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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 12, 1902.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The seventy-second annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, in this city, Friday, April 4, 1902, at 10 o'clock a. m. The general authorities of the Church, presidents of stakes and also all enraged in the ministry, who can make it convenient to attend, are cordially invited to be present.

JOSEPH F. SMITH JOHN R. WINDER, ANTHON H. LUND, First Presidency of the Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"DIRECT LEGISLATION."

To the Editor:

To the Editor: "Will you kindly inform me through the columns of the 'News' what action, if any, has been taken on the 'direct legislation' clause which received a ma-jority vote in November, 1900? It has been currently reported that, in spite of its being approved by vote of the people, the measure had been annulled --tabled or set aside. Please give an account of the matter and state wheth-er the said clause has become a law." er the said clause has become a law.

The foregoing communication has been received from southern Utah. In reply we will state, that an amendment to the Constitution of this State, permitting what is called "direct legislation," was submitted to the vote of the people and was decided in its favor. It thus became a part of the fundamental law, But it requires legislation to make It operative. No statute has yet been passed for that purpose. The adoption of the amendment made such an enactment possible, but that is all. There has been no movement on the part of the people, or even of the promoters of the amendment, to procure the legislation that will be necessary to make i effective. There is really no need for any pressure of this character at present. All that the passage of the amendment has accomplished, is to make possible the "initiative and referendum" whenever the legislature shall consider it necessary. It would be a cumbersome and needless law under existing conditions, and in our opinion would only bu a hindrance instead of a benefit.

ENOUGH SAID, It is gratifying to see that our morning contemporary, which has been following its old tactics of misstating the

question from this point of view, says the average missionary has become an language and purport of editorials in international nuisance, and that he the Deseret News, is exhibiting a betmust be taught by sad experience that ter disposition and less temper in disarmies and navies will no longer back ussing aubjects of difference between us. The soothing syrup which it has him in intermeddling with other peodealt out today, will have a better efple's business.

fect than the vitriolic mixture which This is true enough, The missionaries of the various sects pretend to be the has been darted at us on numerous ocrepresentatives of a "kingdom, not of casions. But it is scarcely fair or ingenuous to pick out parts of sentences, this world," and as such they should not expect armies and navies to fight for from an article which it either misunthem. They might even refuse the aid derstands or wishes to dispute anyhow, of soldiers, if proffered to them, as did and tack them together in order to make out a case.

Ezra when he undertook to lead a com-We are pleased, however, to note that pany of Hebrews, through a robberit has no objection to the filing of the infested country, from Babylonia to Palestine. His sentiment would indeed petition for a reopening of the water sult, by the attornoys for Salt Lake be an adornment to modern missionary enterprise. For he said to his breth-City, which was the subject of our remarks. If the Tribune cannot see that ren: "I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen any injury would accrue to this muto help us against the enemy in the nicipality from the decision rendered way; because we had spoken unto the by the court, we are sorry that its mental vision is not more acute. It is posking, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek Him." sible that the city authorities, who are

(Ezra vill, 22.) Were there more of this in duty bound to guard the city's interests, and the able lawyers engaged genuine faith, there would more sucin the controversy relating to them, cess in the field. But all this is really apart from the may be able to see a little further than

main question involved in the Stone even our morning contemporary. The ransom. Her status as a missionary petition for the rehearing contains some very pointed specifications, which should not be considered at all. She is candid investigation may serve to enan American citizen and as such was lighten those who have not hitherto entitled to protection in her lawful pursults. That is the important point in perceived the full effects of that decithat incident. Governments that by

treaties have granted Americans cer-As to our explanation, and comments and arguments, in favor of a rehearing tain privileges, must be made to understand that one of their duries is to of the case, we have nothing to withsuppress brigandage that renders such draw, or change or apologize for. We meant every work it contained, and detreaties null and void. There seems to be no other way of

sire now to repeat its contents with emphasis. We do not dispute the right making this clear to the people of Turkey, or Bulgaria, than by demanding of any paper to criticise them, or if possible to refute any argument we reimbursement. It appears that there have presented. But we do deny the is a revolutionary party laboring for right of any one to misrepresent our the liberation of Macedonia. The leadposition, or to impute motives to us ers of this party conceived a plan that we never entertained. We have no whereby to extort money from citizens wish to be in the wrong on any public of the United States, to be used for question, or to maintain an errevolutionary purposes. The common after it is pointed out. people is said to sympathize with the Everybody is liable to mistakes, and rebels, even when they plan theft. So courts are subject to the same infirmiconfused are their ideas of right and wrong. They must be taught better

