

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, - APRIL 3, 1900.

## NOTICE.

The Seventieth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at ten a. m., on Friday, April 6th, 1900.

LORENZO SNOW,  
GEORGE Q. CANNON,  
JOSEPH F. SMITH,  
First Presidency.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 3, 1900.

The semi-annual conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will convene at 7 o'clock p. m., on Sunday, April 8th, 1900, in the Tabernacle.

It is particularly desired that each Stake of Zion be represented at this meeting, and that the Stake superintendents, officers and teachers attending the General Conference of the Church be present.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,  
KARL G. MAESER,  
General Superintendency.

HORACE S. RNSIGN,  
General Secretary.

## A NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY.

President Lorenzo Snow reached his 85th year today. The vigor of mind and body displayed by this veteran in the service of the Lord and Apostles of the latter dispensation, is alike gratifying to the Latter-day Saints and encouraging to the cause of truth on the earth. All Israel rejoices over his continued health and influence, and the entire community unite in wishing him many happy birthdays, with renewed vitality and the constant inspiration of the Divine Spirit. God bless and prosper President Lorenzo Snow!

## AFTER THE CONFLICT.

The election returns show that Hon. Wm. H. King has been chosen again, by the majority of the people of this State, to represent Utah in the Congress of the United States. His plurality will be, on the official count, between 4,000 and 5,000.

The campaign has been vigorous and thorough. Every important point has been visited by the orators of the respective parties, and wit, eloquence, music and argument have been brought to bear to influence the voters and gain a victory. The result is decisive. It leaves no room for doubt or dispute as to the popular verdict. Explanations, of course, are now in order but they cut no figure in the denouement. They only serve to encourage the vanquished to greater efforts next time.

This conflict may be regarded as a preliminary skirmish, the big battle will occur at the fall election. For that the two great parties will, no doubt, begin to prepare after a brief rest, and Utah with the rest of the Union will be stirred to its depths by political strife.

The campaign just concluded has been comparatively quiet and impersonal. It seems almost impossible to entirely avoid references to opposing individuals and parties, that excite irritation and convey incorrect impressions. But these have been unusually infrequent, and the standard-bearer on either side has conceded the individual excellencies of his opponent. This is pleasing to the candid mind, and much better than the customary encounters.

The successful candidate for Congressman is recognized by all parties as a capable man, who will do honor to Utah as one of its native sons. He has already made his mark in the councils of the nation, as well as in the State which sends him again to Washington. The term for which he is elected is very short, and he will be with the minority in Congress. But his constituents will feel assured that all will be done in their interests that is possible, and that he will once more prove a worthy representative of the State.

His opponent is also a native son of Utah who has figured prominently in local affairs, and demonstrated his fidelity and integrity and also exhibited talents that commended him to his party and to the people of Utah, as one worthy of their confidence and support. He has not succeeded in gaining the preponderance of votes, but this does not reflect upon him in any way unfavorably, he still has the esteem of a host of friends and a position in which he is honored and trusted.

The State of Utah will continue to grow and flourish, no matter what political party may be in the ascendant. Its resources remain the same, and the skill and industry of its frugal and energetic people will develop them. The sun will shine and the waters will flow; the hills and rocks will increase; the crops will grow and the factories will run; the mines will produce their treasures and the material wealth of the State will multiply; while the educa-

tional, social and religious influences at work will not be diminished.

Let there be no asperities, even if there are some disappointments, over the result of the special election. The victors should not be too exultant, nor the vanquished be soured or despondent. If there have been spirited disputes during the struggle, let there now be peace. And while on some things we may "agree to differ," let us all unite to build up the State and promote the general welfare, as citizens of this splendid government and as live members of this prospering and irrepressible community.

## THE DANISH WEST INDIES.

The negotiations for the Danish West Indies seem to be going on favorably, although as yet no formal agreement has been reached by the two governments interested.

