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SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 17, 1905.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Seventy-fifth annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene on Thursday, the 6th of April, and adjourn Friday afternoon until Sunday morning, and close Sunday afternoon.

A general Priesthood meeting will be held on Friday night, commencing at 7:30.

The special Priesthood meeting of the General and Presiding Authorities of the Church will be held in the Assembly Hall on Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock.

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

A SENSELESS FUROR.

One of the most absurd illustrations of the senseless furor that can be excited over a fallacy, was afforded by the recent outbreak in Logan and others in this city to "rob" Cache county of the Agricultural College. The facts in the case appeared to be entirely ignored, and the rumors set afloat by pretended friends of the college, aided by the Logan papers were accepted as truth, and a number of otherwise rational people went into convulsions over the supposed "outrage" contemplated by the Legislature. They went so far as to pass some ridiculous resolutions, containing warnings and threats against merchants and others in this city, who were reputed to have formed a conspiracy against the Agricultural College.

Now, to begin with, nobody desired, or attempted to remove the Agricultural College from the beautiful capital of Cache county. That was not contemplated by the promoters of the measure to unite that institution with the State University, for improved educational and financially economical purposes. Next, no business firms or individuals in mercantile pursuits in this city had anything to do with the proposition. All the fulminations against them indulged in by the excited people in Logan, were but ejaculations of hot-air into the atmosphere, dissolving in vapor and affording brief exhibitions of folly and inanity.

The rejoicing of hilarious students and others over the supposed "victory" of the so-called "champions" of the college, may be classed in the same category. They did no harm perhaps, except to show how excited some folks can become over a figment of imagination, and they certainly did no good, unless it might be that which came from a slice of meat to some hungry person at the barbecue. As a justification it was probably a success, but the occasion for it was a simple nothing.

The proposition over which so much fuss was made, was, to submit to a vote of the people of the entire State an amendment to the Constitution, which would admit of the amalgamation of the Agricultural College and the University of Utah under one management. This, if enacted by the Legislature, would not be voted upon by the citizens until the election in November, 1906. If the measure should be approved by the people, it would then remain for the Legislature elected by the popular vote to determine what should be done in the premises. Nobody argued that the Agricultural College should be taken from Logan, nor that its courses of study proper to an institution of that kind should be abolished, nor that its usefulness in the capacity for which it was instituted should be impaired. All the talk that has stirred up the people of the North on these points has been worse than foolishness, because it is falsehood.

The fact that studies are being duplicated in the College and the University has long been recognized, and the subject of regulating the matter has been discussed. This has not been with any desire to injure the College any more than it has been to cripple the University. The wisdom of maintaining two different institutions by the taxes of the people for exactly the same purposes is so plain that it needs no argument. The present principal of the Agricultural College expressed himself as strongly as any one who is supposed to be an enemy of that institution, as to the wrong and to the evil consequences that would surely result at some time from the separate maintenance of the two establishments duplicating the same courses of study. It is a subject that will have to be settled at some time, and the proposition to submit it to the voters was a fair, sensible and equitable manner of meeting the issue.

The supposed particular friends of the College could not help admitting the facts we have pointed out, and this was shown by their proposal to have the matter submitted to a commission, instead of leaving it to the popular

vote. That is the only difference between the two measures presented to the Legislature. It is true that the advocates of the commission did not want the amendment to the Constitution, but in opposing it they were no more friendly to the cause of education, and particularly to the maintenance of the Agricultural College within its proper sphere as designed in both National and State appropriations, than were the advocates of the other proposition. All claimed to be working to the same end.

The people of Salt Lake City are not enemies to the Agricultural College, or to Logan, or to any other city in the North. They are not aiming to "plunder the other parts of the State," as asserted by the Logan Journal, nor to "suck the life blood of the State" as intimated by the Republican. To say that Salt Lake desires to "hog it all" is to print a palpable falsehood without sense and without excuse. There is no need for any ill-feeling between the two cities, and any person or paper that endeavors to create or foster it is as much an enemy to Logan as to Salt Lake City. A little common sense and regard for the real issue of this question would dissipate the notion that anybody here, whether connected with the University or engaged in legislating for the general welfare, desires to injure the Agricultural College or the people of Cache Valley in any manner whatever.

A NECESSARY MEASURE.

Among the measures that passed Congress and received the signature of the President is one, that, although having no bearing upon world politics, deserves special notice. Congressman Vreeland, of New York, is the author of it, and it provides that any concern that stamps the words "United States assay" on articles of gold or silver shall be subject to a maximum penalty of \$5,000 and a year's imprisonment. The articles so marked shall be forfeited to the government.

