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## CONFERENCE PAMPHLET.

The report of the Seventy-eighth annual conference of the Church, held April 4-6, last, is now published in pamphlet form and can be had at the Deseret News Book store. Church members, whether they had the privilege of attending the conference or not, will be pleased to have an opportunity of securing this pamphlet and reading the addresses of the numerous speakers. There is a wealth of instruction, of exhortation, of edification and inspiration in these addresses. They can be read and re-read with great spiritual benefit.

## WHO IS THE STRIFE BREEDER?

That the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has always been at war with its neighbors is a statement made recently, intended as a justification of the present-day agitation in the interest of strife. But that statement is not true. The entire history of the Latter-day Saints proves that they have never been at war with anyone. At times it has been necessary to oppose mobs and assassins, and to contend for the maintenance of constitutional rights, by constitutional means, but they have never, as a body, been engaged in any other kind of war. Even during the sad days that followed the tragedy of Carthage, the Saints were counselled to calm resignation and to leave retaliation to a Higher Power. The true character of the Saints was revealed when the Prophet gathered the little band known as Zion's Camp, with the object in view of petitioning the State authorities of Missouri for the return of the property a lawless mob had taken possession of; for he commanded his followers not to molest anyone, neither man nor beast, except in self-defense. He told them not to kill even the rattle snakes that might cross their path. It is not true, therefore, that they have always, or at any time, been at war with their neighbors.

It is, unfortunately, true that some neighbors have, at various times in the history of the Church, made war upon the Saints, under one pretext or another. At first the attacks were nothing but mob violence, void of any color of legal procedure. Later they took the form of assaults under the cover of law. And we do not allude to cases under the Edmunds-Tucker law, either. Every form of persecution has been tried. Even attempts of nullifying the Constitution of the United States have been made, in order to deprive Church members of their rights and prerogatives as citizens, and bring about chaotic conditions favorable to plunder and pillage. But in this respect the experience of the Latter-day Saints has been only in full accord with that of all other reformers and standard-bearers of truth that ever had a mission to perform on this earth.

We need not remind our readers that the first followers of the Nazarene were persecuted everywhere, and sometimes hunted like dangerous beasts, although their hearts were filled with love of God and man, and they were willing to die for the cause of humanity. Think what the world owes to those martyrs who died for religious liberty! We need not refer to the history of martyrs, but it is a fact that nearly every sect has, in the beginning of its career, been the object of suspicion, hatred, and fanaticism. Someone has estimated the number of martyrs at the immense total of sixty millions. They include Catholics, Lutherans, Calvinists, Baptists, Methodists, Abingdones, Waldenses, and all the other sects of which little is known except through antagonistic sources. The Latter-day Saints in the days of their martyrdom are, therefore, in good company. But it would be just as true to say that Christians in all ages, from the first followers of the Nazarene, have always been at war with their neighbors, as to make that statement concerning the Latter-day Saints.

In the progress of any great reform movement, there are at least three stages. In the first, the opponents generally refuse to listen. They merely try to silence the witnesses by crying them. In the second, they listen and argue, and perhaps condemn. But in the third, they are no longer opponents. They claim that they have always believed that for which they formerly crucified their fellow-men.

We have a notable instance of this in the history of the so-called Anabaptists. Kings and potentates vied with each other in issuing edicts for their extermination. Philip II, a bigotted, licentious, glutton, was particularly anxious that his decrees should be "enforced against all sectaries, without any distinction or mercy, who might be spotted merely with the errors introduced by Luther." And this great reformer, by the way, was at that time described as "not a man, but a devil under the form of man, and clothed in the dress of a priest the better to bring the human race to hell and damnation; therefore all his disciples and converts are to be punished with death and forfeitures of all their goods." So we see how the Lutherans at that time "were at war" with their neighbors!

But we mentioned the "Anabaptists." Thousands of victims of bigotry were sacrificed under that name, though his-

torians are beginning to see that that was only a nickname under which to conceal the truth of the teachings of those pioneers in the work for freedom. They held a variety of tenets and doctrines, and some of them undoubtedly went too far, but it is now known that their fundamental principles are today recognized as true. They contended for the separation of church and state; they taught the salvation of infants, and the salvation of pagans who live up to the light they have; they demanded a correct translation of the Scriptures; they believed in missionary work. They taught that the Bible was to be honored but not worshiped. They believed in social and political reconstruction; in the abolition of slavery, the death penalty, and serfdom; they contended for the emancipation of women and the equalization, as far as possible, of the sexes. They were put to death by the thousands and their writings were destroyed, while the accounts given of them by their persecutors were copied into history. But, today the principles for which they died are accepted almost as axioms.

In the light of history it is clearly discernible that the great truths revealed in this age, for which the Latter-day Saints have been misrepresented and persecuted, will in due time be recognized and added to the immense fund of the world's knowledge. In the meantime, the mission of the Saints is to be peace-makers in the world on the basis of the fullest possible liberty of conscience.

