

## DESERT EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 19, 1908

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-ninth annual, general Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Saturday, April 4, 1908, at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members is hereby requested.

The general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Saturday, April 4, at 7 o'clock p. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

JOHN R. WINDER,

ANTHONY H. LUND,

First Presidency.

The annual conference of the Sunday School Union will be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday, April 5, at 7 o'clock p. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

General Superintendent.

## CHANGE OF FASTDAY.

The first Sunday of April being Conference Sunday, it is suggested that Sunday, March 23, be observed as a fast day in Salt Lake, Ensign, Liberty, Pioneer, Jordan, Granite and Davis Stakes, and any other Stake in which the Stake authorities find that the regular fastday services are interfered with by the General Conference.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

JOHN R. WINDER,

ANTHONY H. LUND,

First Presidency.

## RELIEF SOCIETY CONFERENCE.

The April conference of the General Relief Society will be held in the Salt Lake Assembly hall in this city, meetings commencing on Thursday, April 2, 1908, at 10 a. m., and at 2 p. m., and on Friday, April 3, at the same place and the same hours, two sessions each day. All officers and members of the society are earnestly requested to be present. The Young Ladies and Primary associations are also included in this invitation. Presiding authorities of the Church, bishops and brethren interested in Relief Society work will be most welcome.

BATHSHEBA W. SMITH,

President.

ANNIE TAYLOR HYDE,

IDA SMOOT DUSENBERRY,

Counselors.

## THAT INSURANCE RATE.

The American party organ hastens to the defense of the management of the fire department. It informs its readers, in substance, that there is not any inefficiency but that the higher insurance rate paid here is due to a determination of the directors of the insurance companies to have a fire chief in Salt Lake, who will pay titling! Was there ever a more idiotic plea heard outside a lunatic asylum? What is the rate at which that organ estimates the intelligence of its readers, when it dares to offer them such "hunks" for mental refreshment?

The facts, as related to us, are that the Mayor, during a visit to the coast approached the representatives of insurance companies to ascertain whether lower rates could not be obtained, and that he was told that a reduction of 25 per cent could be had, if the City administration would take the department out of politics and place it on a business basis. The Mayor, we are told, came home determined to exercise his influence for the benefit of the public in this matter, but he made the mistake of submitting the question to a caucus of "American" party dictators, and that was the end of it. The said dictators virtually told the Mayor: "The people be —"

This, we say, is the story, as it has come to this office. The "American" administration are exacting, with the keen appreciation of a Shylock of the technicalities of the bond, every cent they can from the business men. Licenses have been raised, in some instances as much as from 25 to 30 per cent, though business has fallen off. They are figuring on higher taxes and higher water rates, and they are talking about asking the City to authorize them to issue another half a million dollars in bonds, thereby still further adding to the burdens of taxation. But when the Mayor suggests, as we are told he has done, that the fire department be placed on a business basis so that the insurance rates can be reduced a little, their only answer is, "The people be —"

But what can be expected as long as the party is dominated by dictators who need some money for legitimate purposes and more for the reward of party promoters? What can be expected from an aggregation held together by a creed of which graft is the first principle? But how does the management, viewed from a business standpoint, strike the business men of this City?

## THE WORLD OF BUSINESS.

Trade seems to be but little affected in this city, notwithstanding the general depression in the country at large. There is said to be rather light buying, however, in commodities not strictly staples. Building, on the other hand, promises to keep up well,

perhaps because of the large contracts for last year for buildings not yet completed on inside business property. San Francisco, of course, continues to build, and as a result seems to be very prosperous. The reason is that building necessities continue to require the expenditure of large sums of money and the rates of interest are such as to attract it. This money is distributed among working people and contractors and will prevent any such depression as exists in Eastern manufacturing centers. To a large extent this is true of all parts of Utah as well as of California, for there are not opportunities for investment on an important scale which are certain to prove satisfactory and profitable. The depression at the East is affecting and will continue to affect the prices of most of our shipments, but the outlook for winter growing crops is as good as it has been in any recent year.

Current statistics confirm the belief that a substantial trade reaction is under way in Europe. The decline in the average of commodity prices is one evidence. Bankers' check clearings at London for the past nine weeks are down \$209,000,000 from 1907, or fully 8 per cent. Aggregate traffic returns of British railways for the period show decrease of a quarter of a million sterling in receipts from goods transported, as against an increase of \$309,000, in last year's returns at this time.

