

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, SEPT. 17, 1900.

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The seventeenth semi-annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence on Friday, October 5, at 10 a. m. in the Tabernacle in this city.

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

## PAST DAY.

Inasmuch as one of the sessions of our forthcoming General Conference will be held on Sunday, the 6th prox., which is our general fast day, the next fast day service will be held on the last Sunday of the present month instead of the first Sunday of next month.

LORENZO SNOW.

## TO CLEAR THE WAY.

The visit of capitalists interested in the projected railway from Los Angeles to this city, some of whom are here and others are expected in a day or two, is an event of much importance to Utah. We need not expatiate on the benefits that would accrue to the State, and particularly to this city, from the road now contemplated. Indeed they would be beyond present computation.

We do not think there is anybody in Utah, unless it may be some persons interested in the Southern Pacific, who would oppose the new line or in any way impede its progress to completion. But the chief question before us is what will the State, or rather, the people of Salt Lake do, to further the enterprise and secure the terminus for this city.

The promoters of the new road want franchises and grounds for a depot. These ought to be obtained on easy terms; that is if the demands made are reasonable. In a few days it will be known what franchises are required, and it can then soon be determined whether the requests can be granted. It is known now that the place wanted for depot grounds is Pioneer Square. It is not clear, however, that this spot is wanted or none. We suppose that while it may be considered the most desirable, some other convenient site will be acceptable in case that square cannot be obtained.

The Deseret News has already raised the question as to the legal possibility of ceding Pioneer Park to any company, for any purpose other than that which has been designated; that is, for a public park or pleasure ground. We have not done so out of hostility to the enterprise. On the contrary, we think it ought to be encouraged by every means that is possible and legal. Pointing out an obstacle in the way of the road, is not hindering its construction. The impediment is not of our creation. It is not a phantom, either. It is a stubborn fact and will have to be faced.

In another part of this paper we published the city ordinance dedicating Pioneer Square to public use as a park. When it was framed, it was designed to prevent the conveyance of the square for railroad or other private purposes. Some of the best lawyers in this city were consulted as to its binding character. The measure had been recommended by Mayor John Clark, in order to get any plan that might arise, introduced to turn the property into railroad tracks.

We are of the opinion that the city authorities have lost the power to convey that piece of property to anybody. It belongs to the people for a breathing spot and pleasure ground, and cannot be alienated, at any rate without their direct consent. Whether the transfer could be legally effected when sanctioned by popular vote is a question to be decided by legal opinion.

We put this matter forward for serious consideration, not to throw a block in the way of the railroad project. We believe this movement is very different to others that have been started with a similar end in view. The money as well as the land to build the road is secured. It is not a scheme to raise funds. It is desirable to have the company organized in Utah. But it is not made part of that consideration that Utah men shall subscribe a large amount of stock or take up a big block of bonds. Rights of way and depot grounds are necessary, and therefore are regarded as a concession that should be made readily, in order to secure the incorporation of the road in this State.

be taken in the work, and everything that can be done lawfully should be done willingly to ensure its success. It does not follow, however, if Pioneer Park cannot be had for the purpose desired, that the project will fall through. Some other spot may probably be had which will be suitable, and by the way, the matter in its true light that something may be done, without delay, to smooth the way for the road which is to connect Salt Lake and Los Angeles.

## THE BIG STRIKE.

It has been estimated that if the strike of the coal miners in Pennsylvania assumes the proportions anticipated by the leaders of the movement, the laborers will lose wages in two months to the amount of \$5,000,000, while the railroad companies will be out twenty million dollars, and the operators an equal sum. But the losses to the general public would be much more. It would heighten the cost of manufacturing of many articles of daily necessity, and it would cause the closing of some industrial establishments, while the rise in the price of coal at this time, when the winter is coming on, would cause untold suffering among people with limited means.

