

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets
Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose, Editor
Ernest G. Whitney, Business ManagerSUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
One Year, in advance, \$2.00
Six Months, " " 1.25
Three Months, " " .75
One Month, " " .25
One Week, " " .10
Semi-annual edition, per year, 2.00
Semi-weekly, 2.00EASTERN OFFICE.
354-356 Times Building, New York City.
In charge of R. P. Cummings, Manager. Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office.Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
Address all business communications to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, OCT. 30, 1901.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

To the Officers and Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:

Dear Brethren and Sisters—Agreeable with the decision of the Council of Apostles at their regular meeting Thursday, Oct. 17, we hereby call a general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to be held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Sunday, the 10th of November, next, at 10 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of voting upon the Church authorities.

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

COMMENDABLE PROMPTNESS.

The promptness with which the officers at Fort Douglas have taken up the matter to which their attention was called by the Deseret News, is very gratifying to us and to the people of this city generally. It is evident from the course pursued in reference to the soldiers who have been making a disturbance in the streets, and those who are suspected of complicity in the highway robbery and assault committed on Monday night, that the military authorities at the Fort intend to preserve proper discipline, and to aid the civil authorities in maintaining public peace and order, so far at least as the troops quartered here are concerned. We are pleased to make this recognition of their good services.

The public will, of course, refrain from the folly of condemning a whole body of troops for the offenses of a few private soldiers. That would be very unjust. We are inclined to believe that, hereafter, even the most disorderly among them will understand that they cannot run things in this city according to their own sweet will, but will have to conform to the civil law backed up by military regulations. The officers in both departments of the public service are interested in preserving mutual good will and in subverting the public welfare.

It is to be hoped that full diligence will be exercised in tracing out the individuals who have been guilty of the offenses that have stirred up so much unfavorable comment, and in the cases of any other infractions of the law which may occur through insubordination and misconduct of soldiers from the Fort. The ready action of the officers in these matters is highly commendable, and will do much towards removing the unpleasant feelings which have been aroused because of the lawlessness that has been complained of.

THE WORK IN EUROPE.

We are in receipt of a batch of newspapers from London, England, through the courtesy of Elder George G. Morris, President of the London Conference. They all contain favorable notices of the conference held in Finsbury Town Hall on Sunday, October 6th, and the concert given on the previous Saturday evening. Apostle F. M. Lyman was present and his addresses appeared to make a very strong impression, both on the congregations and on the reporters who represented a number of metropolitan and local journals. This has been evidently the case throughout his extensive travels in the European mission. In Scandinavia, Germany, Switzerland and Belgium much attention has been attracted towards the Gospel by his presence, influence and teachings, and the labors of the Elders in those parts.

The following excerpt from the London News and Chronicle, shows the trend of public thought in reference to the conferences which are being held in various places:

"Whatever may be the general opinion in St. Luke's and Clerkenwell relative to the teachings of the sect now known as the 'Latter-day Saints,' there could be nothing but praise, as there could be nothing but high and well earned commendation for the rich musical program presented to an overflowed audience at the Finsbury Town Hall last Saturday night. The entertainment was an excellent prelude to the more serious services of the following day, and well answered the purposes of uniting their own circle, and of calling others in that they might be the better able to judge the quality of people who are very often condemned upon records of past history. It forms no part of our purpose to enter into any argument upon what those teachings are supposed to be, but we may say that it seemed impossible to connect the elements that composed the audience of listeners and attendants last Saturday night, with anything outside the observance of our own code of morals relating to the sexes."

Mention is made in these papers of the presence of Mrs. Lucy B. Young and Miss Lulu Young Gates, as the widow and granddaughter of the late President Brigham Young, and very complimentary notices are given of the singing of Miss Gates and of Miss Maggie Trout and Miss Alice Tout of Ogden City. The music, both vocal and instrumental, rendered at that gathering of the Saints, is spoken of in the highest terms of approbation, and the attendance at the conference is said to have been very large. Sixty baptisms were reported as the result of recent labors of "Mormon" missionaries in that conference.

The change in the tenor of remarks

made by the press of Great Britain on the work performed by the "Mormon" missionaries, is very noticeable and agreeable. The stunts and standers which at one time accompanied these comments, is giving place to fair and impartial statements such as those which are quoted above. All that "Mormonism" needs in the great conflict between truth and error, is a fair field and a willingness on the part of the public to pay attention to both sides of the controversy. The Elders abroad appear to be making headway in this direction, and that which has been accomplished is very encouraging and satisfactory.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY'S STORY.