During the discussion of that measure evidence was produced by Mr. A. L. Sackett representing the Duerber-Hampden Co., to show that the name of the United States government is used by manufacturers to cover the most palpable frauds. Thus, one watch case marked "U. S. Assay" was found to be stuffed with lead. Some cases of alleged gold were found to have strips of lead attached to the steel springs. Others consisted of thin films of gold filled in with cheap metal. Several watch cases of ornate design and marked "U. S. Assay" were composed of brass, worth a few cents a pound.

In view of the fact that articles bearing the marks of the "U. S. Assay" are, by those not well informed, supposed to be guaranteed, by the government, as to the purity of the metal, it is a matter of congratulation that Congress took the matter in hand and attached a heavy penalty to the swindle. Foreigners are accustomed to government guarantees of gold and silver ware, and they naturally conclude that a "U. S. Assay" stamp is such a guarantee, not knowing that this government never authorized it. And when they discover that they have been deceived, they suppose that they have been swindled by the government and they become suspicious of all goods from this country. They reason that if the government itself certifies brass as gold, it would be useless to place any dependence upon the guarantee of individuals.

It is well, therefore, that fraud is stamped as fraud. The law should have one more clause, however, making it a punishable offense to misrepresent articles as to their uniqueness or quality. Manufacturers should be compelled to put their name, or mark, on every gold or silver article that leaves their establishments, and indicate the quality of the metal. Only so can the public be protected from fraud.

WOMEN AND MARRIAGE.

The fact has been widely commented upon, that this country has a million, or more, men than women. With this proportion between the two sexes, one would suppose that no American woman should for any length of time be under the necessity of "working for a living. One would naturally conclude that the position of wife and mother would be open to all.

But this seems to be a mistake. According to a New York contemporary, only a very limited number attain to that honorable position. In 1900, in this country, only fifty-seven women in every hundred above the age of fifteen were married. Thirty-one were single and eleven were widowed. These forty-two women out of every hundred, therefore, had no choice but to be supported by some man or some other woman, or to work for their own living. And as "industrial" employment did not hold out for more than a small proportion of them, they preferred to go to work in shops, in stores, in the professions, and wherever was to be found honest work which they could do.

It is rather a reflection on our social status that such conditions obtain. If the cause of this evil were found, a remedy might be suggested.

REVOLT IN TURKEY.

Experts on the Balkan situation are now talking about the establishment of a Balkan federation as the most logical solution of the delicate question of the "near east." "He who, looking above and beyond the dust of current politics, will try to fix his eyes," we are told, "as Mr. Gladstone did, upon the heights of a more distant landscape, will find reason to think that the development of these nationalities has in it more promise for the future than the extension of the sway of one or two huge military empires, and will believe that to encourage and help them to grow into nations is an aim to which such great and enlightened peoples as those of England, France, and Italy may fitly direct their efforts."

This view is said to have found support in both Great Britain, France, and Italy, and if this is so, the plan can be safely tried, particularly now, before Russia has time to endeavor to push

her forces toward Constantinople as an offset to the reverses in eastern Asia. Interference is called for without delay. Massacre and pillage are said to be common occurrences. It is reported that 120 Macedonian villages have been destroyed and that 60,000 persons are homeless. And for this condition Europe is largely responsible.

Strange to say, reports come at the same time from Arabia to the effect that the Arabians of Yemen are in revolt against the Sultan of Constantinople. This movement is led from Paris, where an insurgent league is said to have been established, in the interest of the liberation of the Turkish empire from the power of tyranny.

According to the program of the leaders of this revolt, an Arab empire is to be formed. This is to embrace all the territory between the valleys of the Euphrates and Tigris to the isthmus of Suez, and from the Mediterranean to the Sea of Oman. The government is to be constitutional, and all sects are to have religious liberty. None but Arabs are to be appointed to office, and they shall be paid salaries sufficient to enable them to live in an honorable manner. Military service will be for two years only. The revenues will be disbursed only for public purposes. The private property of the Sultan will be confiscated and the proceeds distributed among those who have contributed to the salvation of the "Patrie Arabe." Amnesty is offered to all prisoners, and Turks will be protected if they will show loyalty to the new government.

If the Balkan peoples are permitted to sever their connection with Constantinople, and the Arabs wake up to the possibilities of freedom and independence, the Turkish days of usurpation are about numbered. But something of this nature may have to transpire, before the Jews can be permitted to settle in their land. Events are moving slowly, but surely, toward the consummation of all the plans of Omnipotence.

UNFIT FOR OFFICE.

