DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sunday Excepted.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance.)

One Year	$9.00
Six Months	4.50
Three Months	2.25
One Month	.75
Saturday Edition, Per Year	2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year	2.00

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.
Address all business communications and all remittances
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake City as second class matter according to Act of Congress, March 1, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 28, 1907.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-eighth semi-annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday, Oct. 4, 1907, at 10 a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members of the Church is hereby requested.

On account of the general Conference being held on the first Sunday of October, it is suggested that the last Sunday in September be observed as fast day in the Salt Lake, Ensign, Liberty, Pioneer, Jordan, and Granite stakes.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHON H. LUND,
First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The semi-annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will be held at the tabernacle Sunday evening October 6, 1907, at 7 o'clock. Sunday school officers and teachers are especially requested to attend and the public is cordially invited.

A special meeting of the stake superintendents and boards will be held Sunday Oct. 6, at 8 a. m. at Barratt Hall. A full attendance is requested.

JOSEPH F. SMITH
GEORGE REYNOLDS
DAVID O. McKAY,
General Superintendency.

SEVENTIES' CONFERENCE.

A general conference of the seventies will be held in the Assembly hall on Friday, Oct. 4, 1907, at 7:30 p. m. All Seventies throughout the Church are cordially invited to be present, and a representation from each quorum is urgently requested.

Matters pertaining to the inauguration of the Seventies' class meetings on Sunday mornings will be fully discussed, and instructions will be given as to the manner of conducting same.

"The Seventies' Course in Theology," already in the hands of the printer, will be ready for distribution.

SEYMOUR B. YOUNG,
In behalf of the First Council of the Seventy.

ACCEPTING THE ENCYCLICAL.

The influence of the head of the Roman church over the minds and hearts of the members was once more illustrated in the manner in which the Modernists received the papal encyclical condemning the Modernist tendencies in both theology and philosophy, and prohibiting even the reading of Modernist literature. According to a dispatch from Rome, Abbes Murri and Antigo, the leaders of the Italian Modernist movement, have now published a declaration approving the Pope's encyclical. The capitulation is accepted, in both lay and clerical circles, as marking Modernism's utter collapse all over Italy. It is also thought that it will mean a similar weakening among Catholic liberals throughout the entire world.

Loyal followers of the church greet the papal victory with the greatest satisfaction, but there is considerable surprise among them. So widely had the Modernist opinions spread, and strong had they become in many quarters, and now the church men are hailing the Pope's decree as perhaps the most remarkable display of sagacity in the modern history of the papacy.

It is a peculiar struggle that contest between a church and the modern tendencies, for supremacy. Many on both sides are prejudiced, claiming absolute infallibility for whatever side they represent. It may be just as well, therefore, to remember that the great lesson of modern discoveries and inventions is this, that scientific dicta are as frail as those of dogmatists, and as liable to be overthrown.

There was a time when men firmly believed in certain traditions that had been handed down from past ages. Among these was the transmutability of the baser metals into the more valuable. There was also a belief in the elexir of life, which was supposed to confer the gift of perpetual youth. Such also was the idea of an invisible world, penetrating the material universe; and the belief in the gifts and powers of magicians. There were many other notions.

Then came the scientists and declared the entire belief unscientific and absurd. They pronounced it impossible that one substance could be changed into another. The transmission of thought through space, by suggestion, was ridiculed. The notion of a world beyond the visible creation was brushed aside as a poetic fancy. And so all along the line. Scientists were affirming that whatever they could not explain, had no existence.

Now, the fact is, that the march of discovery has been tending more and more toward the occult. The old position of the scientists has been rendered untenable. As in the case of the ancient Chaldean historian, Berosus, later historians first denied his accuracy and then, in the light of more recent research, admitted it, so all along the line. Scientists have lately been forced to admit the truth of many old beliefs and traditions once denounced as the children of superstition.

