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SALT LAKE CITY, SEPT. 22, 1904

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-fifth Semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, commencing on Thursday, October 6, 1904.

A general attendance on that day of the officers and members is requested and expected.

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

CONFERENCE NOTES.

The General Priesthood meeting will be held in the tabernacle on Friday night, commencing at 7 o'clock.

The special Priesthood meeting usually held on the day after conference consisting of the General Authorities, Stake Presidents and Bishops, High Councilors, Patriarchs, Presidents of temples and Presidents of missions, will be held in the Assembly hall on Saturday, the 8th, commencing at 10 o'clock a. m. The members of the General Boards of the Sunday School Union and Y. M. M. I. Association are also invited to this meeting.

The General Conference will adjourn on Friday afternoon to Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

Sunday School Union will convene in the Tabernacle on Sunday night, commencing at 7 o'clock.

REACH THE ROOT OF THE EVIL.

The increase of crime is a subject that is being discussed by lawyers as well as sociologists and philosophers. The fact is now generally conceded. Statistics demonstrate it, so positively that it is not denied by the well-informed. A writer in Law Notes asserts that "the increase of crime, wholly out of proportion to the increase of population, is no longer a proposition open to controversy." That such increase is a distinct menace to national prosperity needs no argument. To set the question at rest if any dispute is raised, the annexed table taken from reports in the latest United States census is presented:

Year. Prisoners. Ratio to Population.

1860 6,737 1 in 3,442

1869 19,084 1 in 1,447

1879 32,901 1 in 1,171

1889 58,609 1 in 855

1899 82,229 1 in 757

That this alarming increase is not singular to the United States but is noticeable also in other countries, the following is quoted as evidence, from the work on Crime in its Relation to Social Progress, by Prof. Hall of Columbia University:

"These are not isolated expressions of pessimistic opinion. In France, Germany, Italy, and other countries, distinguished specialists have voiced the same sad views. Crime is increasing rapidly and our existing penal systems are powerless against it. Prof. Von List, an eminent German jurist, has felt himself compelled to this belief by his recent wide survey of these important problems."

The remedy for this social disorder is naturally sought for, and law writers are discussing the desirability of reform in criminal procedure, as though punishment for crime if justly enforced and divested of the many technical means by which it can be escaped, would reach the root of the evil. There is no doubt that, particularly in this country, criminals have many advantages in the way of demerits, new trials, appeals, stays of execution, delays of various kinds, commutations, pardons, &c. also that the system of fines without imprisonment helps to make penalties insufficient in many instances, and all these furnish encouragement to the culprit. But it is generally disputed that punishment prevents crime to any large extent, therefore it may well be doubted that if all the reforms in jurisprudence that are suggested were adopted, the remarkable increase of crime, out of all proportion to the increase of population, would provide the desirable remedy.

The cause of the evil is in corrupt or corrupted human nature, largely inherited but feebly combated. Education was at one time declared to be the infallible antidote to the moral poison. Experience has proved the theory untenable. That is, that the kind of education relied upon is a failure. The educated criminal is the most dangerous of pervers. The cultivation of his intellect but sharpens his powers for evil, and increases his chances to avoid detection and conviction. An educated thief, or swindler, or burglar or bandit is the more adroit, and cunning, and deceptive for his mental training. And he can avail himself of legal and other loopholes for escape when caught, with much greater facility than an ignorant person could. The wrong is not so much in the head as it is in the heart, and that suggests a different means to correct it than the punitive

measures of the law and the cultivation of the intellect.

The banishment of religion from the public schools has led to the neglect of moral tuition and methods to impress the soul of the pupil. Spiritual training is essential to true education. This need not be the imparting of sectarian notions or precepts. But it must comprehend the inculcation of belief in Duty and the responsibility of the creature to the Creator, and also the certainty of future existence, of the benefits of right conduct and of retribution for wrongdoing. This kind of teaching is either wholly neglected or, if imparted, lacks the spiritual force and fervor that carries with it conviction and arouses faith. The individual is not really educated by a course of mental instruction and physical culture. The inner being is the essential ego, and spiritual and moral influences are needed to penetrate the soul. These do not proceed from one who is not spiritual. Nor can pure morality be inculcated by the impure and immoral.

The force of heredity is to be considered in the investigation of social problems and conditions. Criminal tendencies run through succeeding generations. But there is power in truth and goodness and the quickened energies of the enlightened soul, to resist and overcome those bad tendencies effectually. Help is needed for the weak, and encouragement to the wrong-disposed. The tendency to crime is not to be treated altogether as a disease. And yet it must be considered to a certain extent and be treated accordingly. But self-cure is an efficient remedy and the cultivation of the inherent power to affect it is an absolute necessity, to be explained and encouraged.

Under our present school system in this country religious training cannot be conducted for fear of denominational influences. But parents can see to it that moral and spiritual instruction is given to their children in the home, and in such schools and classes as are available elsewhere. And the bent of mind and trend of habit in each boy and girl can be watched, and a course be taken in every instance that will help to correct evil tendencies and aid the juvenile soul along the way of righteousness. And we are of the opinion that our public school methods can be so modified, that a portion of the time spent in ordinary education shall be devoted to moral training, in honesty, truthfulness, virtue, kindness, self-restraint, courtesy and charity, without trenching upon forbidden ground or touching upon tenets or creeds.