A newspaper has the right to reason morals. And if they find out that their upon any subject that relates to the sympathy for brigands means inpublic welfare, and, when occasion recreased taxes, to pay for the brigandquires, to take issue with any public age, they will no doubt experience a functionary, from the President down change of heart and cry out against to the constable. It is a fallacy to supthe methods employed. They will not pose that the judicial branch of a popfurnish hiding places for the robbers. ular government is above fournalistic What is called for is a demonstration or individual criticism. The "News" and a notice to the Balkan people, that desires to treat every person, official American citizens cannot be treated as and otherwise, with due respect, but it Miss Stone has been. For American holds the public welfare far above the | missionaries there is not, and cannot particular interests, feelings or opinions be, any government interference, but of any officer, board, court or other | American citizens abroad have certain creation of the people, for all of them | rights that this government cannot are the servants, not the masters, of the very well neglect to maintain.

THE SUGAR CONTEST.

instance, B. H. Roberts, who was

s the president of a company for

polygamous families,

al tone. Among other results is that the

The Indianapolis News of the same

"M. A. Breeden, attorney-general of

'Polygamy is dying out.' Mr. Bree-

'The Mormons and Gentiles are be-

the Gentiles. He estimates that 9

aid. 'Plural marriages are no solemnized by the Mormor

saloons are kept closed on Sundays."

irden to the State.

date contains this notice:

from

All we have urged in the present contention is, that the Supreme court of The sugar controversy in Congress is Utah shall grant to this city an opporstill in progress, and much feeling is tunity to present further arguments exhibited on both sides. The strength and facts, which may possibly tend to of the beet sugar interests is greater obtain some change in the opinion rendered by the majority of that court. In of special favors to Cuba, and it may

much complimentary matter about the Mormons that the Gentiles protested vigorously. It is thought by some peo-ple that Heath is getting ready to ask for the there are the setting to the United absurdities of "L'Homme Qui Rit." ple, interfering in affairs that do not oncern them. They should always be prepared to take the consequences. the State to send him to the United States senate." The Sacramento Bee, discussing the

> Cecil Rhodes and John Bull, both sick n South Africa.

The skeleton in the closet is often nothing more than a hoop skirt.

Every little while the Boers deem it ecessary to remind the British to read Kipling's "Recessional."

Uncle Sam intends to keep an open toor in China in spite of any foreign or domestic sash and door combine.

> When the undertakers and the coroner fall to fighting it looks as though the dead would have to bury the dead.

Governor Taft has just been successfully operated on. The senate Philipoine committee almost subjected him to vivisection.

Colonel John F. Gaynor, who left Savannah so suddenly, says that he is not in hiding. Certainly not; he is just safe in Canada.

Oom Paul says there will be more good news from Delarey, Possibly; still predictions in predatory warfare are not the safest things in the world.

President Roosevelt can write a veto message as well as one of approval. And its points and arguments are as hard to get over as an osage orange hodge

When he gets home Prince Henry will have enough freedom of cities and addresses of welcome to give each one f his sisters and his cousins and his aunts, his brothers and his uncles, souvenir of his American tour.

> General Funston says the Cubans are far superior to the Filipinos. Admiral Dewey says the Filipinos are much superior to the Cubans, and he says he knows them both. When such men differ how shall the people come to a decision?

Countess von Waldersee has resolved her husband's trip to the United States shall be deferred until the American pro-German enthusiasm shall have had time to cool. The lady has no cause to worry. The wind would be tempered to the shorn lamb.