Germany, which has just reported on its foreign trade for January, showed imports of 3,644,000 tons, against 4,194,000 in 1907 and 4,578,000 in 1906. Exports, too, are reduced in quantity, falling to 3,168,000 tons, as against 3,261,000 in January of last year and 3,611,000 the year before. Traffic through the Suez Canal in January and February shows a decline of 92 ships from the same months in 1907, and even tonnage tolls are down \$50,000.

According to the London Economist, the average prices of commodities there declined at the beginning of March to a total value rated at 2,266 points as against 2,309, a month ago.

The March 1 index number indicates a 13 per cent. decline from June 1 in cost of living, the index number then having been 2,601, the highest of any month or year since 1876. In the middle of 1897 the number was 1,885, low record for fifty years; from then until last June the advance was almost continuous.

Since the London market quotations practically rule the world of business, it would seem that prices everywhere are tending downward. The present prices there are the lowest since 1905, which were given at 2,146. The lowest price period in London, which preceded our own by several months, was in March, 1901, rated at 1,979 points, or 287 points lower than the present range of prices.

It is said that a unique factor is likely to determine the course of prices in the immediate future. This is a case now before the railway commission, by which it will be determined whether two of our leading railways, the Great Northern and Great Central, which serve similar districts in the country, are to be allowed to enter into a scheme which to all intents and purposes is an amalgamation, the object being to effect economies in working. The scheme is being opposed by the other railways, and on the outcome of the issue much will depend, for until money has become permanently cheaper the present yield from English railway stocks is not considered sufficiently attractive to warrant higher prices than those now prevailing.

Business is closely related and its interests are interdependent the world over. Whatever affects one part of the world has its bearing upon all. Prosperity in any country is an aid to the business of all other countries; while war, depression, famine, calamity, etc. in any part of the world, while it may create a temporary market for some lines of business, is sure in the end to affect in an adverse way every other country with which it deals.

Thus it comes about, in a roundabout way, that the good of each country is the good of all; and that the calamity of one signifies disaster or retrogression to others.

## PARTIAL JUSTICE.

A somewhat peculiar case is reported by the Bisbee, Arizona, Daily Review of March 10. It seems that a married man was alleged to have taken a married woman, not his wife, to a hotel in Arizona and engaged a room where drinks were served, and that the couple occupied the same bed. The report in the paper mentioned says:

"In accordance with the motion communicated to United States Commissioner Stanford a few days ago by J. L. B. Alexander, United States attorney for Arizona, the case against Mrs. Mary Stanaway, in which the defendant was charged with a violation of the Edmunds act, was dismissed in the federal court when it came up for hearing yesterday morning, and a copy of the prosecuting attorney's letter was filed as a part of the court record, and great surprise was then expressed. After stating in the opening portion of his letter to the commissioner that he had come to the conclusion that there was an ulterior motive on the part of the complainants, because of the fact that they were residents of Bisbee instead of Tucson, where the offense is alleged to have been committed, Alexander goes on to explain his understanding of the law.

"The peculiar construction placed on the law by the United States district attorney in which he practically says that he will prosecute no one under it unless they are of Mormon faith or the facts in the case are notorious, is best shown in his own language, which is as follows:

"As I understand the purpose of the Edmunds-Tucker act, it was enacted by Congress primarily for the purpose of suppressing the practices of the sect known as the Mormons in the territories of the United States. However, the law is general in its terms and is applicable to Gentiles as well as to Mormons. With that view of the purpose of the statute, I have hesitated and in many instances have refused to take up violations of this act on the part of citizens of the Territory who are not of the Mormon faith, except in cases where the decency of the community in which said violations occur has been outraged, or where the cases are flagrant and notorious and the local officers of the communities in which these

offenses occur have wilfully neglected to prosecute these cases under the territorial statute, and being of the opinion that the present case does not fall within the exception above stated and that no one is complaining of the act where the same is alleged to have been committed, but if the act was committed at all, it was done secretly and committed but once, I feel that the government should not be called upon to prosecute it, and thereby entail expense in its prosecution."

"Giving these as his reasons, the United States district attorney requested that the case against Mrs. Mary Stanaway and D. W. Semple be dismissed without even a preliminary hearing."