For all these reasons the controversy is of general interest. Public sympathy will be for the side that offers to submit the points of difference to arbitration, and public sentiment cannot be deflected with safety. The miners, according to their published statement, ask for a rise in wages in proportion to the increased cost of living; they demand an adjustment of the dockage system, the abolition of the compulsion upon miners to patronize company stores and doctors, and a semi-monthly payment of wages.

All these points seem to be proper subjects of arbitration, and if the operators refuse to meet the laborers in a spirit of conciliation, they will but strengthen the impression gradually obtaining, that compulsory arbitration is the only practical means of protection of public interests against the frequent disturbances caused by unwillingness of corporations to recognize the human rights of those in their employ.

The reports from the disturbed region indicate that the miners so far are orderly, and that they have no intention of resorting to violence. It is to be hoped that the disgraceful scenes of St. Louis may not be repeated in Pennsylvania. The labor leaders themselves should exert all their influence for order and peace, because in no way can their cause be more seriously injured than by acts of lawlessness at which even their friends must revolt. They should not cease their efforts at a peaceful settlement, even though they have found it necessary to order their followers to cease work, as a protest against what they consider intolerable oppression. As long as they respect the rights of the operators and their property, they will have public sympathy and a fair chance of success.

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

During the last few years many important discoveries have been made in the field of archeology. Through the aid of science the fantastic conceptions of the dim past are being brought out in ever increasing clearness and distinction.

Among the most noteworthy recent finds are those of Prof. H. V. Hilprecht of the University of Pennsylvania, at the site of the ancient city of Nippur, in Mesopotamia. This is now believed to be the most ancient field of research in the Old World, and unusual interest naturally attaches to the scientific treasures there unearthed. Two letters from Prof. Hilprecht have recently been published. From these it is learned that he first came upon the site of a city, buried in the sand. In the center of this, there had once been a magnificent temple. Beneath the ruins of this, were the remains of another temple, and beneath that were found the ruins of still another, dating, he supposed, as far back as thousands of years before Christ. In these ruins it is further surmised that science has uncovered the city of Calneh, which, according to Gen. 10: 10, was one of the first four settlements in the kingdom founded by Nimrod in the land of Shinar.

Among the most valuable discoveries made so far in that locality, is an urn in which some of the bones of that remote antiquity had placed a historical and genealogical record. There were five tablets, and they are supposed to give valuable data about the earliest civilization in that region. From one of them it was learned that there were in the city of Nippur no less than forty different shrines, each dedicated to its own deity. This, it is asserted, is a complete surprise to scholars, who have believed that the Babylonians of Nippur knew but one deity, Bel.

Of the literary wealth buried beneath the drifting sands of that region, an idea may be formed from the statement that no less than 17,500 tablets covered with writings were unearthed in three months. They are all on historical, philological, and similar subjects. They treat on grammar and various sciences, including mathematics. There is no document in this collection later than 2500 years B. C., and Professor Hilprecht is of the opinion that in all probability 125,000 tablets more will be unearthed in the library where the 17,500 have been found. And together they are likely to form a record of an ancient civilization, unequalled for completeness and variety by any other so far recovered.

It can be added that the excavations made have disclosed a drainage system for the disposal of the city's sewage and also many toilette apartments worthy prototypes of those at present in use only in the most civilized countries.

those who look upon the books of the Bible as inspired records. The fact is that the key to the correct interpretation of the Scripture chronology is nowhere found in the sacred record. No less than three different sets of chronologies have been handed down. One comes from the Hebrew text, one from the Samaritan, and a third in the Septuagint. Various attempts have been made to reconcile the three, but without success. One author asserts that he has collected no less than 20 different chronological calculations all founded upon the data furnished by the Old Testament, and the shortest of these gives the age of man on earth as 145 years B. C., while the longest gives 494 years. The commonly accepted reckoning is that of Archbishop Usher. From these facts it follows that wherever the conclusion shall have been scientifically established, that this chronology is too short, that is no proof against the authenticity of the Bible, but solely against the logical deductions of the learned archbishop. The Bible itself does not pretend to be an unbroken chronological chain from the morning of creation to the time of its inspired writers. It claims as little to be a complete handbook in history as it essays to furnish complete instruction in geology or astronomy. It is complete as far as it undertakes to illustrate moral and doctrinal lessons, but little farther.