Today scientists admit the mysterious power of what was once called hypnotism, and physicians frequently use "suggestion" as an aid to surgery and medicine. Telepathy is no longer ridiculed. The electric telegraph, the telephone, the wireless telegraph have taught the accurate wonderful lessons in conservatism as to their dictum. As for the idea of an elixir of life, once ridiculed, Metchnikoff, the eminent Russian bacteriologist and successor of Pasteur, has declared "old age" something abnormal and no part of "healthy physiological function." He does not consider it impossible that some time the life of man will be prolonged far beyond its present limitations. All along the line scientists have been forced to change position, with the advance of knowledge. This should render them more tolerant toward the faith that reverses the Scriptures.

The changed tendency of the sciences is perhaps most strikingly illustrated in their present attitude toward the old notions about the transmutability of matter. With the dawn of modern learning the philosopher's stone was pronounced a dream, a superstition, the phantom of disordered brains. But with still further advance of knowledge it has become evident that the ghost will not down. "It is interesting to observe," says a writer in Chambers Encyclopedia, "that the leading tenet of the alchemists creed, namely, the doctrine of the transmutability of other metals into gold and silver—a doctrine which it was thought modern chemistry had exploded and which was rejected as an impossibility by Sir Humphry Davy—receives not a little countenance from a variety of facts now coming to light, especially in connection with allotropy." Another writer in a volume published by the Harper Bros., Carl Snyder, is quoted as follows: "Prof. J. J. Thomson, of Cambridge, shows that ions, electrons, or corpuscles are at least one thousand times smaller than the smallest and lightest atom; and from whatever source they come they are all alike, identical in every way. Is this primal matter at last? Is here the stuff from which all known substances are compounded? May we look forward to a time when we may build up any substance—gold, for example—from the elements of any other? Have we realized the philosopher's stone?"

Since this was penned the discoveries of the phenomena centering about radium seem to have upset the old philosophy of chemistry and physics entirely. And now comes Professor Rutherford and ventures the opinion that the emanative changes of uranium will be found to ultimate in the common metal lead. Thus we have witnessed the most remarkable change in the attitude of scientists on the problems of alchemy. It all goes to prove the truth of the familiar saying: "Whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." (1 Cor. xiii: 8-10.)

THE STATE FAIR.

The State Fair, which will be held next week at the Agricultural park of this city, will be an attractive and instructive place to visit.

The exhibition will represent the progress and standing of the State in agricultural, manufacturing and other industries; in education, art, etc.; and will have, besides, many features of value to those especially interested in certain phases of our leading industries and occupation.

Here will be seen the unequaled displays of fine horses of almost every type; of dairy and beef cattle; of sheep and goats; the standard varieties of ducks, geese, chickens, turkeys; swine of wonderful proportions; dogs of the various approved breeds; doves and other birds, the fabrics of the textile arts; the machinery and products of many industries; displays of flowers, lace, beautiful or curious; of agricultural and farm crops in the form of grains, fruits and vegetables; of mechanical devices and mineral products—a whole world, in fact, brought to a focus and made available for the profit and instruction of the people of the State.

Who can afford to miss the State Fair?

AND YET NO PROOF.

It is a very common trick with the Tribune to make a false assertion and then, when caught in the falsehood and challenged for proof, try to get out of the difficulty by pretending to prove something else. This is the method of disreputable sophists, whose only aim is to deceive.

The anti-"Mormon" sheet has resorted to the same trick in its controversy about the moral character of the martyred founders of the Church. It started with the accusation that the Prophet Joseph invented the revelation "commanding polygamy"—meaning the revelation on the eternity of the marriage covenant—in order to cover up his numerous "escapades." Asked for the documentary proof of this infamous accusation, the sheet dodged as best it could, and now offers the following:

First, the Patriarch Hyrum Smith pronounced as false the doctrines preached in a certain place as the doctrines of the Church.

Secondly, William Law, "who was a counselor to Joseph," testified several months afterwards that the revelation on the eternity of the marriage covenant had been read to him by the Patriarch himself.