We do not care to comment on the foregoing. The sum and substance of the opinion is that, if the defendants had been "Mormons" they would have been prosecuted, but since they were not "Mormons" there was no necessity of putting the government to the expense of prosecution. That has been, and is now, the sentiment among a certain class of leading anti-"Mormons," and the letter of the Attorney is but an official expression of that sentiment. Years ago citizens of Utah were required to subscribe to a test oath, part of which was: "That I have not lived or cohabited with more than one woman in THE MARRIAGE RELATION." The corruptionist and the libertine could take that test oath. They did take it. Anti-"Mormonism" is not a fight for morality though, like a peacock, it at times strikes very imposing attitudes. It never meant to interfere with a temporary liaison like that reported by the Bisbee Review.

## LEARN TO SING.

Those who think they cannot learn to sing may take courage. Recent experiments at the Smith College for girls show that no girl, at least, has yet been found who could not learn to vocalize to notes.

The procedure is to invite all who are silent in the chapel services, or who fail to join in the jolly college songs to join the "tone deaf" class.

About a dozen of these voiceless maidens are grouped for the ordeal of the first lesson, with all the tremors of a baby at its first steps. A blushing girl is called upon. A note is given on the piano or violin, and she is asked to listen intently, then to try to form a mental picture of the tone, then to make an effort to repeat it, then to tell whether she has struck the note correctly or not. While a few are so tone dull that it is long before they can tell whether their effort to repeat the note is sharp or flat, the majority make considerable progress in eight lessons as the result of this simple concentration on tone.

The blame for failure to sing is attributed by Professor Sleeper largely to parents, who fail to encourage singing at home, and often ridicule the attempts of their children. Graduates of many private schools have never had singing instruction. Children from good public schools usually have had good musical training, but country schools are often remiss.

The professor advocates simple and romantic melodies for college songs, and regrets the fact that American life misses no little sentiment and gaiety from the lack of classic and popular airs. No two young people learn the same popular songs, and American groups are song-dumb because nobody can think of anything fun, "liar enough for everyone to sing.

Is it to appear that Mr. Alexander is a mollycoddle?

With the proposed "Railroad Party" in the field, the political situation of the country would assume a more lively aspect at least.

Honduras is catching the fever to stride forward. A recent election was noteworthy for steps taken to secure a constitutional government.

The Hayti trouble has blown over almost as soon as it started and peace for the foreign element in the little republic now seems assured.

When it comes to the fast pace, the American car is showing that the Yankees will come under the wire a winner even against the French.

Mr. Lilly seems to be getting into deeper water than the submarine ever went; but he gives signs of rising to the top and firing his projectiles of proof into the enemy's quarters.

Berlin dispatches say nine policemen were injured in a suffragette demonstration yesterday. The fact that forty-seven arrests were made shows that although the women made a good physical showing, the law still has an advantage.

Mr. Forgan thinks Mr. La Follette handles the truth recklessly. The expressed views of Mr. La Follette regarding bankers of great wealth might be summed up in similar words. To use a tennis phrase, the proposition seems to be "fifteen love."

If the police department were all Bileys maybe the jail would have to be enlarged, but it's pretty hard on a political party when the district in which its boss lives has to employ a special officer to maintain peace and quiet and keep thieves moving.

## A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

(For the "News" by H. J. Hagood.)  
The proper use of the English language is an asset indispensable to the men who would secure a high grade position. Good grammar is not a necessary factor to the success of a gambler, a second-story man or a pickpocket, but if you want to hold down a first class job you must be able to know as much about your mother tongue as you do about the business in general. When Kid Burns, that characteristic creation of George M. Cohan's says "I ain't got no half-Nelson on Webster," he thoroughly characterizes the man who expects to win by luck, but when it comes down to winning success on your own merits one must be able to not only have a "half-Nelson on Webster," but also a pretty good stranglehold on everything from "Paradise Lost" up to and including

the current issue of the most up-to-date magazine.

Other things being equal, a well-bred man with the power to speak clear, forceful English is the man who is given the preference every time. The salesman who shows you a first-class line of samples and describes the same in terms of "I done it" and "I seen it" is not apt to make a favorable impression. Big words are as much of an abomination as bad grammar, and the wise employer hires the man with the right kind of talk.