In Denmark the dominant political party seems to be opposed to the transfer, but the government is in favor of it, especially for the reason that it would relieve the finances of the country. On account of these colonies, it is claimed, the Danish government has incurred obligations to the amount of about \$4,000,000. It is desired to pay off this, with the purchase money. The American government has offered \$5,000,000, while \$4,500,000 have been asked. The difference, it is believed, will be overcome by some mutual agreement, in the near future, and if the United States government is willing to give some guarantee that the sale will be ratified by the Senate and the money appropriated without unreasonable delay, the transfer will probably be agreed to, notwithstanding the opposition it has met in Denmark.

France, it is asserted, is willing to see the islands pass to the United States. Some time ago some French leading statesmen looked with jealousy upon any attempt of this country to expand in that direction. There was a suspicion that United States agents were trying to foment a revolution in French possessions for the purpose of finding an excuse for interference. But now the French foreign office has formally announced that it will not assert its right to object to the acquisition of the islands. What those rights are, does not appear, but it is evident that reasons have been found why they should not be insisted on, and that is the main point.

With the Dannebrog removed from this hemisphere, only three European powers—England, France, and Holland—retain any possessions here. It looks as if they all were destined in due time to give up their American holdings. It looks as if destiny had written across this continent in flaming letters the principles of which the American flag is a symbol, and that the writing is still going on. It may be objected to, but to no purpose. It would create no surprise, if after the Indian Indies negotiations were entered into with Holland, and later with France for some similar transfer.

## THAT WAR TAX.

Tumor has it that President McKinley intends sending to Congress a special message with a recommendation that the war revenue taxes be reduced. The country has for a long time been waiting for some such action, and if it comes it will no doubt cause Congress to act at once.

It is understood that the war in the Philippines is really over, and that the duty now devolving upon the authorities there is merely to guard lives and property against the possible assaults of small bands of outlaws. It should not take a special war revenue tax to meet that emergency. The receipts of the government are now so much in excess of the expenditures that the taxes needed while the country had a real war on its hands, can no longer be considered a necessity.

It is claimed that the treasury officials now, in order to avoid a troublesome surplus of money, are depositing large sums with banks that pay nothing for the use of the money, to the government. If this is true, it is time to abolish the special war tax. If no rational reason can be given for its continuance, Congress should not adjourn before having removed that burden from the people.

## THE ECUMENICAL CONGRESS.

Great interest is being manifested in religious circles in the so-called ecumenical conference on missions, to be held in New York and commencing on the 21st of this month. It is expected that two thousand delegates, representing every country on earth, will be present, and among them will be eminent missionaries, educators and statesmen.

The program has now been perfected. It embraces no less than sixty different sessions during the week of conference, and among the topics to be considered are the outlook and demands for the coming century; the relation of foreign missions to social progress and the peace of the world; problems in the relations of missions to governments; the Bible, its translation, distribution, etc.

Among the announced speakers are Canon Edmonds, Eugene Stock, Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, and others from abroad; from this country President James B. Angell, President John Henry Harrows, Dr. William H. Thompson, Dr. George F. Pentecost, President Samuel B. Capen and President Charles Cuthbert Hall; while the missionary force will be represented by Dr. Jacob Chamberlain, the Rev. John Q. Patton, Bishop J. M. Thoburn, Dr. William Ashmore, and others. Ex-President Harrison, it is expected, will preside over the conference, and President McKinley and ex-President Cleveland will preside over some of the sessions.

The idea of holding an ecumenical conference on missions is not new. The first one was held at Midway in England in 1878. Ten years later one was held in London. It has been supposed that the effect of these conferences was to increase materially the cash contributions to the missionary fund, and a similar effect is expected from the gathering in New York.

It is a known fact that during the last ten years interest in missions has not increased in the so-called Christian world. Missions have not been benefited by the spread of "higher

criticism," the frequency of heresy trials, and the evolution of religious associations into social clubs with candy pulls and chicken dinners. Nor has the fact that missionaries have too often proved themselves the forerunners of armies of occupation aided the cause. Now it is hoped the gathering of people interested in the work, will help revive the spirit of missions. With what result remains to be seen.