Now, what has that to do with the original charge by the Tribune, that the Prophet had "escapades" to cover up? We still demand the proof of that charge, or brand the Tribune as an infamous character assassin, a danger to the morals of this community, inasmuch as it is always dangerous to assault, without cause, the men and women to whom we look for ideals and guidance. By way of illustration, what would the effect be upon the American youth, if writers of our day were permitted to falsely accuse the founders of this Republic of all sorts of crimes? Libertines sometimes quote Luther: "Who does not love women, wine, and song, remains a fool he his life ever so long"—to the infinite moral injury of many inexperienced persons. The rascality in which the Tribune now is engaged is a moral danger to the community. In the interest of truth and morality we, therefore, still denounce as false, because contrary to evidence, its cowardly charges.

It is true that the revelation on the patriarchal marriage system was not given publicity until some time after it was received by the Prophet. It was talked about privately, and through apostates rumors of immorality were circulated in the world. But the doctrines contained in the revelation were not taught from the first day they were revealed. The Patriarch was perfectly right in branding as false the statement that the Church taught that "a man having a certain priesthood may have as many wives as he pleases." Neither that, nor any other absurd doctrine on the marriage relation was ever taught by the Church. The Patriarch's statement was in perfect accordance with the facts.

But, as for the assertion that the Prophet was morally corrupt, let us reflect a moment. A number of men were at that very time expelled from the Church because of immoral conduct. If the doctrine had been preached and practiced that a man could have as many wives as he pleases, why were such men expelled for having as many wives as they pleased? Again, supposing that the Leaders of the Church were immoral men, how could they consent to the expulsion of men for immorality, knowing that there would expose them? "Where was their cunning, that shrewdness for which their enemies gave them credit, to have thus alienated from their cause for such a purpose—their own preservation—men fully cognizant of their crimes?" (History of Utah, by Orson F. Whitney, Vol. I, page 218.)

All the evidence proves that the men whom the Almighty selected to be His messengers to this age and generation, were worthy of the high and holy calling, not only because of their superior intellectual qualities, but also because of their moral purity. They were the objects of persecution long before the revelation concerning marriage covenants was given. Persecution has continued after the practice of plural marriages has ceased. It is evident, therefore, to all who will reflect on the history of the Church without prejudices, that morality or immorality is no factor in the antagonism to the Church. The conflict is but the natural battle between light and darkness, good and evil. And it will go on until the final victory of truth and righteousness.

BUSINESS METHODS.

The tax-payers of this City are interested in the business methods of the individuals who serve as party managers of public affairs.

Mr. Morris has called attention to the fact that the money intended for sewer extension in the southwestern part of the City has been in the bank for years, but that the improvement the money was borrowed for, is still a matter for future realization.

Now, the tax-payers would naturally like to know how much interest the money has brought the City. A sum of $150,000 ought to yield some interest during a period of two years. It is borrowed money upon which the City pays interest. How much interest has the bank paid the City? And the answer to that is, "Not a cent." It sounds almost incredible.

But that is not all. When the present party manipulators took charge of the public funds, they found that the City had money in banks that paid interest to the City. This was, in their view, a bad arrangement, and so they drew that money from the interest-paying banks and placed it in another institution without arranging for the payment of interest, be it ever so little.

We are informed that the bank has had at least $400,000 a year, on an average of the City's money, without a cent of interest. That should amount to, say $20,000, for two years, counting a very low rate. Who has been benefited by that money?

Well, some of the individuals who claim an exclusive title to Americanism may possibly be heavy stock-holders in the institution that kindly holds the City's purse. They may have to contribute liberally towards the maintenance of party organs, and the campaign generally, and it is easy to see that $20,000 of the people's money would come in handy for such "American" purposes.

They are not local business men, those fellows who view public offices only as "spoils." But how do the methods appear to the tax-payers?

THE BATTLE FOR HEALTH.