Admiral Schley has told, before the court of inquiry, the entire story of his part in the cruise in the Caribbean sea and the battle off Santiago. As related by him, the narrative appeared straightforward and intelligible. But how it will look when dissected by means of the cross-questioning that is now on, is another matter. The Admiral's experience may be similar to that of a celebrated London clergyman, who said he had had occasion to seek legal advice but once, and when he told the lawyer his case, it was all plain to him, but when the lawyer had stated it, he did not understand the least part of it.

As the Admiral has related the movements that are under investigation, he took charge of the flying squadron at Hampton Roads in the latter part of March, 1898. After a council of officers, he arranged the plan on which the subsequent campaign was conducted. From Hampton Roads he went to Key West, where he was joined by Admiral Sampson, who selected the service on the northern coast of Cuba, while Schley was sent to Cienfuegos. A blockade was established there, because it was thought Cervera had reached that port. When it was learned that this was a mistake, he was sent to Santiago. Several of his ships were short of fuel, but it was deemed unsafe to coal at sea, and the progress toward the destination was slow, because it was necessary to regulate the speed in accordance with the capacity of the slowest vessels of the squadron.

Then the battle of battles occurred, and during the hottest fire, while shells struck on all sides and roared like railroad trains above the ships, the Brooklyn and the Oregon were foremost, while each ship did its full duty. That is, briefly stated, the story of Admiral Schley. It corresponds with the ideas previously formed by the American public. The cross-examination may be ever so long and searching, but there is no probability that it will bring out any facts that will materially affect the opinion already formed.

Admiral Schley was accused of neglect of duty and cowardice. He asked for an inquiry on that account. All the testimony given, though some of it appears to be rather unfriendly, proves that he did his duty as near as he could under the circumstances in which he was placed, and that when the test came, he proved himself fully up to the standard of American naval heroism. The long inquiry was not needed to establish these facts. With the details of the fight that wiped out Spain's power in this hemisphere, still fresh in memory, the people will naturally ask: "What need we any further witness?"

TO MAKE MURDER LEGAL.

A startling proposition has been made by a Memphis merchant, Mr. Edwin Lehman Johnson, agent lynching. He says, legalize that kind of proceeding, and then the shame and disgrace of it will be removed. His argument is: "When the cry of 'Lynch him! Lynch him!' means only the application of a special and carefully framed law to meet the conditions surrounding such a crime and such a state of public opinion, then and then only will the shame, the disgrace, and the injury which is brought upon our state by such unlawful, such cowardly, such brutalizing conduct as took place at Winchester be removed from us and made hereafter an impossibility."

His idea is that, if there are constitutional obstacles in the way of legalizing murders by mobs, the people should originate "a new, uniform, and unwritten law that will meet the conditions which shall help us to prevent brutal murder and rape and punish it when committed, in such a way as shall deter others from committing like crimes, without demoralizing or brutalizing the public."

The originator of this proposition is evidently sincere, but he argues from premises that are false. In the first place he takes for granted that lynchings are resorted to for the punishment of brutal crimes, whereas the fact is that in more than half of the cases on record, people have been murdered for small offenses, sometimes only on suspicion, and sometimes innocently. One man was murdered because he had been appointed postmaster in a district where it was considered a crime to have a dark skin. And very often the murders have been committed, not to satisfy outraged justice, but to still the cravings of popular thirst for blood, as is evidenced in the numerous instances where the victims have been taken out of the hands of the legal authorities and sacrificed on the altar of passion.

What would be the result of legalizing such proceedings? Lynching does not want legal proceedings, which necessarily are too slow for their fury. They kill on accusation, on suspicion, on rumor, on anything but legally established evidence. Were their proceedings declared legal, neither life nor property would be safe.

In the second place, Mr. Johnson assumes that the common criminal laws are not effective, and that legal lynchings would "help us prevent murder and outrage." But experience is against this assumption. Statistics prove that brutal crimes have increased with the frequency of mob murders. And this is quite natural. Contempt for law, violence and brutality are contagious. The injustice done to one race in many instances, has called forth revenge in kind. When the white people set an example of lawlessness, they cannot reasonably expect the black race to have regard for the law trampled in the dust. There has been a vendetta between the two races, and one act of blood has led to another all

the time, until now there are symptoms in some places of a regular race war on a larger scale. If the whites legalize their lawlessness the blacks will certainly in a way legalize theirs, by "an unwritten law that will meet the conditions," and the result will be the triumph of anarchy.

