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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 27, 1908.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-ninth annual, general Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Saturday, April 4, 1908, at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members is hereby requested.

The general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Saturday, April 4, at 7 o'clock p. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHON H. LUND,
First Presidency.

The annual conference of the Sunday School Union will be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday, April 5, at 7 o'clock p. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
General Superintendent.

CHANGE OF FASTDAY.

The first Sunday of April being Conference Sunday, it is suggested that Sunday, March 29, be observed as a fast day in Salt Lake, Ensign, Liberty, Pioneer, Jordan, Granite and Davis Stakes, and any other Stake in which the Stake authorities find that the regular fastday services are interfered with by the General Conference.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHON H. LUND,
First Presidency.

RELIEF SOCIETY CONFERENCE.

The April conference of the General Relief Society will be held in the Salt Lake Assembly hall in this city, meetings commencing on Thursday, April 2, 1908, at 10 a. m., and at 2 p. m., and on Friday, April 3, at the same place and the same hours, two sessions each day. All officers and members of the society are earnestly requested to be present. The Young Ladies and Primary associations are also included in this invitation. Presiding authorities of the Church, bishops and brethren interested in Relief Society work will be most welcome.

BATHSHEBA W. SMITH,
President.
ANNIE TAYLOR HYDE,
IDA SMOOT DUSENBERRY,
Counselors.

THE PLAIN TRUTH.

If the citizens of Idaho are wise, they will struggle any effort at establishing a party patterned after the falsely so-called "American" party in Utah. That movement has brought nothing but evil to the people here. It has retarded the growth of Salt Lake City, by the falsehoods its promoters have spread broadcast. Its officials have exhausted the public funds and saddled a debt upon the community, for which there is no resource except a further increase of the indebtedness and a tighter squeeze for taxes. Its record here is a solemn warning against imitation.

And it cannot be otherwise. The party was formed without any principle. Anti-"Mormonism" is not a legitimate political issue, any more than anti-Methodism, or anti-Semitism, would be. That is a proposition about which we need not argue. Revenge upon a class, on account of disappointed political ambition, is no legitimate political issue. That is also self-evident. The party therefore came into being without any legitimate principle to build upon.

Hatred and ambition inspired some of its founders. Greed and bigotry united different elements. The vendors of sin and shame lent some strength to it. By falsehood and character assassination the propaganda was carried on. A party so conceived and so fostered cannot accomplish any good in any community.

In speaking of the party we wish to expressly understand that we intend no reflection on the honest men and women who thought they were performing a patriotic service by joining the columns led by bitter anti-"Mormons." They were deceived. They were represented to them that Utah has a church which interferes in politics, and that certain pledges had been broken. The leaders knew they were uttering falsehoods when they made those assertions. Some followers did not know it. They followed in ignorance and with good intentions. So far they are entitled to credit for their good intentions. But they should be undeceived by this time.

We hope Idaho citizens will get wisely and not permit an office hunter, whose chief ambition is to be a United States Senator, whether the citizens want him or not, to deceive them, as Utah citizens have been deceived. Any one who proposes to make a religious question a political issue, is an anti-American, a dangerous character in the commonwealth. If he proposes to get into the United States Senate by climbing over the fence the Constitution has raised to protect the liberty of the citizens, he proves that he is dangerous. There is a front door provided, by which those entitled to it can enter the council chambers of the state and the

nation. He that endeavors to climb up some other way is, in the language of holy writ, "a thief and a robber."

PACING A CRISIS.

The threat is made that, unless the citizens of this City vote another bond issue, the rate of taxation will be raised again this year. But the party rulers do not confine themselves to a threat; they also attempt an argument. They say that it is better to borrow money and let future tax-payers help to pay it back, than to place the entire load, in the form of higher taxes, upon the shoulders of the present generation. And so by threatening and arguing, they hope to gain the point. Where the argument does not count, the threat will do the trick, they hope, and vice versa.