Never before in the history of ecclesiastical activity has there been so widespread a desire for union of forces. Denominationalism is becoming less popular all the time. It seems to be forgotten that its existence is a tangible proof that once upon a time people earnestly searched for truth, though unable to find any more than small portions of it. Now the demand is for union of effort, even at the cost of truth, under the impression that some truth is but unimportant and non-essential and that by unity, without regard for truth or error in the make-up, greater results can be obtained.

It is now a common notion that if "sectarianism" could be done away with, the "churches" would be more prosperous. This is the idea of the promoters of the Evangelical Alliance. And yet none of the denominations are more successful, from the point of view of the propaganda, than the Roman church, which refuses to fellowship any other denomination. What a lesson this should be to those who regard "sectarianism" as a cause of decay instead of as a symptom of a condition to which the decay can be traced.

For the "Christian" world there is no other remedy than that suggested in the word of Revelation to the Church at Ephesus: "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place." A conference for the purpose of considering the needed measures of reform on this line would, it seems to us, be one of the urgent needs of the present.

## JOUBERT'S SUCCESSOR.

Very little is known of General Botha, the successor of General Joubert. He is a young man and whatever reputation he has, he has gained in the present conflict.

He directed personally the attack on the British that had entrenched themselves on Spion Kop. Those that have met him speak in highest terms of admiration, not only of his personal qualities but also of his remarkable aptitude for the leadership to which he has been assigned.

It is more than likely that the war will develop characters of rare military genius. Generals are not created in military academies, but on the field. Delarey has won laurels around Jacobsdal and Schalkenberg on the Tugela, and now Olivier seems to have performed the biggest feat of the entire war, by marching past the entire British army with a train of supplies, which would have fallen into the hands of the enemy, had the attempt to intercept it been successful. Such a movement could not have been executed except by a genius succeeding both in organizing and leading his own men and in consistently deceiving the enemy as to the whereabouts of his train. The expectation is justified that Botha and his subordinates will be heard from in the campaign that seems to be in preparation.

The brick trust in Chicago has increased its stock nearly 50,000 per cent. There must have been a whole lake used in that watering.

A new millionaire match maker has started out to fight the Diamond Match company, known as the trust. About the biggest thing the two are likely to strike is a bargain between themselves to control the market.

The secretary of the treasury recommends an appropriation of half a million dollars to fight the plague. Evidently the official named feels that there is imminent peril of the disease reaching this country.

The Chicago board of education is complaining at school teachers who do not have a fair understanding of how to speak, write or spell English correctly. The cause of complaint is not confined to Chicago school teachers.

Queen Victoria is in Ireland, having arrived there this afternoon. She will probably find an enthusiastic greeting during her stay as she would meet in any part of England, notwithstanding extensive Irish hostility against the British government.

The Boers seem to have a real earl. He is not one of their own making, but an English aristocrat, the Earl of Rosslyn, who took the risky assignment of endeavoring to represent a London newspaper within the zone of hostilities.

"The execution of two Filipinos for the murder of a countryman will have a good effect upon the natives of the Philippines," says a contemporary. During Spanish rule, there was no lack of executions, but the good effects? Has anybody heard of them?

Prof. Agassiz says the Darwin theory regarding the formation of coral reefs is untenable. Now if Prof. Agassiz will give the facts on which he bases his deduction, he will find the English-speaking public a decidedly interested audience.

If the disaster to Col. Broadwood's division had occurred previous to Cronje's surrender at Paardeberg, there would have been a broken reputation for another British general; but the earlier notable success serves as a sort of covering for the later military blunder.

The report of Col. Hare of the Twenty-third infantry, U. S. A., is a graphic account of the work necessary to suppress Filipino brigands. The account shows that preserving order in the Philippines is decidedly difficult business, aside from any influence of Aguinaldo's rebellion on the state of affairs there.