Reforms should be effected in the criminal procedure of the courts. Unnecessary delays in prosecution, appeals and reverses on mere technical grounds when guilt has been established, payment of money when severe punishment is demanded by justice, and many other advantages given to criminals might be abandoned and penalties be made more swift and certain. But this alone is not enough. Humanity must be reached by a moral and spiritual power, that regeneration may be effected, the disposition to evil be grappled with, the tide of corruption be turned, and avenues be opened for the inflowing of the spirit of truth and righteousness, to enlighten, and subdue, and purify the souls of the children of men.

ARE ALL GOING INSANE?

Statisticians have sometimes warned the world that insanity is on the increase, owing to the fact that modern life is too strenuous for the delicate organism of man. Now comes a Chicago doctor and states that in 700 years "all civilized men" will be insane. He is convinced that drink, drugs, the race for the dollar, the silly worship of speed, the craze to fling away the old restraints, women's unwillingness to do the things that make them good mothers, and many other things, are predisposing the rising generation, or a considerable part of it, to degeneracy and insanity.

Some people seem to entertain the idea that the easiest way to attract attention is to say, or do, crazy things, and the Chicago doctor may possibly be one of that class. Otherwise, why should he name an even seven centuries as the period in which the world may yet enjoy a sane civilization, is not clear.

True, many modern phenomena might easily be taken for evidence of insanity. The devotion, for instance, of thousands, in Chicago, to a charlatan like Dowd! Or, the manner in which labor and capital, mutually dependent on each other, commit self-destruction by bitter feuds! Or the way multitudes are blindly following political leaders who under the guise of patriotism labor for self and pelf! Then, the mad rush of business, the whirl of amusements, the wild loop-the-loop of dissipation—all these would seem to justify a calm spectator in drawing the conclusion that the world is insane now. In the midst of realities, man is pursuing phantasms; he closes his eyes to the indescribable beauties of nature, and feasts on the poor imitations civilized society offers; he makes himself unhappy by the very pursuit of happiness. It looks like insanity.

But all this is passing. Nations and races have before this displayed similar symptoms of weakness. Then they have been swept away to make room for stronger and healthier children of men. And so it will be, as long as man still has a mission to perform on earth. Were the human race left to itself, annihilation might be looked for, as a result of the innumerable follies of which it is guilty, but in the hands of Providence, the eternal plans will be carried out and the race go on to perfection.

ENGLAND IN TIBET.

The Russian press is indignant because Great Britain has established itself in Tibet. The supposed organ of the foreign office charges the English government with breach of faith, by establishing a protectorate over the country instead of, as first pledged, merely regulating the trade with India. It also suggests that, in case future events in Central Asia take an English protectorate may come up again.

It cannot be denied that Great Britain, taking advantage of the present war, has gone further than stated when the English expedition started for the city of mysteries. One article of agreement is that British troops shall occupy a certain Tibetan territory, until the cash indemnity of \$2,500,000 has been paid. That, in all probability, will be for a very long time, if not permanently. Then, again, the Tibetan ruler agrees that no part of the country shall be leased or sold to any foreign power without the consent of Great Britain, and all rights to undertake improvements, such as the construction of roads, telegraphs, the opening up of mines, etc., are reserved for the British. All this undoubtedly means the ultimate annexation of the country.

Tibet has an interesting history. Of late years it has been the scene of party strife and political intrigues. The present Dalai Lama, as the ruler is called, is about 30 years of age, and he escaped assassination only by a stratagem. It seems that four of his predecessors had been murdered before they attained the age of majority, in order to perpetuate the regency, and a similar fate was intended for the present ruler. But the regent was imprisoned and probably murdered before he could execute his design upon the young heir, who then assumed sovereign power and re-voled from the Chinese influence.

But the escape from Chinese power was followed by Russian machinations, through the influence of a favorite tutor, the Lama Dorjeff. This man is said to be a Mongolian Buriat from the shores of Lake Balkul, and therefore a Russian subject by birth and a Lama by profession. He grew up and received his education in Russia, and afterward settled in Lhasa in one of the great convents. There he won favor with the court of Dalai, especially as he was the agent through which the Peter's Pence of his tribe of Tartars were made over to the Lhasa exchequer. This Russian emissary was in charge of the arsenal at Lhasa. On getting the ear of the young Dalai, Lama he poisoned his mind against the English, and led him to believe that Russia is his friend and not England. Upon this advice, the Dalai Lama made repeated overtures to Russia, and rejected all English communications. Russia's real grievance therefore is that Great Britain has forestalled Russian annexation, by this expedition and treaty.

The time has evidently come for the innermost recesses of Asia to be opened up to the influences that are at work in the world at large. And there can be no regret if Great Britain, in the race for Tibet, has won over her rival. For British influence means human liberty, without which there can be no real progress.

Let the coal conspirators be indicted.