However men may differ in their opinions as to the late Governor Altgeld's policies, all will agree that he was a remarkable man. He was a clear thinker and an incisive speaker. He did nothing that will give him permanent fame, yet he impressed men as being a man of rare possibilities. In the public mind his greatest characteristic was doubtless an erratic radicalism.

According to the best authority the cost of living has increased continually since 1897. Breadstuffs, meats, dairy products, clothing, etc., that could he bought for \$75.45 in that year, now cost

\$101.59, which means an increase of 40 per cent in the cost of living. The trouble is that wages have not increased in proportion, but then, there is more work to be had now than at that time, and than was anticipated by the advocates the wage-earner appreciates that fact.

spiff at his sentiment and scoff at his melodrama, "all the critics say and worse things yet." The ideals to which he gave his life have been sub-merged, temporarily let us hope, by a strongly flowing back tide of materialism. Enthusiasm is not a word to con-jure with, and the rhetoric of the en-thusiast provokes a smile. But it is a mistake to confound the greatness of a work of art with its permanence. Im mortality goes by favor, and many a thin and jejune classic, sickly and consumptive in its own day, survives the Titians of its age. THE BRIDE AT SEVENTY.

San Francisco Call. A Boston artist by the name of Cook, who recently eloped with a woman 70 years old, was interviewed in New York, and when asked how so old a woman could have failen in love with him replied: "I know that I am fascinating. Many women have fallen in love with me-positively raved over me. I can't help that, you know. I am young, handsome, rarely magnetic, full of high spirits and imagination and have boundless ambitions. These quali-ties, with a splendid reputation as an artist, and the culture of a traveled man of the world make a romarkable

man of the world, make a remarkable combination of attraction." And we know now just why it is that these Boston men are so dangerous.

Baltimore Sun.

As the bride looked no more than 60 years old, she gave her age in the marriage certificates as only 60. That was a fatal deception. If the cynics can be believed it is one that is occasionally practiced elsewhere. When the bride of and the bridegroom of 45 stood in

the presence of the minister and were about to be made one, an unsentimental male relative of the lady announced from his seat in the church that there were good and sufficient reasons why marriage should not proceed. He n produced a family Bible and owed that the bride was not a giddy

oung maiden of 60, but had passed her eventieth year. The minister declined perform the marriage ceremony, and then followed the elopement to New York, where disparity in years is ap-parently no bar to a wedding. So they ere married and Cupid scored another triumph.

By Clyde Fitch.

PATRIOTISM.

Costumes. Seats now on



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| 1 | SILK WAISTS, | 1 | RAGLAN | <u>s.</u> |
| 1 | and other Fashion vearing apparel, m veaves. A | | | |
| L | T. G. WEBBER, S. | apt. Z. | C. M | [. I. |
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vigor.

ment.



A QUESTION ON PRIESTHOOD.

We have been requested to state whether the Melchisedek Priesthood was held on the earth after the days ize that measure as unwise, improviof Moses the Prophet, and previous to the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. We suppose the question has arisen because of the statement in the Doctrine and Covenants:

"Now this Moses plainly taught to the children of Israel in the wilderness, and sought diligently to sanctify his people that they might behold the face of God; but they hardened their hearts and could not endure his presence therefore the Lord in his wrath (for his anger was kindled against them) swore that they should not enter into his resi while in the wilderness, which rest is the fulness of his glory. Therefore he took Moses out of their midst, and the Holy Priesthood also; and the lesser Priesthood continued, which Priesthood holdeth the key of the ministering of magels and the vortee ministering of angels and the preparatory Gospel." Sec. 84, 23-26.

We understand, by this statement about the Holy Priesthood being taken from Israel, that the people who rejected the higher law were placed under the lesser law and the lesser Priesthood. They did not have the benefit of those administrations which appertain to the higher or Melchisedek Priesthood, but were placed under "the law of carnal commandments." Moses, who held the keys of that higher authority, was taken away and with him the keys that he held, but there were individuals left who held that Priesthood, and there is no doubt that it was transmitted to others, and was held by the prophets who administered in the higher things of the kingdom, when the Lord revealed himself to them and gave them instructions.

