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SALT LAKE CITY, - JUNE 2, 1909.

ANNUAL Y. M. AND Y. L. M. I. A. CONFERENCE.

The Fourteenth General Annual Conference of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in Salt Lake City, on Saturday and Sunday, June 5th and 6th, 1909.

All officers and members of the association are requested to be present at all of the meetings of the conference, and a cordial invitation is hereby extended to the Saints generally to attend the meetings to be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday, June 6th, at 10 a. m. and at 2 and 7:30 p. m.

JOSEPH E. SMITH,
HEBER J. GRANT,
B. H. ROBERTS,
General Sup'ty, Y. M. M. I. A.
MARTHA H. TINGEY,
RUTH M. FOX,
MAY T. NYSTROM,
Presidency Y. L. M. I. A.

Y. L. M. I. A. NOTICE.

In connection with the June conference, department meetings of the Y. L. M. I. A. will be held Friday, June 4, at 2 p. m., in the Fourteenth Ward Assembly Rooms. There will be a meeting for Secretaries and Treasurers and another for the Traveling Library. Matters of interest to others will be discussed, however, so a full attendance is desired.

MARTHA H. TINGEY,
RUTH M. FOX,
MAY T. NYSTROM,
Presidency Y. L. M. I. A.

ANNUAL PRIMARY CONFERENCE.

The seventh annual general conference of the officers of the Primary Associations of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in Salt Lake City, June 4th, 5th and 6th, 1909. All officers, stake and local, are requested to be present at all the sessions of this conference.

LOUIE B. FELT,
MAY ANDERSON,
CLARA W. BEBEE,
Presidency Primary Associations.

MEETING OF CHURCH TEACHERS

The annual gatherings of the teachers of the Church schools and Religion classes are becoming more and more important. The entire week with three sessions a day is usually occupied by these earnest workers in the cause of truth, considering the many problems that arise in their labors to elevate the young people of Zion and plant in their hearts an abiding faith in the Gospel. Such a Conference will begin next Monday morning in the buildings of the Latter-day Saints University.

Many years ago, when it was found impractical to maintain Church schools for the elementary grades, religion classes were established as a part of the Church school system, to supplement the work of the public schools with as much religious training as possible. As the state high schools are rapidly increasing in numbers and are patronized by many of our young people, it is found necessary to extend the Religion class work to the high school pupils also. This requires a higher standard of ability on the part of the Religion class teachers, and this necessity is drawing them into closer relations with the trained teachers of the Church schools, while many of the latter are taking a more active part in Religion class work. This is as it should be. Both classes of teachers belong to the one organization and should be working in a mutually helpful way, and to secure this result most effectually is one of the principal objects of the conference.

The program for this conference, besides providing many musical numbers, a grand reception Monday evening in the Odeon Hall, and an excursion to Vandamere, announces addresses by members of the First Presidency and other leading brethren. A number of carefully prepared papers will be read and discussed, treating important phases of religious training. The afternoon sessions will be spent in department work, where the revision of the courses in theology will be considered, and the proper correlation of theology, with other branches of learning. The care of Church school pupils outside of school hours; the missionary classes and their needs; high school religion class work; matrons' work; the essentials to emphasize in teaching each of the subjects in theology, etc., are topics mentioned in the program.

As the teachers in the Church schools are expected to take part in their respective county teachers' conventions and state teachers' meetings, where the pedagogy of the ordinary branches of study is ably discussed, the work of these conferences is mostly confined to the religious features of education. The light that revelation gives to science, history, literature, and other subjects of study, and the best methods of controlling the young and developing fully their entire natures, furnish the subject matter for the work done in them.

Following the Mutual Improvement Conference, cheap railroad rates have been secured and it is expected that teachers from all the stakes of Zion will be present, and that the Conference will be one of the best ever held.

Every worker in the Church schools and Religion classes should attend and the public are cordially invited.

WELCOME THE VISITORS.

The real problem facing the managers of the forthcoming Grand Army encampment has now developed, and it is that of providing accommodations for the thousands of visitors who will flock to this city during encampment week. Col. F. M. Sterrett, the executive director, has called attention through the public press to the fact that some of the hotels have failed to respond to inquiries from people in the east respecting accommodations for the week of August 5-14; and these people, with perhaps many of their friends, feel that it would be useless to make the long journey to Salt Lake without some assurance that they will be accommodated with lodging places when they arrive, and thus, perhaps, many are led to an erroneous belief regarding the ability of this city to take care of its guests and remain away.

It is not expected that the hotels will be able to care for all the G. A. R. visitors during encampment week. It is not even expected that they may be able to handle more than a fifth, or a seventh, of the total number of encampment visitors. But it should reasonably be expected of them that they will respond, and cheerfully, to any inquiries regarding Salt Lake, and especially as to their own ability to accommodate guests. This should not only be a matter of pure business sense, but of patriotism as well, for whatever benefits the City, will to a large degree benefit every citizen.