The following paragraphs occur in Edmund Burke's pamphlet, "Thoughts on the Present Discontents." That pamphlet was written during a critical period of England's history:

"That man who, before he comes into power, has no friends, or who, coming into power, is obliged to desert his friends, or who, losing it, has no friends to sympathize with him, he who has no sway among any part of the landed or commercial interests, but whose whole importance has begun with his office, and is sure to end with it, is a person who ought never to be suffered by a controlling parliament to continue in any of those situations which confer the lead and direction of all our public affairs; because such a man has no connection with the interests of the people."

"Those knots or cabals of men who have got together, avowedly without any public principle, in order to sell their conjugal infidelity at the higher rate, and are therefore universally odious, ought never to be suffered to dominate in the state; because they have no connection with the sentiments and opinions of the people."

The failure to act upon the advice of Burke cost England dearly.

St. Patrick's day all in the morning.

Wireless congratulations to Signor Marconi are in order.

The Japanese have occupied the pass. What a ubiquitous lot they are.

"Shall we sell the Philippines?" asks Senator Bacon. We don't think that we shall.

Plenty of officers for the Panama canal have been provided. What is wanted now is an army of workers.

In a magazine poem a lady poet says: "Oh, the windy day is a laughing day." More like a laughing hyena.

Mr. Bryan did not lose fifty thousand dollars, having never had it. At best he but lost a chance in losing his suit.

Heretofore Oyama has been hammering away at Kuropatkin's army. Now he is going after it with hammer and tongs.

Cassie Chadwick has been convicted upon a conspiracy. But she could not more conspire by herself than a bird could flock by itself.

Louisville is having a remarkable religious upheaval. A religious revival or upheaval thereof of any kind is of itself remarkable.

Grand Duke Nicholas had better hurry up if he wants to command that army. Otherwise the Japanese will capture before he arrives.

The war office in St. Petersburg admit that the situation at the front is serious. That is hardly the word. "Desperate" is none too strong.

"Small favors thankfully received; larger ones in proportion," seems to have been the spirit of those resolutions of thanks so generously and courteously passed by the Legislature.

"Many of the people of Boston today are living on the reputation of their fathers," says the Hon. John F. Fitzgerald of that famous city. True as true can be, and equally true of the people of many another city.

The statement of Dr. Jordan and Trustee Hopkins as to the cause of Mrs. Stanford's death will likely come to be generally accepted. It is as well founded as any other hypothesis, and much more agreeable to contemplate.

Those Colorado legislators who voted to seat Peabody on the understanding that he should resign, and that Lieutenant-Governor McDonald should succeed him are fit for treasons, stratagems and spalls. Let no such men be trusted.

"You only hate those you do not know," said Andrew Carnegie in a recent speech. There is a world of truth and philosophy in that remark. Studied and acted upon what an amount of misunderstanding and evil would be done away with.

THE BATTLE OF MUKDEN

New York World.
South of Harbin there has been no

point of vital importance to Kuropatkin since Port Arthur fell. With the railroad in his possession, safety always lay a stage farther north. If he manages again to escape from the Japanese enveloping lines he will have succeeded in defeating Oyama's main purpose.

New York Evening Sun.

With the enormous force at his disposal the Russian commander should be able to retreat in fairly good order, for skill in keeping his communications protected has never been denied. Besides, the exhaustion of the assaulting Japanese must be extreme.

Boston Herald.

A succession of advances and repulses, resulting only in a wavering of the balance, but in no conclusive settlement, holds the whole civilized world in a suspense that has become oppressive. But the feeling in lands which are only remotely concerned with the issue is not to be compared with that of the nations whose destiny is immediately involved. The lover of humanity can only hope that the lesson of this war will serve as a deterrent to the warlike ambition of every other people and will emphasize the necessity of devising a juster way of deciding the rights of nations when they cannot settle their differences.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The islanders' objective was not Mukden at all but Kuropatkin's army. If this is in condition to fight another day the capture of Mukden is but a sorry recompense for almost a fortnight's marching and fighting and a loss of men greater than the enemy's. The Manchurian capital's importance is political and sentimental rather than military. If the Russians should succeed in withdrawing from the pass, their military position will be little, if any, weaker than before, except for the fact that if they persist in the war they will have more money to retrieve and reconquer.

Pueblo Chieftain.

Russia therefore has the alternative, either to make peace with Japan upon the best possible terms, or else to withdraw eastward to the Pacific or some other strong defensive position, and there await the opportunity to regain what has been lost. There is no reason why Russia should not prolong the war indefinitely, if she has the courage and persistence to do so, and Russia could stand the strain of such a period of waiting far better than Japan.

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