It is evident from Sec. 182 of the Dot trine and Covenants that Nathan, and others of the prophets, officiated in the Melchisedek Priestbood, and that its power was made manifest in the Temple which Solomon was permitted to build. But Israel, as a nation, was under the Aaronic or lesser Priesthood, until Christ came and was called of God to be "a Priest after the order of Melchisedek. He restored the higher law of the Gospel, and called and ordained His apostles and placed upon them similar authority in the Priesthood to that which He held Himself. The Church which He established was pay for these homes and become indedelivered from the yoke of the lesser law and raised to the liberty and blessings of the higher.

In the restoration of the Clospel in the latter days, both Priesthoods-the Aaronic and the Melchisedek-were conferred upon the first Elders of the the money paid for the two women Church, and that authority has been | held captive by brigands. But some continued. The keys held by Moses | think this would be unjust to the were bestowed upon Joseph Smith, and have descended to his successors. This we hope will make the matter plain to | ion is based is chiefly this, that misour correspondent and to others inter- sionaries in foreign countries generally ested in the subject.

doing so, we have intended to treat the udges with that respect and regard to which they are entitled by reason of their exaited position, and we maintain that we have done so, not only by intent but in everything that we have expressed in these columns. Is not that sufficient?

THE IRRIGATION BILL.

body politie.

Representatives Ray of New York and Jenkins of Wisconsin, in their minority report on the Newlands bill for the irrigation of arid lands, characterevery proper means. The fight in its behalf has been vigorous and well susdent, unconstitutional, and "so expentained, and we hope and believe that it sive that the ordinary mind is stagwill gain a substantial victory. This gered at its mere contemplation." That will be achieved, even if the comprois strong language, but it is not argu mise suggested shall be the result. ment. The bill as we understand it SPEAKING WELL OF UTAH.

provides that the expenses for the reclamation of the arid lands shall come Mr. M. A. Breeden, the attorney genfrom the sales of public lands. Twenty eral of Utah, passed through Indianamillion acres, it is estimated, can be polis a few days ago. While there, it reclaimed in forty years, at the expense seems, he talked about conditions in of \$300,000,000. That does not look ex-Utah, and his words should have travagant. There is no ground for the weight with people outside the State, charge that robbery of the treasury is who necessarily must rely on testicontemplated. What is there, then, in mony for their information. Mr. Breethe proposition, to stagger the ordinary den is quoted by The Indianapolis Sun mind

of March 7, as follows: Senator Hansbrough, in the current "The Gentiles and Mormons are liv-National Magazine, calculates that the ing together in harmony as one people reclamation by the government of 20,-They have grown into close business and social relations, and the old ani-000,000 acres would mean the reclamation of an equal area by private entermosity is cherished only by fanatics prise. At a price of \$30 an acre, that expelled from the senate for polyga would add to the wealth of the nation \$1,290,000,060 in land alone, and as much which I was attorney. There have been practically no plural marriages since more in improvements, stock, manuthey were declared unlawful. The Mormons who contracted them before they were forbidden are supporting facturing enterprises and city and village property. It would give homes to ten million people where now the laudable, as it prevents their becoming coyote and the prairie dog hold uncontested possession. That fact alone "Woman suffrage is a success in Utah, its effect is seen in a higher morshould silence an opposition that seems

to have no other foundation than jealousy and prejudices. Some features of the bill may not be perfect. It has been pointed out, for

instance, that if the several states are Utah, who was the only Gentile on the given control over the distribution of State ticket elected at the last election, called on Attorney-General Taylor this the water, state polltigans may see to morning in company with J. W. Noel, o it that it is used for other purposes this city, whose wife is a niece of Mr than that of home-building. This is a Bri danger that should be averted. The chief point, however, is to have a measten said. ure passed that will set the great work Church. The Mormon men are still car of reclamation of land rolling. The posing for the women who were formerly their wives, and I think it is in the insible defects of any accepted bill will terest of good morals that they should do so. It would be wrong for the men to desert the women whom they had best appear when put into practical operation, and then public sentiment married and who are dependent upon may be relied on to suggest necessary changes. The West does not want great ranches watered at the expense ing cemented more closely all the time. They exchange visits and the old hard and fast line is no longer drawn. The of the country. What is wanted is the facility for making homes for farmers, and placing them in a position to

pendent citizens. CITIZENS BAVE BIGHTS.