The chief issues of the campaign are congressional speeches.

The coal combine conspirators raise the price of coal and the people rise and protest.

Really, all the parties are treating the trusts much better than they could have hoped.

The schools are again in full blast, including the school for scandal, which never closes.

This rise in the price of coal is a burning question in which every citizen is interested.

Mounted policemen have been put on lower Broadway. This is evidence that Tammany is in the saddle.

While Broker W. H. Harroun's tendency to forgery may not have been inborn it certainly is in grain.

Kuropatkin says that the situation at the front has not changed. This can only mean that his is still retreating.

Boys used to say, "What goes up must come down." Will it be so in the case of the rise in the price of coal?

Peter Karageorgievitch's crown is so new that he scarcely has had time to determine whether his head lies uneasy.

Colonel Younghusband outgeneraled the Russians in Tibet just as the Japanese have outgeneraled them in the Far East.

So long as the band at Port Arthur plays "Hawatha" the Russians will have the merry "Minne-ha-ha" on the Japs.

The Russians are very anxious over Port Arthur. If the place is impregnable, as they claim, and is amply provisioned, why should there be any anxiety about its fate?

Under the heading, "In Wild New York" the New York World has an editorial on highway robberies in that city. No longer let the wild and woolly West speak in tones of contempt of the "effete East." New York is doing itself proud.

The "News" calls the "New" Liberal party the "New" Liberal party because the organ of the "New" Liberal party editorially calls it the "New" Liberal party. The "South American" party has also been suggested as a characteristic name.

General Corbin would not permit army officers to marry until they have an income sufficient to support properly a family, and then only with the consent of the war department. Punch handled the problem much better when it gave to all, officers and civilians, male and female, who contemplated marrying, the advice, "Don't."

THE LIAO YANG BATTLE.

New York Evening Sun.

From Gen. Kuropatkin's admirable report to the Czar covering the operations of the Manchurian army from Aug. 25 to Sept. 11, it appears that Orlaff failed Kuropatkin, and it may be gathered that Kuropatkin failed Marshal Oyama. The Japanese attack on the center and right of the Russian army was made to divert attention from a movement by Kuropatkin to turn the enemy's left flank. Had it succeeded the Russian army would have been shut up

in Liao Yang and starved into surrender. But it is clear that while Marshal Oyama was planning this consummation, Gen. Kuropatkin saw through his strategy and conceived the bold project of inflicting a severe defeat upon the army of Kuropatkin. At the critical moment Gen. Orlaff failed him, and between the lines of Kuropatkin's report we can read that he deemed himself fortunate to save his army.

Springfield Republican.

Russia has stood up under some much more heavy losses than those she has just suffered at Liao Yang. Plevna ranks fifth among the most fatal fights, and there the Czar lost 40,000 out of his 125,000 men, and killed 35 1-3 per cent of the 90,000 Turkish troops. In 1812 Russia figured in another great battle, when her forces met those of Napoleon at Borodino, and each lost 40,000 out of its 140,000 troops. Napoleon started his Russian campaign with an army of 400,000 troops, the same number which has been credited to Oyama and the Japanese together. The Corsican's armies were not near as large as this in most of his great battles. He led 70,000 men at Austerlitz, against the 84,000 of the allies, and at Wagram he had 100,000 to the 110,000 of the allies. Marshal Bismarck had 150,000 men at Metz, when he fought the Prussians under much the same circumstances as prevailed at Liao Yang, but the Russian did not make the fatal blunder of the Frenchman and become penned in the Manchurian city.

New York Evening Mail.

One point in Gen. Kuropatkin's report helps to make it clear that the Russian hope of making a successful stand either at Mukden or Tio-Ling is vain. We refer to the completeness of his acknowledgment that he was unable to repulse the introductory attack of the Japanese in the mountain at Petau. The failure here necessitated the falling back upon the inner defenses at Liao Yang and opened the way for Kuropatkin's flanking movement. Kuropatkin will be in a worse position to repulse similar attacks at Tio-Ling than he was at Liao Yang.

Louisville Herald.

But the war is not yet over. Russia is not yet completely defeated, but she must before long bow to the inevitable, making to Japan concessions that will forever arrest the onward march of Muscovite imperial aggression over China. Russia will be after the fall of Port Arthur like England after the fall of Yorktown. Britain was then wise enough to accept defeat in good time. Will Russia be as wise, or prolong uselessly a losing struggle?

Los Angeles Times.

What we desire most to impress upon the public, however, is that with a greater and a better trained and equipped army, Japan has failed to defeat Russia in Manchuria. With all his boastfulness and the boastfulness of his admirers, it is now seen that man to man, the Mongolian has not yet risen to equality with the Caucasian. The yellow man is not yet fit to measure swords with the white man. With blind fanaticism the Jap is pushing northward farther and farther from his base, unable to inflict decisive defeat on a numerically inferior foe and evidently unaware that he is not fighting the real Russian army at all, which, fresh and unworn, is eagerly waiting at Harbin and beyond for the word to swoop down on Oyama, Kuropatkin and their compatriots like the crack of doom.

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