## A QUESTION OF TAXES.

The Secretary of the New York Tax Reform Association has sent out little folders containing information on the objects and aims of that organization. These are, briefly stated, to direct public attention to the necessity of adopting a better tax system than that now in vogue. The association advocates direct taxation, and believes that real estate should bear the main burden of taxation. Mortgages and other capital engaged in production or trade should be exempt and corporations should pay taxes only in proportion to the value of the franchise they obtain from the people.

Opinions will differ on this, but it is undoubtedly true that indirect taxation falls heaviest on those least able to bear the burden. If unjust taxes are levied, as when communities are plunged into debt and the money squandered, they become oppressive. By such taxation the production of wealth is checked and opportunities for employment restricted. The countries where the majority of the people are poor and where industries languish are all suffering from oppressive taxation.

Every citizen, whether he is a property owner or not, is interested in the taxes levied and the purpose for which they are spent. Burdens that business could carry in good times, become unbearable when profits are curtailed, because employment is scarce and wages low, and the purchasing power of the consumers is decreased. It is a subject of special interest to the people of this City who are the unfortunate victims of a financial management of public affairs, that has absolutely no regard for the capability of the people to meet their demand for taxes.

## VALUE OF VIVISECTION.

The cutting up of living animals for the purposes of science is just now creating a tremendous stir in England. Sentiment, imagination, and emotion are being pitted against fact, science, and reason; and, we imagine, rather to the discomfiture of the latter.

A dog at a London hospital was recently operated upon to test the effect of tying up the pancreatic duct. The operation was performed under anesthetics, and for some weeks the dog ran about none the worse. Finally, to test the experiment, the surgeon again anesthetized the dog in class, and opened him to see the effects, which were discovered to be practically nil, and the dog was promptly killed in accordance with law.

An opponent of vivisection was present at the operation—a Swedish lady, Miss Lind, of Hageby, who afterwards stated that during the operation the dog was not unconscious, for she says she saw him move. Her testimony was not corroborated by that of the other observers present, but was accepted far and wide by the anti-vivisectionists, who thereupon raised a hue and cry against the operator. The latter, in turn, brought suit against his chief male detractor and recovered \$10,000 in damages for libel.

Nevertheless, in order to center public attention upon the alleged evils of vivisection, the emotional lady presented to the city of London the bronze statue of a dog. How deeply this mute memorial has appealed to the sentiments of humane people in the metropolis of Europe may be judged from one writer's indictment of a vivisector as one who "has a theory whereby he hopes to discover a cure for, say, neuralgia of the little finger, and the home secretary promptly arms him with a license to torture as diabolically as he pleases as many animals as he thinks fit."

We may observe, however, that under an English statute, passed in 1876, no suffering can be legally inflicted upon animals, even for scientific purposes. While we owe enough to vivisection to question its value to suffering humanity, physicians assure us that the use of antiseptics and the modern treatment of wounds are the direct outcome of the experiments of Pasteur and Lister. Pasteur's discovery of the microbial cause of puerperal fever has in itself enormously reduced the deaths of women in child birth. In the same manner the nature of tuberculosis is now known. We owe the invention of diphtheria anti-toxin entirely to experiments on animals. The causes of plague, cholera, typhoid, Malta fever, and sleeping sickness have been discovered solely by the experimental method. Not only have a large number of drugs been placed at our disposal, but accurate knowledge has

replaced the empirical use of those previously known.

There is a pathetic and instructive bit of professional history that should be related in this connection. In 1841 and 1842 there was an epidemic of puerperal fever in the maternity hospital at Vienna. At that time, Semmelweis discovered for the first time that the disease was carried from one patient to the other by personal contact of the nurses or physicians. Almost at once he succeeded in reducing the mortality from 16 per cent. to 1.5 per cent., by taking precautions for adequate disinfection. But there his control stopped for want of conclusive theory to support him, with the result that every academic influence was soon arrayed against him. He was deprived of his professorship, driven from Vienna, and prosecution followed him to Budapest, where he died in a madhouse. Thirty years afterward, Pasteur reviewed the forgotten knowledge, and now women are saved with ease from this fatal infection.

The incident shows how easy it is for learned men, as well as for unlearned persons, to thwart the discoveries of genius.

May showers bring June brides.

Mae Wood but the Senator wouldn't.

A good trust is where creditors do no dunning.

Reasonable chauffeurs will be treated reasonably.

Soon the roses and the sweet girl graduates will be out.

To the aeronauts: Be sure you're Wright, then go ahead.

A convention hall to be in perfect harmony should have a slate roof.

It's a cold day when the weather bureau's fine day prediction gets left.

You must not exceed the speed limit even when speeding the parting guest.

Senator Heyburn proposes to talk either himself or the Smoot homestead bill to death.

Captain Richmond Hobson has the unrivaled faculty of turning hot air into war clouds.

"The girls of our city are all spring poems," says the Chicago News. Descriptive poems, of course.

Sake is classified as wine. This is for the sake of the revenue and not for the sake of the Japanese.

"We are seven." The unidentified bodies dug up on the Guinness farm and reburied in the potter's field.