The "NEWS" has been requested to announce that the Fifth World's congress on tuberculosis, will be held in Washington, D. C., during the month of October next year. The session will last for three weeks, and the most eminent workers in the war against the so-called white plague will meet and discuss the problems involved.

One feature of the gathering will be a tuberculosis exposition, in which one can see what is going on, the world around, in the campaign against tuberculosis. There will be clinics and demonstrations throughout the whole period of three weeks, giving medical and lay delegates object lessons in this subject. There will be very valuable publications, of which the transactions will be the most important. The transactions of the last Congress are published in three volumes. The proceedings of this congress will require four volumes. These are free to all members of the Congress, who have paid their membership fee of five dollars.

The gathering is still a year ahead, but those interested should communicate with the secretary of the International Congress on Tuberculosis, Colorado Building, Washington, D. C., and obtain full particulars. There should be general interest in this meeting, for it is held in the interest of humanity. The death rate from this one cause is greater than necessary, simply because of ignorance or carelessness, or perhaps because of lack of facilities for proper precautions.

AN APPEAL FOR LIBERTY.

A gentleman who gives his name as John Maddock, in an open letter addressed from Minneapolis, to President Roosevelt, asks federal aid against the Prohibition movement. He represents that it is destructive of a republican form of government, and contrary to the Constitution to which the most glorious word is Liberty and not Prohibition. He is rather violent in his protests. He alleges that "The United States is now no more; there is nothing but a disintegrated lot of communities wherein the greatest mob autocratically and illegally rules, which means that the federal government has illegally and unjustly handed over the government of the different states to alien political parties to pander to the unjust whims of any majority of aliens that may arise. The time has indeed come for 'a square deal' all around; class slavery has been in vogue long enough."

The writer, who by the way says he is a veteran of the Civil War, argues that "the sovereignty of the individual is what must be protected, not that of majorities. The federal Constitution," he says, "was especially drafted to put a stop to class, puritanical rule, but the parties in power have ingloriously departed from its righteous principles and have become the slaves of the voice of the greatest office retaining class. Self-government proper is for each one to govern himself, not for a part of the people to hypocritically assume that they are the whole and to despotically rule the rest. The federal Constitution is a righteous expression of the golden rule, and it is the proper function of the federal government to enforce it wherever people will not grant the same liberty to others which they demand for themselves."

Even if we cannot follow Mr. Maddock in his reasoning and accept his conclusions, we must admit that there is such an evil as the tyranny of majorities, no less dangerous to liberty than the exploits of mobs and machinations of unduly ambitious individuals. And some of our Christian friends are, unfortunately, inclined toward the old ideals of compulsion in matters of both faith and morals. Persuasion means earnest effort, patience, and very often disappointment. Compulsion appears to be easier and promises more speedy results. It is a method that appeals to brute instinct. But all the same, if real results are desired, they must be obtained by the exercise of the power of the intellect and the heart.

The frost will soon be on the pumpkin.

The bubonic is about the least of San Francisco's plagues.

That uprising in Cuba had its head whacked as soon as it showed it.

It is easier to keep a good man down than it is to keep prices down.

A bitter pill cannot be sugar coated so that it is not bitter still.

No matter whose face is on Uncle Sam's coins they are worth their face value.

The price of pie and pastry is to be raised. This is the ne plus ultra of prosperity.

Dealers in Tintic properties are asking, Watchman, what of the Knight?

The peace congress seems to have developed into a Hanger in the wilderness.

The "American" party has two mottoes for its guidance—Rule or ruin; rule and ruin.

"What are we going to do about the Philippines?" asks Harper's Weekly. Dolce far niente.

Every little while the announcement is made that the law governing the speed of automobiles is to be enforced.

The declination of Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge for the America's cup has nearly filled his cup of bitterness to overflowing.

Ferdinand P. Earl and Rev. Dr. Ferguson seem to hold that there is an affinity that shapes our ends, roughhew them how we will.