## MEND HOT WATER BAGS.

Chicago Tribune.  
For years I have thrown away hot water bags that had only a tiny break in the rubber; but I found by applying several coats of liquid court plaster and letting each coat dry before applying the next it will prolong their usefulness. The court plaster is water proof and the hot water will not melt it.

## THE FROLIC.

New York Evening Sun.  
Admiral Evans's statement that the fleet was ready for "a light or a frolic" is already demonstrated to have been superfluous. The only problem confronting the crews of the battleships is whether or not they will be able to stand the hospitality of the cities that are to be visited on the journey around the globe. California is camped out on the water front against the arrival of the armada. Australia is preparing to make the visit one long holiday. Japan is ready to risk the national credit in order to dine and wine the sailors. By the time that Mediterranean waters are reached our tars will be longing for the rest of the Atlantic voyage.

## ANARCHISTS A BAFFLING PROBLEM.

Philadelphia Record.  
It is quite impossible to keep an anarchist out of the country as it is to keep bacilli out of milk. The anarchist does not bring his anarchy hither in his hand-bag or wear it anywhere on the outside of his anatomy. He has it secretly bestowed inside of him in his disordered mind. The professional mouthing anarchists who make the preaching of anarchism an occupation and a means of livelihood can be dealt with; but the wretches who strike first and talk afterward, if they talk at all, furnish one of the most baffling problems with which civilized society has to deal.

## CHINA AND JAPAN.

New York Evening Post.  
China's negotiations with Japan over the seizure of the Tatsu with a cargo of arms consigned to revolutionary supporters in Canton, are turning in favor of the Peking government. Chinese diplomacy has always possessed a peculiar advantage in the looseness of control exercised by the central government over the provincial authorities. With viceroys possessing semi-independent power, dilatoriness and evasion on the part of the Chinese foreign office could always find a fair measure of excuse. Only a very determined onset by a combination of European powers was effective in bringing the imperial government to time in the days before the Boxer uprising. In the present instance, however, Chinese diplomacy has on its side what is, after all, the important advantage of a good cause. The importation of arms into the empire has been forbidden by various treaties since the Boxer uprising. There seems no doubt that the arms were destined for the use of Chinese insurgents. The government, finally, is positive in its assertion that the seizure of the Tatsu was

## JUST FOR FUN.

The Run Keeps Afoot.  
The shoemaker should be awl to the good.—Philadelphia Record.  
In short, the sole of honor.—Troy Press.  
To the very last.—Buffalo Times.

## Frank.

"Before you marry my daughter," said the stern parent, "I must be assured that you can support her."  
"I'll do my best, sir," answered the prospective son-in-law, but, of course, that will depend on how much you are willing to pay me to take her off your hands."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

## It Did.

Waiter (who has just served up some soup)—Looks uncommonly like rain, sir.

Diner—Yes, by jove, and tastes like it, too! Bring me some thick soup.—Tattler.

## His Only Chance.

Anxious Mother—Oh, professor, don't you think my dear little Reginald will ever learn to draw?

Prof. Crayon—No, madam; not unless you harness him up to a truck.—Comic Cuts.

## Proved by the Suit.

"Why is she getting a divorce?"  
"On the grounds of misrepresentation. She says that before they were married he claimed to be well off."

"And what does he say?"  
"He says he was, but didn't know it."—Lippincott's.

SALT THEATRE. GEO. D. PYPHER, MANAGER. CURTAIN & CO.

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Every Evening (except Sunday), \$14, 75c, 50c, 25c, Box seats, \$1.00. Matinee daily (except Sunday and Monday), 2:15, 50c, 25c, 10c. Box seats, 75c.

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## TONIGHT!

Prices 25, 35 and 50 cents. See THEODORE LORCH AS WAH SING IN

"KING OF THE OPIUM RING" (A glimpse of Frisco's "Chinatown.") Matinee Saturday.

Next Week—"The Man Monkey or His Terrible Secret."

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## TONIGHT.

Zinn's Musical Comedy Co.

Including the Famous Zinn's 16-DANCING GIRLS—in the Musical Privilege

"TEEZY WEEZY!" Evening prices, 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c. Matinee Wednesday and Saturday. All seats reserved 25c.

Week commencing Monday March 23, "Oh! YVETTE" from the comic opera Olivette.

## READ THE

Theatre Magazine

For Theatrical News And Stage Pictures.

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