one month and thirteen days. The new Parliament is to convene on the 1st of November. There will not be very much time to devote to a general election, but the intensity of political work will have to make up for the brevity of time allotted to it. London advises say that business men are furious because of the injury sustained to their interests by the political contests.

Those who have followed British politics closely predict the complete defeat of the Liberal party. The only question is about the size of the Conservative majority. The Liberals are divided on the Boer war, and they have no leaders capable of uniting the scattered forces.

What effect the election will have upon Great Britain's Chinese policy remains to be seen. At present it can only be set down as sure that an overwhelming Conservative victory is an endorsement of the vigorous measures of expansion, that have found an expression in the government's proceedings in Africa.

HAPPY COMMUNITIES.

Towns whose inhabitants pay no taxes should be classed among the wonders of the world, and yet, if a statement in Penny Pictorial is true, there are several such.

One is the town of Kilgenberg-on-the-Main, in Bavaria. The people there own some pottery clay pits, and the revenue of these pay all the expenses of the community, and leave a small margin for a reserve fund.

Another similarly well provided for place is Orb in Austria. It has a population of 1,000, and its forests and salt pits are depended on for revenue.

These properties pay for new streets, railways and electric plants and similar improvements for which other communities often incur heavy debts. France is also said to have a town, Chamaret, without taxes. But its citizens owe this fact to a philanthropic citizen. The story is that a benevolent gentleman of that place decided his large fortune to the city. And now, after all municipal expenses are discharged, there is nearly 10,000 francs left, with which a yearly merry-making is held, at which the people enthusiastically drink to the memory of their deceased benefactor.

With such shining examples it is strange that many other communities

do not endeavor to provide for some means whereby to meet their expenses, otherwise than taxation. It costs the average citizen a good deal to be governed when direct and indirect taxation is considered. But it is perhaps after all the cheapest. There does not seem to be a general exodus to these taxless towns. Business does not seem to be booming there. It must be much more profitable to pay taxes in live localities, than to escape that burden and live in the backwoods.

An eastern paper refers to "a hungry mosquito." Has it found one that is not hungry?

Not all the would-be hold-ups operate on railway trains. Ask candidates for office where they last saw one.

Everybody should go to the State Fair next week. It will be a splendid place to relieve dull cars and make the future look brighter.

It is now stated that the Boer opposition to Great Britain has collapsed completely. Truly the burghers made a "little-end-of-the-horn" fight of it at the last.

Count Tolstoi has been excommunicated from the Greek church. A rumor of this action was current some time ago, but now the circular announcing it is published.

Judged by the failure of trainmen to hit robbers at whom they have shot on recent occasions, the railroads should give their passenger crews a little target practice, so they may better defend traveling patrons.

Galveston, Texas, is not the only place that can boast of a hurricane blowing at 120 miles per hour. Iceland has had one, too, attended with much loss of life and property.

The civilized world is shocked at Chinese butcheries, but the Russian butcheries of Chinese men, women and children are not being held up prominently as a cause of shock to civilization.

The likelihood of war between China and Germany is increasing. A declaration of this kind would bar the "open door" policy and render the partition of China between European powers a certainty.

The Germans think the United States mistaken in withdrawing from the Chinese embargo. But Uncle Sam thinks he knows enough to come in out of the rainstorm of war that is threatening there.

Now that the South African war is over, the movement of trained British troops to the Yang-tse valley is likely to press new complications on Europe's attention. The game on the Chinese chessboard is far from nearing a finish.

Perhaps when the United States declined to demand the surrender of the Boer leaders, there was a strong suspicion that there was a big supply of Boxers at Mansfield, O., where the tar and feather outrages have been perpetrated.

The Kansas City Star says, editorially: "The baseball season of the American league ended yesterday with the Blues." Rather a depressing color for a finish, but not altogether out of place where there has been so much heavy batting.

Just the way you look at it. Two Kansas papers described the same meeting in that State last week, one of them calling it "A Convention of Notables," and the other characterizing it as "A Gathering of Wardheelers." It is easy to tell which paper had the advertising patronage of the parties that composed the assemblage.

The sheriff at Hazelton, Pa., has told the governor that the strike situation is getting beyond his control, but under no circumstances would he shoot a man. The blunder of Sheriff Martin, in shooting strikers at Latimer, Pa., three years ago, is not to be repeated. If force becomes necessary it must be used by the militia, not by a sheriff's posse.

In Kentucky there has been one conviction connected with the Goebel assassination where the penalty is fixed at death. That is in the Howard case, where a verdict was reached today. Unfortunately for Kentucky justice, there are many people who doubt the rightfulness of the verdict, as was shown by the public anticipation that the jury would not agree.

The strike leaders object to the presence of State troops in the anthracite coal regions. While the military refrain from taking either side, there should be no serious objection, for experience has shown that where there are extensive strikes the public peace is in danger every moment unless troops are at hand. Angry men cannot be depended on to give deliberate public notice when they will resort to violence to carry their point.

COMMENT ON CHINA.

San Francisco Chronicle.

What the real wishes must be of the European powers in China has been frequently pointed out in the columns of the Chronicle. Their desires can be almost certainly inferred from their interests, which are patent to all men, their history and their general policy. What they may make themselves appear to wish can be accurately foretold by no man, for no man knows the secret intrigues which are constantly in progress in European cabinets or the course which any nation may profess to favor for the immediate future because no one knows what schemes of some other power the profession is intended to head off. That Russia, for example, desires Manchuria and North-eastern China, we know, because no man could be a patriotic Russian without desiring it. Whether or not she thinks the time now ripe to seize it we do not know. She may think best to postpone the harvest until some day when there are fewer reapers in the field, and so for the present pose as the defender of the "integrity" of China.

Springfield Republican.

Some charge that, in reality, Russia and Germany are in a secret alliance, while for the present openly at variance. It is certain that a German naval division of four battleships is approaching the Chinese coast, and that then the naval strength of Russia, France and Germany in the Orient will be very formidable as compared with that of Great Britain and Japan. Russia, Germany and France formed the triple alliance of 1895 against Japan and defeated the settlement of the Chinese-Japanese war. May it not be that the

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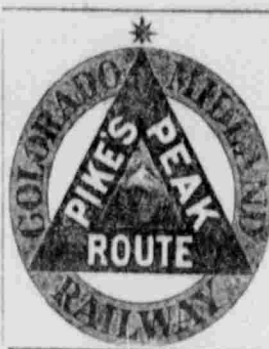
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