But aside from all such considerations, how can that which is illegal by virtue of law be declared legal, without the repeal of law and a reconstruction of the entire social order, in this instance in accordance with the usage of savages? How can murder, for instance, be declared legal, as long as the law says: "Thou shalt do no murder?" Are we ready, in any part of this country, to abolish the arrangement by which the punishment of crime is left to those placed in authority to wield the sword of justice, and to go back to the ages, in which each individual were supposed to defend his interests, as best he could, with such force as he could command? If so, a decided step backward would be the legalizing of lynchings. For that could easily be followed up by the legalizing of robbery, for instance, of those institutions that are loudly proclaimed to be the enemies of the people.

The proper remedy against crime is the enforcement of just laws. That, together with education, will have the desired effect in time. What is needed is earnest work on modern principles. To resort to savage methods is to acknowledge defeat for institutions that are justly considered the triumph of modern progress.

TIMELY TALK.

Under the heading "Suppress Lawlessness," the Baker City, Oregon, Herald, of recent date, had the following timely editorial in reference to an important protest. We commend it to the consideration of public journals, in the North and in the South, when they feel inclined to descend on the "Mormon" question, or on the popular topic—the evils of Anarchy. The Herald says:

In these days of general talk about anarchy and the proper remedy for that evil, it might be as well to remind those concerned about the welfare of the public that such outbreaks of violence as that reported from Brownsville, Ga., are a sad evidence of existence, among the people in some states, of that ignorance and that moral depravity which form a proper soil for anarchy. The masked bandits evidently argue that the "Mormon" elders were dangerous for some reason or other. But instead of applying to the courts for protection, they acted as if they had never heard of law or courts, or the rights of citizens to respect their own law and executed it in harmony with their own brutal instincts. What else are anarchists doing? In what, except the degree of crime, do they differ from the mob? They are the mob, and the rights of citizens to respect their own law and executed it in harmony with their own brutal instincts. What else are anarchists doing? In what, except the degree of crime, do they differ from the mob? They are the mob, and the rights of citizens to respect their own law and executed it in harmony with their own brutal instincts.

But we are supposed to judge charitably the acts of mobs, moved by drink and ignorant passion to violence against unoffending messengers of the gospel of peace. They know not what they do. If asked to state whether a "Mormon" elder hindered them, or if their teachings, public or private, to their knowledge, ever were of a nature to cause trouble, they would be compelled to say no, if they had any regard for truth. But they have heard that "Mormons" are traitors and "slaves" to the priesthood. They have heard a great amount of falsehood, so persistently told that they believe it. No doubt some of them actually believe that violence against the Almighty, when they persecute His servants. But the responsibility rests with the multitude that has made the mission of their lives to defame, vilify and spread scandalous stories about the Latter-day Saints. And many of these know better. They know they are perverters of the truth. The word "liar" is branded indelibly on their own consciences as a blot upon their names, and they are proud to press their confessions from the abyss of hell, the evil spirits of persecution. They are the real breeders of anarchy in some of its hideous forms.

We reproduce the foregoing editorial, published in a non-"Mormon" paper, with the hope that coming from that source it may be properly impressed upon the minds of other editors. But it would not be proper on our part to refrain from stating that although it appeared as if original in the editorial columns of the Baker City Herald, it was taken verbatim from the editorial page of the Deseret News of Wednesday, October 16, 1901. It is pleasant to be appreciated by our contemporaries, but it is not out of place to remark that it is usual with prominent journals to give due credit, when articles like that which we have quoted are copied and endorsed. This is not the only instance out of many which we could name, in which editorials from the Deseret News have been taken into the columns of other papers without reference to their original source. We have no objection to their reproduction, and we do not think there should be any to our suggestion concerning the credit which is customary. The Herald is a live, up-to-date newspaper, and its appreciation of the Deseret News is flattering and agreeable.

THE STANDARDS OF FAITH.

City, Oct. 30, 1901.

Editor Deseret News: Will you kindly answer the following in this evening's paper, and oblige.

J. E. D.

Ques. What books are considered the standards of the Mormon faith?

This has been frequently explained in the Deseret News, but we will answer the question once more. They are: The Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price. These are the written, or printed, standards of our faith, but the President of the Church, who is the Prophet, Seer and Revelator to the whole body, is the living authority and oracle through whom all commandments by present revelation are given. His official declarations are received as authentic and inspired.

The strong arm of the law—the police club.

How will the Pan-American congress pan out?

Hades and political platforms are both paved with good resolutions.

Admiral Schley remains amiable and

good tempered under a cross examination.

Crownshield will be made an admiral. This will be his crowning glory.

The last piece to be exhibited at the Pan-American exposition will be a large deficit.

The original "Mr. Dooley" is dead. Though his work is done yet he lives forever.

The registration is over. All that now remains is to cast the votes and count them.

Agent Myton says there are no Indians off the White Rock reservation. The statement is self-evident for Indians are by nature reserved.