The Council couldn't have handed the Mayor more roughly if it had overriden his veto with an automobile.

To know that his affianced fortune may be cut in half if she marries him, must give Prince Helle de Sagan pause.

It is entirely possible to have too much of a good thing. For instance, a raise in freight rates is declared to be a good thing.

There is much similarity between the case of Colonel Stewart and that of the Man in the Iron Mask. No one knows why either was isolated.

"Think three times before you speak," says an exchange. If people would really think once before speaking there would be far fewer foolish things said.

Let everything within reason be done to stamp out smallpox and prevent its spread, but do not get panic-stricken and do not resort to foolish superstition because of its presence.

The Republican leaders in the house through a majority of the committee on ways and means, have served final notice of "no tariff revision at this session." Otherwise they seen their duty and done it.

"I do not ever intend to challenge again for the America's cup unless the New York Yacht club rules are so changed that I can take a serviceable sea boat across the Atlantic," says Sir Thomas Lipton. As well might Sir Thomas ask that the stars change their courses.

If Marshall Wilder, the author of "Smiling Round the World," is an authority on the subject, Japan has neither merry widows nor "old maids." "Marriages are arranged," he says, "and as widows are not allowed to marry again, that helps toward having enough men to go around, since each woman has only one chance. When her husband dies, even though she may be young and charming, the widow's hair is cut off and she is doomed for the rest of her life to single blessedness and a cropped head. An old-time custom, which is fortunately dying out, was to blacken a woman's teeth when she got married. So it was hard to tell which was most disfiguring—getting a husband or losing one."

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Obliging Druggists  
18 Main St.  
Phones: Ind. 480; Bell. 1830.

**THE AIRSHIP COMING.**  
Pueblo Chieftain.

The navigation of the air—not drifting, but sailing—is an accomplished fact, as much so as automobiling or submarine navigation. And there is just as much reason to believe that heavy freight will be carried in vehicles with pneumatic tires, driven by gasoline engines, or beneath the surface of the sea, as there is that airships

will ever have an important place in the transportation of freight and passengers on a commercial basis.

**THE CITY OF LIGHT.**  
It is said that the deaths of Paris last year outnumbered the births by 20,000. This being true, Paris will maintain its population only through the moths that flutter about the lights. Paris is the world's capital. It is the home of gaiety. Its lure has drawn humanity for centuries. There is the intellectual center of Europe, the mould in which fashion is cast. Arts and sciences ripen on the banks of the Seine. The Frenchman "goes to Paris when he dies." But the new figures that come out in the latest census table are startling. They tell us that the City of Light is in reality the City of Death, in the sense that extremes so often meet and mingle.

## JUST FOR FUN.

**A Thoughtful Family.**  
"Does your father know I love you?"  
"No. Papa isn't very well, and we've kept it from him."—Harper's Weekly.

**A Real Fight.**  
Subbubs—My wife and I were discussing household affairs the other night, and we got into a regular fight.  
Citizens—Really you don't mean it?  
Subbubs—Yes, the servant girl overheard us—Catholic Standard and Times.

**Only Voluntarily Inert.**  
Lawyer—The defendant in this case is a lazy worthless fellow, isn't he?  
Witness—Well sir, I don't want to do the man an injustice. I won't go so far as to say he's lazy, but if it required any voluntary work on his part to digest his vitals he would have died of a lack of nourishment fifteen years ago.—Chicago Tribune.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Harper's Bazar, for which Worth writes on dress and Henry James writes on manners, and Bishop Potter writes on morals, has persuaded President Eliot of Harvard to write on the higher education for women. President Eliot says in the June Bazar: "It was a worthy motive which impelled the managers of women's colleges at first to copy exactly the programs for young men. The leaders wanted to prove just the thing that has been proved, namely, that young women were as good as young men for the traditional studies—for the men's order of studies and to their limit of studies. That having been proved, the women's colleges are now free to arrange an education for women which is specially adapted for the needs of women. I look forward, therefore, to an excellent progress of the women's colleges of the United States in this respect during the next twenty years."—Harper & Bros., New York.

In an article in the June number of the Strand Magazine, Winston Spencer Churchill, M. P., writes of social and labor problems in the newly developed "Highlands of East Africa," the third installment of his interesting narrative entitled "My African Journey." "No economic competition," says he, "has yet arisen or is likely to arise between the black aboriginal and the new comers. Their spheres of activity lie wholly apart, for the white man absolutely refuses to do black man's work. In the future, however, the economic system must provide that white society with the means of earning, as professional men, as planters, merchants, traders, farmers, bankers, owners, contractors, builders, engineers, accountants, clerks, a living for themselves and their families.—32-35 Duane Street, New York.

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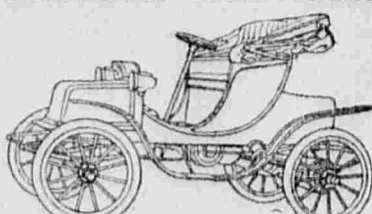
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