Wilber Glenn Voliva has sung the swan song in Zion City. This means that he will be on a bed of "down and out" instead of one of down.

Men who hire themselves out as "dummies" to make fraudulent entries of timber lands, are dummies in the true sense of the word.

A friend has paid Carrie Nation's fine and she has been released from the Washington workhouse. A friend in need is a friend indeed.

"Not fit for publication," said the President laughingly of the Oklahoma constitution. In newspaper parlance, it is "not available" owing to its great length."

And now the vice-president of the Standard Oil trust is a very sick man. This ante mortem investigation of the trust is making a good many of its officers sick.

Secretary Root says that he is not a candidate for the presidency. Among the prominent men of the country he stands almost alone in his declaration.

The Union Labor convention in San Francisco was dominated and controlled by convict Schmitz from his prison cell. What must be the political degradation of a city where such a condition of things can exist.

Gathered On The Battlefield of Thought.

The Influence Of the Women On Business. One far-reaching result for good which has followed the presence in the wage-earning field of women possessing education, refinement and strong moral character, is the betterment of the physical conditions under which their less fortunate sisters once worked. In hundreds of stores, factories and office buildings girls today are reaping the harvest sown five or ten years ago by intelligent women, who, upon entering the business world, resented the filthy, unhygienic, degrading surroundings then considered quite good enough for any woman who had to work for her living. These women have demanded and secured for the new generation of business girls sanitary toilet rooms, clean, properly ventilated rest and lunch rooms, sick rooms, trained nurses and matrons in department stores. These women as inspectors of factories, have fought for and secured proper lighting of halls and stairways leading to upper floors, where once the progress of young girls through the darkness was interrupted by nameless indignities. These women are doing the most practical work in the campaign against child labor. And almost invariably the women, either as factory inspectors or heads of societies whose object it is to relieve and improve the condition of wage-earning women, started as wage earners with but one object—making money. They were literally driven into the broader sociological field by the sad realization of the degrading conditions under which their less forunate sisters worked. Their work has been far-reaching and beneficial in many cases. But is it only when the intelligent woman of strong character devotes herself body and soul to such work that her influence is felt. So long as she must concentrate her energy and thought upon the duties for which her employers pay her, she exerts little or no more influence upon the conditions about her, whatever the may be, than the unintelligent or frivolous girl at the adjoining desk or counter. And in the very nature of things the majority of women in business are of average mentality and morality only.—Anna Steese Richardson in the October Woman's Home Companion.

Does Britannia Rule the Waves With Her Ships? At any rate that is the assurance of the popular song; though, as a matter of fact, the tossing inconstant waves altogether repudiate any allegiance whatever to her rule. And yet the mighty British Fleet, which—under Providence—is the defender of our homes against the jealous foreigner, who would fly at our throat if he dare, is a spectacle of stately and imposing masterdom; especially when, as at the great review recently held, a large number of battleships, cruisers, and other craft are assembled together. Embarking upon the barge of one of the battleships, a large open boat towed by a small steam picket-boat, the visitors invited to witness the review soon have an opportunity of experiencing how futile is the claim of Britannia to rule the waves. For in a very short time the heavy barge is pitching and tossing in a manner which, to those not accustomed to the vagaries of the deep, is distinctly disquieting; especially as, from time to time, a great wave breaks over the bows of the boat, drenching everyone, from stem to stern. And so it goes on for nearly half an hour, some few of the guests gradually becoming paler and greener, until at length the battleship is reached, and, with some difficulty, the visitors board her. And what a spectacle of massive, stupendous power; and what an amazing and altogether bewildering multiplicity of means of defiance does she present. Gigantic cannon, one well-aimed shot sufficient to disable an enemy's vessel miles away; deadly, lethal torpedoes, which, stealthily and rapidly pursuing their unseen course beneath the surface, strike the foe, and in a moment a fine battleship is shattered, and plunges headlong into the deep; innumerable smaller guns, and other weapons of offence; together with most marvelous and complex electrical and other appliances of all kinds for directing, and firing the guns and torpedoes from distant parts of the ship. And now suddenly the cannon roar along the entire line in salute to the King-Emperor of the great British Empire, who in his fine yacht steams slowly between the lines of nearly two hundred battleships, cruisers, gunboats, destroyers, submarines, and other war vessels, manned by five and thirty thousand of Britain's sons; while as each vessel is passed a roar of lusty cheering salutes King Edward.