Prof. Frederick Starr ought to be a reliable authority for discoveries in Mexico, and when he says that Indians have had no association with and are little known by white men have books in their own language, he men-

tions a most important feature on which the civilized world should be given positive information in detail, since a discovery of that kind would have a remarkable bearing on the study of ancient America.

The Boers kept in British prison ships at Capetown must be dying off fast, since a censored dispatch says the mortality among them has become so alarming to the British that the removal to the mainland of those not sent to St. Helena is contemplated. If the news of this great death rate reaches the Boers, future surrenders are likely to be few and far between, since death, if it must come, is preferable on the vessel rather than in an English prison.

The readers of Woman's Exponent will find in the current number several interesting features, among which are papers on the Revolution of 1776 and Thomas Jefferson, by Mabel Snow and Annie W. Cannon respectively. The notes on "The Rise of the Relief Society," by M. A. W. Pratt, and "The New State," by C. A. S. Young, are also notable. The number contains, besides, reports of meetings, editorial comments and notes and poetic contributions by well known writers. It is a good number.

The story that an American military attaché, Capt. Carl Reichman, was in command of the Boers who beat Col. Broadwood at Bushman's Kop on Saturday is all the more improbable from the fact that Capt. Reichman is too new an arrival in South Africa to be given such an important post, even if he had left the United States service. Leaving this country on Jan. 5, it would not have been possible for him to have secured two months' experience among the Boers up to the present time. He may have been along with the Boer force which made the attack, and may have given advice, but the probability is that the attacking party was under the command of the Boer General Grobelaar, who is known as a capable officer in laying plans for ambushes.

## THE AFRICAN WAR.

Boston Herald.

The British are making better progress with the war in London than in South Africa. Military experts in London are talking about the capture of Pretoria as likely to occur by the middle of May. They take their cue, perhaps, from Lord Roberts, who is said to have set May 15 as the date on which Lord Roberts will enter the Transvaal capital in triumph. That is only seven weeks from today, and the calculation seems very accurate for the work. No doubt much can be accomplished in seven weeks. The Prussians, for example, brought the Austrian empire to shipwreck in the memorable conflict known as the Seven Weeks' war, but then, the Prussians had a motive to lead them, and the Austrians were covered by a single crushing defeat. The Boers, we fancy, will not be so easily disposed of.

## New York Mail and Express.

Even the London papers are now frankly conceding that the number of Boers opposing the British forces in the Transvaal has been greatly over-estimated, and that Cecil Rhodes was near to the right figure when he put the aggregate at 30,000, and got roundly abused for so doing. Military experts figure that not over 15,000 Boers are massed in front of Lord Roberts, who, on that basis, has more than four men to one. It is not to be forgotten, however, that the advantage of position which the Boers have thus far had has counted for more than men, particularly in view of the manner of attack which the British generals persisted in at the sacrifice of men and victory.

## New York World.

Lord Roberts is pausing in the "promenade to Pretoria" for two reasons. First, to insure his lines of communication—a single railroad running through 200 miles of hostile country and called upon to supply 100,000 men with food and all other necessities; second, to assemble Bloemfontein as a base by accumulating there enough supplies for his aggressive army of 50,000 men to prevent disaster through a temporary break in his line between Bloemfontein and Cape Colony. These are gigantic tasks, yet they are but preliminary to the real task. For Pretoria lies 300 miles north of Bloemfontein, and even then is about as difficult a military country as there is in the world. Lord Roberts will be almost wholly dependent upon the little railroad. The further he goes the greater will be his difficulties.