Another thought is forcibly suggested by the recent discoveries. It is this, that as far back in the dim past as we are permitted to follow the human race, we find that it was very much as it is today. Men and women were devoted to arts and sciences. Some were rich, some were poor. Some lived in luxury, while others were slaves. Wars were carried on and heroes were worshipped. Men bought and sold, planted and built, lived and died, very much as they do today. The "wonderful strides of civilization" are but the flowing and ebbing of the great ocean, which now covers the beach and then leaves it dry, as it has done for ages.

Everything confirms the great truth revealed anew in this age, that the earth is but a school, in which man has been placed in order to prepare himself, if he so chooses, for eternal exaltation. The conditions under which succeeding generations live may be different in some respects, but they are not so essentially different that some are entirely deprived of light and power to gain eternal happiness in the presence of the Father. God is just in His dealings with all His children, no matter in what age of the world their probation was laid.

## LIVES LOST IN ELECTIONS.

The health commissioners of Chicago, four years ago, published some statistics supposed to prove that deaths owing to a disarrangement of the nervous system, and heart failure, are alarmingly numerous during presidential campaigns. Generally speaking, the fatalities due to the causes mentioned are thought to be on the increase in all large cities, as a result, it is presumed, of the over-excitement of modern city life, but it is said to be abnormally large during heated elections. Thus during the week ending October 17, 1896, the increase of deaths of heart failure in Chicago was sixty per cent over the previous week.

The statistics further show that in 1896, in the same city the victims of heart disease were thirty-two. The next was election year, and the deaths from that cause were 52. In 1887 the number was 64, and the following year, election year, it was 104. In 1871 it was 128, and in 1872, 163. In 1873 it was 242, and in 1874, election year, 321. In 1887, there were 549 victims of heart trouble, and in 1888, which was election year, 618. In 1891 there were 920, and in 1892, 1,058. The years 1876 and 1884 were the only ones which formed an exception to the general rule.

If these figures are correct, and if the increase of fatalities is proportionate in other cities of the Union, the conclusion is inevitable that a presidential campaign in the United States costs more life, if not more money, than a war of moderate proportions. There is then some justification for the strange custom of referring to the peaceful adjustment of the government machinery, as a "war," the offices as "spoils," and the voting citizens as "armies." For partisanship has really become so intense that thousands of lives are lost throughout the country in the "battles" for offices.

## THE BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY.

A report issued by the agricultural department in Washington on the beet sugar industry in this country shows that the total number of factories in operation last year was thirty with a capacity of 19,100 tons of beets. California had eight factories with a capacity of 9,000 tons, and Michigan had nine factories. In that State a bounty of a cent a pound on refined sugar was offered by a law passed in 1897.

In Utah there are two establishments flourishing without bounty and without tax exemption. The report says one mill is under construction, referring probably to the one that has been discussed for some time by enterprising farmers of the Sanpete and Sevier counties.

Beets are raised under certain conditions in beet sugar refineries in New York, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Washington, and in each of these States a beginning has been made to raise beet sugar and to extract the sugar. Two factories are said to be under construction in Colorado, one in Ohio, one in New York and one in Michigan.

The 1898 consumption of sugar in this country in 1898, was 2,994,610 tons, of which 183,000 tons was domestic cane sugar, and 75,000 tons domestic beet sugar. Less than 5,000 tons of refined beet sugar was imported, but nearly 23,000 tons of the raw product was brought here. Fully three-quarters of our supply was foreign cane sugar, mostly from this country. Of the refined sugar consumed 44 per cent was the product of our beet sugar factories.