Up to date there have been no adverse or hostile criticisms of General Alger's book. This is the most unkind cut of all for it means early oblivion for the work.

The immigration authorities at Washington have ordered the deportation of a number of Hessian waiters brought into this country under contract. It serves them right for the Hessians hired out to the British and fought against the Americans in the Revolutionary war.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. George Snow Gibbs has been reinstated as pupil in the University of Utah, and also as editor of the University Chronicle. Particulars are given in another part of this paper. We congratulate Mr. Gibbs, and also the faculty of the University, on this settlement of a difficulty which was magnified beyond necessary proportions.

Mr. David Mills, minister of justice for Canada, discusses, in a lengthy paper, the attitude of the United States towards the proposed isthmian canal and the Monroe doctrine. He asserts that this attitude is practically that of sovereignty over both North and South America, and that Canada cannot contentedly submit to such a doctrine. Mr. Mills certainly has good precedent for the position he takes in regard to the sovereignty claim, for Mr. Richard Olney, who was secretary of state under President Cleveland, during the Venezuelan incident, boldly asserted that the "law of the United States is law on the Western Hemisphere."

GEN. BULLER'S FALL.

San Francisco Call.

Two years ago at about this time of the year Sir Redvers Buller was, for a while, the pride and boast of the British people. He was proudly pointed to as the typical British officer. The stories of his martial youth were told, and the preference for his military career was made that he would return from South Africa with victory and get a peerage. In his leave-taking of the queen he told her the war would be troublesome but it would not be long. He announced a little later that he would take his Christmas dinner in Pretoria. All that was only two years ago. Now another Christmas is approaching. The good queen is dead. The war is over and Buller disappears beneath the waters of oblivion, shipwrecked by a squall so petty that no one knows what caused it.

New York Mail and Express.

Gen. Buller's frontal attack on his own people in England has ended as disastrously as his frontal attacks on his foes in South Africa; he has been relieved of his command of the first army corps and placed upon half pay. A more skillful and fortunate officer succeeded him in the cavalryman, Lord Methuen, and the final outcome of the incident will be for the good of the service, which had been impaired by the pro forma for society reasons of his removal from command. Nevertheless, as in the case of Commissary Gen. Egan, who was relieved of his post here for like indiscretion of speech, the "break" of Buller disclosed a real manliness with which one can sympathize, while deprecating the notable lack of judgment of the entire utterance.

Worcester Gazette.

From a purely strategic point of view it would have been better to have let Ladysmith fall, but the moral effect of such an occurrence would have been disastrous to the British authorities in South Africa, and the British authorities would have been forced to keep an army in the field in Natal. The operations there under him were unsuccessful, and he was seriously wounded by the Boers. He seemed to have assumed chief command. Buller was in a measure a victim of circumstances, but it is undeniable that he was a brave and a brave man, and by his conduct in war showed that it was time for him to give way to younger and smarter men.

Boston Herald.

Indirectly aside from his speech on the Ladysmith campaign, Gen. Buller made himself very unpopular in England with the people by his attack on the cycle corps and on bicycles as a means of transportation for troops. He said that he looked on the bicycle "as the worst and most cumbersome means of transport for soldiers that he had ever seen," and he further advised that, if bicycle corps were to be maintained in the army, care should be taken that the men were provided with suitable machines. This, of course, brought down on him the enmity of the large number of cyclists who have enlisted in the volunteer forces, and at the same time it was displeasing to the bicycle interests of Coventry that have been doing a flourishing trade in supplying the government with orders for military wheels.

Baltimore Sun.

Possibly if Gen. Buller had held his tongue he might have been able to retain his command. Now that the facts have come out in regard to his message to Sir George White suggesting the surrender of Ladysmith, it is plain that the blunder was dictated as much by a chivalrous spirit as by a lack of discretion. Sir Redvers Buller is not a great strategist; it is doubtful whether he is even a commander of ordinary abilities. He was out-maneuvered and out-fought by the Boers. He seemed to have an unfortunate knack of getting his soldiers into the worst possible positions. He ought never to have been given the command of an army corps in South Africa, and after he had demonstrated his lack of generalship in that campaign there was every reason why he should not have been given an important command at home.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Now that Gen. Buller has been shelved, it is possible that Gen. White, the hero of the defense of Ladysmith, or Gen. Baden-Powell, the courageous defender of Mafeking, are likely to be brought to the front in the reorganization of the British army. The old British army ring has studiously obscured both.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In the November number of Cassell's Magazine of illustrated engineering, many interesting articles are found, among them are "The Iron and Steel Industries of Sweden," with nine illus-

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