## Kansas City Star.

The war in South Africa seems to have assumed a shape which even the military experts may not be able to elucidate. Lord Roberts preserves a quietude, which had been maintained by any of his predecessors, would have driven the London press to frenzy. The activity of the Boers appear to be confined to moving back to another line of defense, which the British do not seem to mind. The Boers are to be commended for their ability to prevent a body of 400 Boers are reported to have started to cut the railway communications of the British, but in a war of such magnitude it would not seem that operations by as small parties as 400 men would cut any figure in affecting final results.

## Baltimore Sun.

During the lull in the Anglo-Boer war it is timely to observe that the larger part of General Roberts' job is still before him, if regard be had to the area yet to be subdued. At Bloemfontein he has most or less under his control, but one-third of the Orange Free State and two-thirds of the Orange Free State of the Transvaal and Cape Colony are still under Boer control. Many of the Free States have abandoned the field—for a time at least—but the greater number of them and all of the Transvaalers, with recruits from Cape Colony, still uphold the Boer cause.

## San Francisco Chronicle.

The British armies are at a standstill. The winter is approaching and re-equipment for a campaign under new conditions is necessary. There is evidently a serious hitch in the British program. The situation has become suddenly grave, for the outposts of the reorganized Boer army has moved to within fifteen miles of Bloemfontein and the British headquarters is threatened. "Little Boats" has so far escaped criticism; but he is evidently expecting it and has taken time for the forelock to ward it off, if possible, through the statements of friendly correspondents and to prepare the English people for news of a more serious order which may follow.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In the Improvement Era for April, Prof. J. B. Paul has an article, to be continued in the next number, in which he compares the so-called orthodox view to that of the Latter-day Saints on "The Kingdom of Heaven." This is followed by "A Ride on the 'Empire State Express,'" by George E. Hill. The second part of Neph Anderson's story, "For the Salvation of Souls," is

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given in this number. Among the "Collection of Anecdotes" is one entitled, "Memories of the Past—Reflections on the Fall of Napoleon," by Jesse N. Smith. "Be Not Discouraged" is a timely word to missionaries, by Elder W. W. Cluff, president of the Summit Stake. C. R. Savage describes in his felicitous vein "A Trip South With President Young in 1870." "Silent Forces" is from the pen of Henry W. Naisbitt, and Prof. Willard Dore continues his treatise on "Theology in Education." A particularly interesting contribution to the Era is "The Manuscript Found," by President Joseph F. Smith. John Jacques, assistant Church historian, continues his article on "The Life and Labors of Sidney Rigdon," and Prof. J. M. Tanner writes about "The South African War." Besides these articles, all of which are both entertaining and instructive, there are choice pieces of poetry, editorial notes, a review of the events of the month, and so on. For the May number an article entitled, "Can We Forget?" by Dr. J. E. Talmage, is announced.—Templeton Building, Salt Lake City.

McClure's Magazine for April has an interesting account of the interior of China, written by Mr. W. B. Parsons, from observations made on his own journey, and illustrated from photographs taken by him; the account of Professor Huxley's life in London between his twenty-sixth and thirtieth year, when he was having a terrific struggle to maintain himself by purely scientific work, and the account of the Russian ship Ermack, the new ice-breaker, are articles of the highest value. Another interesting article is that of Walter Wellman on his experience in the Arctic regions. Further, the number offers two poems, a heroic story of railroad and Indian fighting on the Plains, a story of English prison life, a story of American newspaper and political life, a love story, and a humorous story by Robert Barr of "a scientific miscalculation."—New York.

Among the contents of the April Forum, we notice an interesting article on Zionism, written by M. Gaster, the founder of that movement in Great Britain. He states clearly the aims and objects of Zionism and endeavors to correct some misunderstandings that seem to prevail. Frank A. Vanderlip writes about "The New Financial Law," and Albert J. Hopkins of the "Puerto Rican Relief Bill." "Russia's Lien on Persia" is the subject of an article by Truxton Beale, and James Gustavus Whitely takes up "The Hay-Pauncefote Treaty." These are a few samples of a well selected list of contents that fills this excellent magazine.—Forum Publishing Co., New York.

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