The majority of the newspapers of this country take the view that Turkey. r Bulgaria, should be made to refund country held responsible.

The ground on which this latter opinpolygamy and the Mormons. Mr. Bree-den rays Heath changed the policy in are there against the wishes of the peo- | this regard, and one day published so

Senator Hoar is strongly opposed to prevail over that of the administration. the popular election of senators; and We are inclined, however, to think that so are many others. But it is in the a compromise on the 20 per cent basis air, it is upon the face of the waters offered by the reciprocity advocates. and some day it will doubtless be a would be a fair settlement of the disreality. The States would still have pute and would not be injurious to the their representation as now, and senbeet-sugar industry. The manufacture ators would be quite as free from popof sugar from beets in this country has ular excitement as now. Election o been demonstrated to be very profitsenators by the legislature does not able, and to be now in a position to do guarantee the choice of the best men. the country a vast amount of good. nor are such elections always free from Nothing ought to be permitted to stand in the way of its permanent success; improper and corrupt influence. but its growth should be encouraged by

The visit of Prince Henry to this country has directed attention to the fact that, according to the latest census figures, there are in this country 10.356.664 persons of foreign, nativity and of these not less than 2,666,990 are German born. This is the largest foreign born contingent. The Irish come

next with 1,618,567. The contingent from the three Scandinavian countries is said to amount to 1,061,309. The number of English born is placed at 842.078; Canadian, (English, Irish, Scotch, etc.), 785,958; Welsh, 93,682; French-Canadians, 395,297, and Scottish, 233,977. If, however, the English speaking foreign contingents are grouped together, they greatly preponderate. The total number is 3,480,580 of the ten mil-

llons classed as of foreign birth. VICTOR HUGO.

Worcester Spy.

But even Victor Hugo had limitations ind his garments smelt of the earth le was not perfect nor a paragon of dirtue. Even his majestic "faculty didid not always sweep the curve of its mighty orbit without what the astronomers call eccentricity. Not-vithstanding his defects however, which are merely spots on the sun. Hugo yas a luminary of the first magnitude. hining by his own light, and not the moon by light reflected other sources. In religion, the ike Jugo's place is among the radials-the men who are seeking reality careless of form and fearless of anything but a lie. For the person work of Jesus Christ Victor Hugo had the highest reverence and he beleved in God with all the earnestness of his soul.

New York Evening Sun. It is true that Victor Hugo was more or less involved in politics. He fell up, n evil days and evil tongues. He proested against the substitution of the yranny of Napoleon the Little for the iberty of the second republic. He lived o see his country rise out of the ashes of the great disaster and become once more glorious and free. But it is not Hugo the politician that is remembered officially throughout the length and readth of his country today, but Huge the lyric poet, the novelist and the ramatist

Baltimore Sun

Mormons and Gentiles are in business At no time was Hugo's genius needed together, too. For instance, I am a member of a company with Roberts more in France than in the years im-mediately preceding the trial of Drey-The poets of that period who were widely known and had the greatto was expelled from Congress on the The charge of polygamy. "All of the State officers are Repubst influence with the people were sli-nt. Prof. Ailier states that in these icans now except one of the supreme ourt judges. We carried the State by rom 1.200 to 2,300 majority.' ad years, when the friends of the uninto Drevfus were struggling-al "Mr. Breeden said the Mormons num-r about 40,000 more inhabitants than nost without hope, it seemed at times-o get justice for the prisoner of Devil's d, the sigh was heard on every "Oh, if Victor Hugo were here." cent of the Gentiles are Republicans and 75 per cent of the Mormons Demo-crats. Women vote in Utah. "The Salt Lake Tribune, which Perry We had the conviction," he writes that a single outburst from our great aid have checked the course of S. Heath bought a few months ago, was for many years the bitter enemy of vents before any evil issued.

Springfield Republican.

It is easy now to call Victor Hugo turgid and rhotorical, to laugh at the