To an impartial spectator both the threat and the argument sounds as lines of a very sad farce. It is a sort of fiddling while Rome is burning, to hide the true origin of the flames. It is a confession of past inefficiency, or worse, and at the same time an appeal for a vote of confidence as a reward for that inefficiency, or worse. The appeal is a farce; the confession is tragedy.

The present rulers of the "American" party are evidently fooling the people worse than even Hamlet led Polonius by the nose. They want first the authority they ask for to issue bonds, and when they have that, they want to instruct their tools in the council to raise the taxes. They will then argue that unless they obtain more revenue, they have nothing wherewith to pay the additional interest. They will prove that they need more revenue to wipe out the existing deficit, and for current expenses, which we may assume to be heavy this year on account of the campaign. They will sing their seductive songs about "improvements" again, and demand more money to spend. So the taxes will be raised, as soon as the citizens vote another bond issue.

According to the horoscope as now set by the financial astrologers of the party, the City needs this year to borrow half a million dollars, or more—rather more—and provide a revenue of \$1,335,439.42, which, in round numbers, means a million and a half, since the party manipulators never stay within the estimated limits of expenditure. In other words, they propose to charge about two million dollars for "governing" the City this year. How thankful the taxpayer with small means ought to be for such a "government!" Where is the money to come from? "Why, sell your home and give the 'government' the money."

But here some questions naturally arise: What has become of the money the party officials have had to disburse? The law requires that the City auditor prepare and publish before the first Monday of February a full report of receipts and expenditures for the previous year. This report has not been made this year. Misleading reports have been submitted but no true official statement of the financial condition. Why? Does not the auditor know that it is not optional with him whether he chooses to furnish such a report, or not? It is his sworn duty to do so. Why has he neglected to do his duty to the City? Does he owe a higher allegiance to the party bosses? Is it possible that the deficit is so large that party expediency demands that the law be ignored in this particular? Or, was the deficit illegally created, by the issuance, for instance of illegal warrants? Or, is there something else that the party manipulators deem it expedient to hide from the public? We understand that the Mayor some time ago insisted upon a true report, but that he was informed that the special auditor had "instructions" from somebody else. Who are the "instructions?" It seems to us that before a bond issue, and before the raising of taxes is discussed any further, the citizens ought to insist upon the report the law provides for, and if the manipulators still refuse to comply with the law, why should not the matter be taken into the courts for a thorough investigation?

The City is evidently facing a crisis. The citizens who, for various reasons, sustained, at the polls, the party that professedly came into existence for no other purpose than revenge and the capture of offices, are not without blame. They were forewarned, but heeded not the warning. Those who voted the "American" ticket to spite somebody, may now reflect on the folly of biting off one's nose to spite the face. We are all anxious to see the City grow and develop, but how can that be expected with an administration that seems to have no ambition beyond borrowing money and raising taxes? Can we tell home-seekers: Come along and pay our bonds? Come along and we will drag you into the whirlwind of strife, that we are enjoying?

Is it not time for loyal citizens of all creeds and political colors to go together on a business basis and rebuke the storm-demons, in order that peace and good will may return, and the damage done by strife-breeders may be repaired? Once before the City passed through a similar experience as it now has, with extravagance and vice rampant, but it lasted only one term. That was enough then. It ought to have been enough now.

NO CASUS BELLI.

The refusal of Emperor William to receive our ambassador is no casus belli. The incident should cause no alarm. It is perfectly well understood that any government has the right of accepting or refusing to receive the representative of another country. It is a matter of courtesy to ascertain beforehand whether a diplomat about to be accredited to a foreign government is acceptable, or not, and to avoid the contingency of a rejection after the appointment actually has been made. In this case, it seems, the German government had, on diplomatic inquiry, signified its willingness to receive Dr. Hill. But, in the meantime, the Emperor seems to have learned of some trouble that had ruffled the friendly relations between Dr. Hill and Prince Henry, the Emperor's brother, and this seems to have influenced him to change his mind. Whatever the trouble was, Prince Henry is now even, after many years of waiting. He has caused Dr. Hill to be humiliated before the world, unless indeed, the world should

conclude that the mode of revenge is really unworthy of a man in an exalted position. But there is no casus belli in the incident. It is purely a personal matter between Dr. Hill and Prince Henry, and we are mistaken if we think with the pen will not yet get even with the man with the sword.

SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE.

A Columbia senior who recently visited Yale for the first time, expressed himself as unfavorably impressed by the striking differences in the styles of architecture obtaining among the universities. He said there seemed to be about every style under the sun, along with a number of styles that might not be classified at all as under that title. Most any observing visitor who looks over college buildings is likely to arrive at pretty much the same conclusion; and the thought unconsciously impresses itself, with the increasing number of college structures, should not some general style be adopted in the way of architectural harmony, to secure approximate uniformity in appearance—a style at once suggestive of academic surroundings, dignified and impressive, especially adapted to an educational atmosphere?

Not a few architects, in discussing what is the most suitable style of architecture for institutions of learning, particularly universities, agree upon the English Gothic. Excellent illustrations of this may be noted in Trinity College, Cambridge University, and a number of the more attractive colleges both at Oxford and Cambridge. The later efforts in this country have been tending more that way, as the natural harmony of this style of structure with academic ideas and sentiment is becoming more and more apparent to the cultivated mind.

At the same time, there has been, and is now, a decided leaning toward French and developments of the late French schools, and certain features of the German and Italian Renaissance in college buildings. These are pleasing to the eye, they satisfy certain standards, criteria of taste, artistic judgment along general aesthetic lines. But when weighed in the balance with the English Gothic, they do seem as not nearly so appropriate when applied to buildings devoted to the higher learning. In fact, this idea is gaining something of a foothold among boards of education in numerous places, as for instance in New York City where the prevailing style of architecture in the new public school buildings is of the orthodox English Gothic. There is something suggestive of stately, intellectual dignity and cultivated grace about it that marks a structure at once as devoted to educational purposes, without any special explanation. The styles of the Renaissance may carry the idea of grace and elegance, a civilized polish and refinement; they may satisfy the general aesthetic taste; but they lack the suggestion of intellectual strength, solidity and vigor borne out in the English Gothic.

May we hope, with the disappearance of Bell from this city, that we will hear no more of the nauseous scandal? The party bosses need about \$2,000,000 for campaign purposes this year. To rifle the pockets of tax-payers is one way of getting campaign funds. Did you ever stop to reflect upon the fact that this City is ruled by party bosses who are not elected by the people, but who are merely usurpers of power? A Philadelphia man got so excited at a moving picture show yesterday that he dropped dead. The film being thrown on the canvass showed an Indian fight.

How about that part of the public funds which is said to have been placed in a bank that paid no interest? The interest on that money would have helped some.

The Stanford students who threaten to go on strike unless forty-one of their fellows are re-instated, may be taken to indicate whether they are in college to get an education or not.

For a double-jointed, back-twisting, head-over-heels, double-reacting somersault in the matter of policy, the Tribune's flip-flop on the special auditor's report, is something that all vaudeville artists should look upon with envy.

The senate is patching up the Aldrich currency bill so that national banks will be asked to pay a small amount of interest in return for the protective measures being planned to relieve the tension of a stringent period that may or may not come in the future. This seems to balance the scales.

A matter of considerable import to the entire country, the far west in particular, is the probable abandonment by Congress of the annual appropriation to cover the cost of express shipment of silver dollars. It is admitted that Congress has no desire further to stimulate the circulation of silver, and this may lead to a change in Bryan's program at the Denver convention.

Harper J. Dinniny, if our memory serves us well, threatened, just before the "American" party went to the polls the first time, to leave this fair city if the ticket was not successful when the ballots were counted. When we consider what a calamity this might have been, a quivering and nerve-shattering chill traverses up and down our spinal vertebrae. In a moment of reflection over his grave opinion on the prospective bond issue we are led to believe that the yellow-whiskered legal light of the Kearnsites is now trying to rid the city of all its landholders. According to the opinion expressed by him, this city may issue bonds up to \$1,850,000 in addition to the burden the people are already carrying. The taxpayer is accordingly very glad that he has something more substantial than a Dinniny opinion on which to rely—his right of franchise and the power of his ballot.