The matter of taking care of the great majority of encampment visitors has been made a matter of special consideration by the executive committee in charge of the affair. Numerous committees have been appointed, among them teachers of all the schools in the city, to canvass the homes of the city for the purpose of ascertaining how many guests each home can provide for during the big week in August. So far these teachers, through their pupils and personal visits, have received assurances that most of the householders will put themselves out to accommodate as many guests as possible for the seven-day period; some wealthy people have signified their willingness to take as many as 15 or 16; others have agreed to erect tents on vacant lots, and furnish them with lodging equipment, in order to assist in taking care of the crowds; and most every home, we are convinced, when shown the necessity for every citizen doing his or her part in the big undertaking, will throw open its doors to the people of the whole country who shall visit Salt Lake during G. A. R. encampment week, with the latch string out and the door arch emblazoned with the signal "Welcome."

CHURCH AND POLITICS.

In Utah anti-"Mormon" agitators have professed a holy horror of Church members taking an interest in the affairs of the community in which they live. Any utterance in public or private by prominent Church members or officials is branded as "Church interference in politics." And so persistently has the cry against such "interference" rent the air that many timid souls have been frightened to vote for office hunters and grafters, so as to be sure of no Church interference.

It is interesting, therefore, to read what the Northwestern Christian Advocate thinks of church interference in politics. In its issue of May 28, that paper says: "So long as citizens are in the pew you cannot keep politics out of the pulpit. Interested persons and parties may argue to the contrary; they may even cry aloud piously for the pulpit to restrict itself to the 'simple gospel'; but under the very charter of the gospel they pretend to exalt, a Church which does not actively and positively promote the welfare of the community in which it is placed is flagrant and outrageously recreant to the faith. Good citizenship is not to be identified with partisan politics, though partisan politicians are not above ignoring such a distinction. Good citizenship is not interested in partisan politics as such; it is interested in the welfare of the community, in its social and political conditions, in its progress, in its well-being. Good citizenship is not to the work of making clean streets, easier and ill living more difficult for every member of the community, in which work good citizenship and the gospel are interchangeable terms. A pastor, as the normal and natural leader of his people, has no choice in the matter. It is part of his commission from which he cannot be released. In this day and generation, when the Church has just come to a renewed sense of its social obligations, for a pastor or a Church member to interpret the gospel, in terms of personal privilege, is simply to read the gospel out of the respect of decent people and make it a byword among all classes of workers who seek earnestly the redemption of the world."

Speaking particularly of the duty of the pastor to the community in which he lives, the Advocate says:

"A Church should count it all honor when the pastor is recognized by the community as the helper of every good cause and the alert and unsparing antagonist of every bad cause. Such leadership should be a challenge to the loyal and hearty support of every lover of God whether a member of the Church or not. To hold aloof because one is over-dainty about interfering with disagreeable conditions, especially to hold aloof for material and sordid gain, is the one unforgivable, because irremediable, crime against the Church. There is not the slightest virtue in appearing to be horrified at the 'holiness of God,' selling himself in the dirty pool of politics. That pool is dirty because it is stagnant. It needs heroic treatment to bring its foul and hidden depths to the cleansing of light and air. Like the pool at Bethesda there is healing only in the troubled waters. And the pastor must be the angel of the troubling."

The Advocate points out that the Church exists for the purpose of bringing the kingdom of God among men; that it must meet opposition with opposition; that when it meets with iniquity, lying, browbeating, backbiting, slander, deceit, treachery and murder, it has imperative need for the exercise of "the rougher virtues." The article closes as follows:

"The real policy of the community is the Church not the city constabulary. Every saloon and every vile resort is a challenge to the police power of the Church. A church which fails at this point may perhaps get for itself the

confection of a placid and diverting gospel, but it will also earn for itself the contempt of God and of all good men."

This is in full harmony with views expressed on this subject by the Deseret News. Church members and Church officials have the same duty, as all other American citizens to exert themselves in politics and to work for good government. They are recreant to their duty if they do not exert themselves for the good of the community. Why should they stand aside and permit saloon keepers, horse racers and builders of "cribs," backed by subsidized, unscrupulous newspapers, to take possession of the government machinery and run it in the interest of those who rob the people and make money of a business that destroys body and soul?

We do not believe the pulpit can be used legitimately for the propagation of political party doctrines, nor that the Church organization should be employed for the furtherance of the interests of one party against another, since all the members of the Church have equal rights and should be united in all that pertains to the Church. There may be exceptions to the rule. If a church should be assailed by politicians, or threatened with persecution, it would necessarily resist with all lawful means at its disposal. Any church would do that. But, as a rule, the Church cannot legitimately be used as an instrument for the promotion of party politics. But it certainly is the duty of the Church members to labor for the election of good citizens to government positions and to keep out of power the immoral element that is constantly striving for supremacy.