Saltair is NOT closed yet. Another week's time for bathers. Trains are running several mornings and afternoons. It is early to say the Chinese war is over, till it is known that no foreign troops are in reach of a clash between themselves, caused by the scheming of belligerent diplomats.

President Kruger is coming to Europe "for his health." Doubtless he is, since for a man of his years the status of a British prisoner would not be looked on as an exceedingly active health promoter.

The mountebank who has been masquerading in the name of religion has to fold his tent and seek other fields for his trade. It is gratifying to learn that the speculation here has not been a paying venture.

The British parliament is to dissolve in about a week. In this movement Lord Salisbury and his co-workers show themselves astute politicians, to capture a new parliament while their victory is certain.

Notwithstanding the strictest of sanitary measures, today reports four new cases of bubonic plague in Glasgow. Yet the fact that less than a score of persons have taken it in a city of 600,000 inhabitants shows well for the precautions adopted.

At last Li Hung Chang has started for Peking, and having arrived at Tien Tsin, he will be in the capital soon. Then, whether or not the European powers withdraw, it will be but a short time before the United States may hope to be free from the muss.

The story about the entry in a Chinese victory's book, telling of a reward given for killing Americans engaged in "the relief of Tien Tsin" is faulty in that it is worded wrong. If written by a Chinese at all under the alleged circumstances that sentence would not have been used. The internal evidence in the alleged entry shows it to be a fake.

When Ohioans use tobacco quids, apples and other missiles as arguments against a religious doctrine they dislike, as in the case of the Dowdite persecutions, it is well for other folks to remember that the Ohioans thus engaged are doing against Dowdite's followers that which Chinese Boxers did against Christians.

The great strike is on in the East, and more than 100,000 men are determined to see the correction of abuses of which they complain. Some of the mine operators say the strike must collapse in a few days, but the public will recall now that these same men were mistaken when they said that only a small percentage of the miners would come out. The aspect of the struggle is ominous of ill.

Our sectarian friends (?) in this city who contemplate carrying their religious animosities into politics, had better "dout." It is a poor rule that won't work two ways. They should remember that they are not in the majority of numbers in this State, and also that "the things done in secret will be revealed on the housetops" and further, "the measure ye mete to others shall be measured to you again."

Artificial milk is the latest of the fraudulent food preparations. It can be manufactured for three cents a gallon; it will keep, even if unopened, for at least five days in the warm weather, and for ten days in the winter time, and it cannot be told from real milk save by a chemical test. This test reveals the absence of ash, which is a constituent of milk that the manufacturers have been unable as yet to work in.

The benefit at the Theater on Wednesday evening will be for a double good. John S. Lindsay has generously offered to divide the net proceeds from the Galveston sufferers. Damon and Pythias is the play to be rendered and all who attend will be well paid for their money, and at the same time will aid a veteran Salt Lake actor and do something towards helping the unfortunate at Galveston. Fill up the house!

It is gratifying to Americans to learn that Spain is recovering from her financial distress, and on the road to prosperity. And she is trading with the United States on a larger scale than ever. Our exports to Spain for the year ending June 30, 1900, were over \$13,000,000, while in 1897, the year immediately preceding the war, they were about \$11,000,000. Our imports for 1900 were nearly \$6,000,000, as compared with \$3,000,000 for 1897. The wounds of the war are rapidly healing.

Col. Roosevelt's letter of acceptance of his nomination on a presidential ticket came today, and Col. Bryan's comes on Wednesday. Both are of sufficient importance to be read carefully by those who have to decide which way they will vote in November next. The documents will be given additional interest by the fact that Col. Roosevelt comes here this week, and thus will become known personally to the people, and Col. Bryan has been here and is known.