LIQUID FUEL.

San Francisco Chronicle.
The British admiralty has looked on liquid fuel with a favorable eye, and its use in the navy of Great Britain is enlarging rapidly. A writer in the London Times recently made the statement that "the British triumphs in 1907 were secretly secured while foreign naval authorities neglected the subject." That is a mistake unless the writer regards failure to act on the discoveries of investigators as neglect. Fuel oil was duly inquired into by a naval board and, as is usual in such cases, a recommendation was made, but the naval authorities will wait until other nations have thoroughly demonstrated its superiority. That appears to be the American way of dealing with naval novelties nowadays.

A FAMILY SECRET.

Louisville Herald.
England has been having the biggest political sensation in years, because, as of old, women could keep a secret. Lord Tweedmouth received a personal letter from Emperor Wilhelm in which the Kaiser said something about the navy. It is claimed that what he said in the letter was, "you have very pretty ships," or something equally harmless. Lord Tweedmouth, however, was not in the habit of getting personal letters from emperors, and it swelled him up so he had to tell somebody about it. He told the women members of his family in the strictest confidence, and then, of course, they told their women friends in the strictest confidence, and finally in an exaggerated form the secret reached the London Times. The Times printed it, and the story grew and grew with added details of treason, treachery and intrigue. Tweedmouth finally had to pass the letter around among the members of the British cabinet to prove to them how harmless it was. It was, of course, a scandal. It is said to have been nothing, however, to the domestic excitement in Tweedmouth's own family.

THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

Pueblo Chieftain.
There is not much room for a difference of opinion among sensible people regarding the action of the postal authorities in excluding from the mails such a publication as La Question Sociale, the anarchistic paper of Paterson, N. J. While the Constitution of the United States assures the liberty of free speech and of free press, it certainly does not extend its protection to the advocates of crime. Any American has a perfect right to advocate social reorganization to as many persons as he can get his hands on, either in speech or in writing. But when it comes to inciting to murder, arson, robbery, riot and insurrection, that is a different matter entirely, and the editors and speakers who propagate this kind of crime are often more to blame for the results than the foolish dupes that attempt to put violence theories into practice.

JUST FOR FUN.

Exhaustion.
"I'm rather interested in young Mr. De Riter," said the customer, "and I want to get a copy of his novel. Have you got it?"
"We did have a small supply a few weeks ago," said the book salesman, "but I'm afraid it's exhausted."
"Really?" I heard it not weak, but I didn't think it was that bad."—Exchange.

Didn't Own It.
"I have come all the way out here," said the endorser, "to see your beautiful sunset."
"Somebody's been stringing you, stranger," replied Arizona Al. "It ain't mine."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A Serious Matter.
"Mamie used to laugh so heartily and so frequently it was a pleasure to be with her. What makes her so serious now?"
"Lost a front tooth."—Philadelphia Press.

As Bait.
Mrs. A (over phone)—Can you send me up a cook today, Mr. Dwyer?
Head of Intelligence Office—Sorry I can't accommodate you, Mrs. A, but we have only one in the office.
Mrs. A—But why mayn't I have her?
Head of Intelligence Office—Oh, we have to keep her as a sample.—Harper's Weekly.

Diplomacy.
Della—Ye can get a suit just like your missis' velvet wan for tin dollars in Bargain Brown Brothers.
Nora—Yes, and I can get wan fur nuthin' by telling me missis about the wan in Bargain Brown Brothers.—Harper's Weekly.

Without Bias.
A house hunter, getting off a train at a suburban station, said to a boy: "My lad, I am looking for Mr. Smithson's new block of semi-detached cottages. How far are they from here?"
"About 20 minutes' walk," the boy replied.

"Twenty minutes?" exclaimed the house hunter. "Nonsense! The advertisement says five."
"Well," said the boy, "you can believe me or you can believe the advertisement; but I ain't tryin' to make no sale."—Exchange.

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