

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.

SAMPLE OF IDAHOISM.

IT has come to light that the keepers of the Idaho State prison have been indulging the inmates in a fight to a finish prize match. The brutal affair took place over five weeks ago and information has until recently been suppressed. It appears that boxing of the less savage style has been a pastime among the prisoners for a long time, the warden making it a special feature of prison regime. We presume that gentleman, if asked for an explanation on the subject would say that he perceived in it the double excellence of at once giving exercise to the inmates and amusement to the guards. Whether the warden himself derived any "fun" from the exhibitions is left for inference. In any event he and his subordinates on this particular occasion combined in arranging the preliminaries, and were there to see that proper decorum was observed. The prisoners were also there in a body and bet their money and articles of their own manufacture on the result. All the prison officials were there, and Young Eleck Roberts, son of Prison Commissioner Roberts, was "bottle holder."

"The fight," says the report, "was a particularly savage affair. One of the convicts engaged was pounded till covered with blood and almost unable to stand."

It is said that somebody is clamoring for an investigation, but it is unlikely that one will be had. The condition of public opinion that has made such a violation of good order possible will not be greatly disturbed by the disgrace of it. The "tender foot" citizen who never saw such a spectacle in public office before might as well calm himself and call the affair, like most of his neighbors will do, a little pleasantry of Warden Mack's, which any of the good fellows in office might have indulged in under the circumstances.

The British took possession of New York Sept. 15, 1776.

THE FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

THE *Mail and Express* of New York says that the Fifty-second Congress will contain a larger number of new men in the House than any other Congress for years past. A clear majority of the coming Representatives have never been in Washington before in any official capacity. Of the 332 members, there are only 138 who were in the last House. However, of the 194 new members, nineteen have seen previous service in Congress. The next House, then, will be composed of 175 absolutely new members and 157 members who have had Congressional experience.

The Fifty-first Congress at the opening of the session was composed of 168 Republicans and 163 Democrats in the House, but at its close the figures were 176 Republicans and 155 Democrats. During the session eight Democrats were unseated and their places filled by Republicans.

The Fifty-second Congress, according to the New York *World* almanac, will have in the House 237 Democrats, 87 Republicans and 8 Farmers' Alliance men. Of the latter, Kansas sends five, Minnesota one, Nebraska one, and Georgia one. These are distinctively Alliance men, but there are about twenty-two other members who, though Democrats, owe their seats to the Alliance. This will leave 215 straight Democrats in the next House of Representatives.

Some time ago *The Mail and Express* addressed a circular to each member of the incoming Congress, containing a series of questions which requested immediate reply. The questions had reference to a choice of Speaker, and for views on the Sub-Treasury bill, free coinage of silver, Stanford 2 per cent. government loan bill, government control of telegraphs, reciprocity with Canada and South America, pension laws and tariff bills. Forty-three replies are already published, representing twenty-six States. But very few have answered the whole series in full.

On the question of free-coinage thirty-eight replies are published. Seventeen Republicans and six Democrats are opposed to it, while twelve Democrats and three Alliance men favor it.

For the Sub-Treasury plan there are five affirmatives, namely: One Republican, one Democrat, and three Alliance men, while there are thirty-four opposed to it—seventeen Democrats and seventeen Republicans.

For the Stanford bill there are three yeas and thirty-six nays. For government control of the telegraph lines eighteen yeas and sixteen nays. For reciprocity with Canada

twenty-four yeas and seven nays. For the present tariff nineteen yeas—all Republicans, and twenty-two nays—Democrats and Alliance men.

Among the replies that from Mr. Kem, Alliance member from the Third District of Nebraska, is perhaps the most striking. He favors government telegraphs, commercial union with Canada and all the world, service pensions, and tariff reform. But before all his projects could be accomplished he thinks that government should take possession of all gold and silver producing mines and lands in the United States; and that all rights and titles to such lands shall revert to the government by right of eminent domain, the government to pay for them a reasonable price.

Clover, of the Third District of Kansas, is an ardent Sub-Treasury advocate. He is vice-president of the National Farmers' Alliance. He favors free-coinage, the Stanford bill as far as it goes, but wants it stronger, and government telegraph. In his argument for a Sub-Treasury he says that everything, whether gold, silver or paper, on which the government has stamped a certain value, should be legal tender for such value, and any citizen refusing to treat it as such should be adjudged guilty of crime, and treated as a counterfeiter.

On the whole it looks as if the political issues of the next Congress will be fought out on the old party lines. There may be some complications on the question of free silver, but the probability is that it will not be touched at all in the House at the next session. As to the Alliance schemes, they seem to be vanishing into thin air. Even the Democrats who favored many of them last year are now emphatically opposed to them.

UTAH'S IRRIGATED FARMS.

THE census bulletin on the irrigation of arid lands in Utah has arrived. It comes at an opportune moment, inasmuch as the Irrigation Congress opens a three-days' session here tomorrow. Utah being the first and most successful of the western Territories in adopting the irrigation plan for reclaiming desert lands, the results of her labor in this respect should have a peculiar interest to the men of other States and Territories who have come here to discuss this important subject.

The census bureau of necessity confines its report to present conditions, or those existing in 1890, waiving the long years of labor and expense passed through in reaching this high state of progress in the irrigation science.

In the census year 1890 there was