But the Empire should beware lest:—

If drunk with sight of power we loose
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe,

Rather let us as a nation humiliate
ourselves before the God of our fathers,

Beneath whose awful Hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine,

But if we [illegible] Him: if we refuse
to serve and obey His Son who on the
agonizing cross made expiation for our
sins; then:—

Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
—A Banker.

Not a Woman In the Vatican, A Simple Life. Every one knows the Vatican contains the greatest treasures of antiquity that have come down to this modern world. The palace has one remarkable peculiarity, however. Its immense population, which must run into thousands, does not include a single woman! The pope's own private suite of rooms is on the third floor, overlooking the immense plaza of St. Peter. These saloons are simply, yet handsomely, furnished. One is struck by the absence of all luxury, after the overwhelming grandeur of the rest of the Vatican. Just above are the apartments formerly occupied by the Cardinal Secretary of State, who in the papal court is Premier, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Chief Privy Councillor all in one. The present holder of this great office is Cardinal Merry del Val. He prefers to reside in the magnificent series of saloons decorated by Pinturicchio, and bearing the ill-omened name of Alexander Borgia, their original occupant. The central figure of this most stately and impressive court is a kindly, gentle, old peasant priest—the first Pope in two centuries of plebeian birth. He is of middle height, thickset in figure, with dark eyes and bushy gray hair. For a year or two after his accession the poor man was far from being at ease in his lofty dignity. He wandered like one distraught through the vast echoing corridors of the ancient palace, which has seen some of the mightiest events in the world's history for a thousand years. Could it be possible that he, Giuseppe Sarto, of humblest peasant parentage, with near relatives who are village tailors and innkeepers at this moment, could have been elected spiritual lord of two hundred million human souls throughout the nations of the earth? With time, however, Pius X conquered his nervousness, and grew reconciled to parting from his aged sisters, who were even more distressed over the dramatic change it had pleased Providence to bring about. The peasant Pope has introduced many change in the rigid etiquette of the papal court that have somewhat discomfited the older and more conservative officials. He has also cut down expenses on all sides so as to meet the heavy drain on his resources caused by the recent action of the French government. There is nothing the Spiritual King detests more than pomp and state, for which reason he avoids both whenever possible. Moreover, as his previous life has been most active, he finds the role of "Prisoner of the Vatican" most irksome. Had he followed his own wishes the Pope would long ago have visited Castel Gandolfo, if not even more distant parts of Italy; and it was only the most earnest and pressing remonstrances from his elder advisers that prevented him from following the King to the assistance of the sufferers from the eruption of Vesuvius last year. Roman society greatly regrets that such counsels were successful; for had Pope and King worked side by side for the common good in that time of terror, the breach between Church and State would have been better repaired than could be hoped for from long years of diplomacy and statecraft.—W. G. Fitz-Gerald, in Harper's Weekly.

NO CAUSE FOR PIQUE.

St. Louis Times.

The failure of The Hague conference to accomplish any genuinely forward step in the interests of peace is charged by some of the conferees to the lack of unity of purpose by the United States and the Latin American republics. It even is advanced that the lesser States of the Americas feel piqued if not incensed at what is charged to have been a disposition on the part of the United States delegates to ignore their smaller neighbors and to deal with Germany, Great Britain and other European powers of the first class. This may be so, but if it is the Central and South American delegates to the peace congress have no just cause to feel aggrieved.

Z C M I

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