In this City, for some time, we have been confronted with a peculiar condition. Anti-"Mormon" agitators have taken advantage of the fact that Christians generally consider the "Mormons" very wrong in their theological conceptions, and based a political crusade on that view. In other words, they have induced religious people to use their prerogatives as American citizens as a "big stick" with which to punish the Latter-day Saints politically for entertaining heterodox views on theology. That is the plain fact of the matter, but it is never so plain disguised in phrases and accusations.

And the peculiarity is still further complicated by the fact that the same agitators, on the other hand, have at various times held out inducements to the element that peopled Commercial street to join in the crusade. And the two wings have worked together in perfect harmony at the ballot box, with the result that the City is being inundated by the denizens of the lower world.

It is high time for the true Christians of this City and all who are interested in good government to work together and redeem the City from the grasp of the present awful regime.

The hat pin is more dangerous than the sword.

Why not use the block signal to signal Mars?

By their fruits shall ye know them the peach basket hats.

Cat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow prices may be higher.

Count Zeppelin should be able to float any size loan he wishes to.

They call themselves the Seattleites of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific fair.

Mr. Patten proved himself to be the greatest bread winner of the year.

Night sessions for the Senate. The alternative is hot sessions in July and August.

In the pugilistic world three-minute rounds are the rounds in the ladder of fame.

By an average man people generally mean a man a little below the average.

Mr. Harriman has sailed for Europe. Has he gone to take a rest or to take a railroad?

The trouble with the theorist is that he wants to put his theories in practice on people who don't want them.

Of course the people will vote for a State capitol. After that let them unite to secure a sane Fourth of July.

The new chancellor of the University of Nebraska is Professor Avery, head of the chemistry department. A chemical change, so to say.

It is very silly for England to take on a great German scare but it would be infinitely more silly for the United States to take on one.

The bandits who held up the Overland Limited only secured three hundred dollars in cash. How contemptibly small and mean that makes their act.

To say that coal cannot be sold in this town at \$5 a ton and the dealer "break even," is sheer nonsense. Those who make such statements must assume that all the people can be fooled all the time.

James Hill never uttered profounder words than at the opening of the Seattle exposition when he said, "The greatest service to the nation, to every state and city today, would be the substitution for a term of years of law enforcement for law making." But what political party would dare to put such plain common sense in its platform?

Senator Root's remarks in the Senate, on the German government's report on German wages, characterizing it as an attempted interference with our tariff legislation, has caused a disagreeable impression in Berlin. The report, it appears, was made at the request of our own government and compliance with it was an act of courtesy on Germany's part. It is rather surprising that Senator Root, who at one time was secretary of state, should have made the remarks he did for they were anything but diplomatic, and diplomacy was once his profession.

CLEMENS' LATEST SIN.

New York Sun.

It may be worth observing that the Hon. Mark Twain's masterly argument for the Baconian theory of the authorship of the plays called Shakespeare's has greatly stimulated the Bacon-Shakespeare literary prospectors. Their business it is to explore the long-suffering text and to extract from it those cryptic arrangements of letters and numerals, those acrostics, those palindromes, those pregnant paginations, those ingeniously hidden meanings which Francis Bacon, as we know so well, spent his leisure nights in weaving into the first folio, and which now establish his case with such wonderful clearness and completeness. We ourselves have not given much attention to this particular form of intellectual activity since it was our honor, several years ago, to evolve from its first folio text, by the conscientious application of the cipher which Ignatius Donnelly discovered, the immortal principle of the invariable proximity of the white horse and the red-headed girl.

PHOTOGRAPHING THE MOON.

Scientific American.
The effect of earth shine upon the moon is a familiar one to many people, though probably few of them know the cause of the effect. When the moon is in its first quarter the dark portion of it is often faintly visible. The bright quarter is, of course, illuminated by direct sunlight, but the remainder is only seen by virtue of the faint light reflected from the earth. This faintly illuminated portion has been successfully photographed by M. Quenisset at the Kuyvis observatory, and it appears likely that the results will present many points of interest to astronomers. The light received from the earth naturally falls at a different angle from that at which light is received from the sun, therefore it is reasonable to expect a slightly different effect of light and shade on the irregularities of the moon's surface.

JUST FOR FUN

Tommy's Manners.
They were at dinner, and the dainties were on the table.
"Will you take tart or pudding?" asked papa of Tommy.
"Tart," said Tommy, promptly.
His father sighed as he recalled the many lessons on manners he had given the boy.
"Tart, what?" he queried, kindly.
But Tommy's eyes were glued on the pastry.
"Tart, what?" was asked, sharply this time.
"Tart first," answered Tommp, triumphantly.—Till-Bits.

Against All Tradition.
"That wealthy old fellow is a queer chap."
"How so?"
"Never claims he was happier when he was poor. Always says he's happier now."—Kansas City Journal.

For One Admission.
"Every rainstorm," complained the youthful pessimist, "means a postponed game."
"And every postponed game," pointed out the juvenile optimist, "means a double-header."—Kansas City Journal.

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