The great strike of coal miners is almost certain to have a direct influence on the local coal situation. With the anthracite coal mines closed, the bituminous mines of the Middle West will be called on for fuel; then the mines of the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains will be wanted to fill the place made vacant by the current farther east; while Utah will be drawn upon to help offset the scarcity thus created in Colorado and Wyoming supplies. Let it be hoped that the Utah market does not become so tightly pinched as to be burdensome. Lucky is the man whose coal bin is full now, and who has a large bin.

## THE BIG STRIKE.

New York Evening Post. The difficulties which have arisen between the miners and the operators appear to be exactly the sort of difficulties which ought to be submitted to honest arbitration. In any event, the miners in this declaration, and in the general willingness which they have shown from the beginning to arbitrate, have thrown the burden of proof upon the operators to show why they will not meet the miners half way. The public is sufficiently interested in a peaceful settlement to insist that every means of conciliation shall be exhausted, and that war shall be a last resort. Public sympathy in a great strike is a factor not to be ignored by either side. In the ultimate issue of the

struggle it may quite conceivably mean success for the side upon which it is enlisted.

## Chicago Record.

The presumption is that there is much ground for the complaints of the miners, though the operators deny most of the charges made against them. Operators cannot accurately gauge the assertion of the men that the dockage for wastes in the coal mined is excessive, but the public can pass upon the question of withholding wages earned and compulsory trading at company stores. The declarations of the operators that they are supplying goods as cheap or cheaper than the men could buy them outside the company stores and that the miners' wages are conserved to themselves and their families is not convincing. This same sort of argument was advanced by the slaveholders before the liberation of the slaves, it being claimed that the slaves were better taken care of than they would be if they were free and left to their own resources.

## Cleveland Plain Dealer.

While the demands made by the men may be considered impracticable as a whole by the operators, some of the grievances set forth in the statement appear real and deserving attention. Aside from the question of wages and other points set forth in the men's statement, the fact that they are compelled to buy their provisions and mining supplies from the company's stores, at prices higher than asked elsewhere, is a genuine hardship demanding relief. The company store system is illegal under the laws of Pennsylvania, but the enactment of the laws against these stores has had no effect; they are openly carried on and the miners are compelled to buy at their prohibitive prices. The operators' disregard of another law respecting the times of payment of wages.

## New York Mail and Express.

Much harm and disturbance may be produced, the companies may incur loss, and the supply and price of coal may be seriously interfered with, but the chief sufferers are sure to be the miners. The operators' disregard of another law respecting the times of payment of wages.

## Springfield Republican.

Meantime the coal operators have placed themselves in an indefensible position before the public by refusing to submit the matters in dispute to an impartial arbitration. The miners were in favor of arbitration. Their grievances formed a peculiarly legitimate subject matter of arbitration.

## Boston Transcript.

The operators meet the demands of the men with a defense of the practices complained of and a denial of the existence of any real wrongs. They refuse to grant any of the demands or to recognize the union, and declare that they will not recede from this position. The situation calls attention once more to the need of an effective system of arbitration which would force the parties to such a controversy to arbitrate their differences, instead of entering upon a contest which would paralyze many industries throughout the country.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In Universal Brotherhood Path for September, William A. Dunn has an article on "The Spiritual Thread in Opera." Dr. Alexander Wilder contributes his twenty-seventh article in his series on "Early and Late Dynasties." Among other contributions are: "The Life" by "Students at Point Loma," "To My Son John," by "Ranger," "Children of One Sweet Mother," by "Phetion," "Glimpses of Old and New," by J. H. Russell, "Man's Pilgrimage," by Robert Francis, "In the Sunset Land," by Helen Foster, and two charming stories for children, "Two Little Birds," by Bluening, and "Nig's Brotherhood," by L. K. Theosophical Pub. Co., 14 Madison Ave., New York.

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This benefit is given under the auspices of the K. of L. of Salt Lake City.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

One-half of the net receipts of this performance will be turned over by Mr. Lindsay to the Galveston Relief Fund.

Sale of seats Tuesday, Sept. 18, 10 o'clock.

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