

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED)

Center of South Temple and East Temple Streets Salt Lake City, Utah

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Hiram G. Whitney, Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES	
One Year	\$5.00
Six Months	2.50
Three Months	1.25
One Month	.75
One Week	.25
Sunday edition, per year	2.00
Semi-Weekly	2.00

EASTERN OFFICE
310-312 Times Building, New York City. In charge of H. F. Cummings, Manager Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office.

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

SALT LAKE CITY, - NOV. 1, 1901.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

To the Officers and Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:

Dear Brethren and Sisters—Agreeable with the decision of the Council of Apostles at their regular meeting Thursday, Oct. 17, we hereby call a general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to be held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Sunday, the 10th of November, next, at 10 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of voting upon the Church authorities.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHON H. LUND,
First Presidency.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS.

Notices of appointments made by the First Presidency and Apostles at their council meeting on Thursday, will be found in another part of this issue of the "News."

It will be gratifying to the ladies of the Relief Society to learn that one of the original members of that body, as organized by the Prophet Joseph Smith, has been selected to preside over the societies in all the world. Mrs. Bathsheba W. Smith, widow of the late President of the Church, is known in every part of Zion as a faithful Latter-day Saint and a diligent worker in the cause of woman. She will, without doubt, receive the cordial support of her sisters in the Church, and the nomination will be unanimously sustained.

Elder Ephraim H. Nye, who has been appointed to preside over the Eastern States Mission, has had long experience in the missionary field. He performed a splendid work while on his mission to England many years ago, and but recently returned from presiding over the California Mission. He is a good public speaker, understands how to direct the labors of brethren placed under his supervision, and is earnestly devoted to Gospel work and the building up of the Latter-day kingdom.

Elder Asahel H. Woodruff, son of the late President Wilford Woodruff, who has been appointed to preside over the Northwestern States Mission, is a man of sterling integrity and of firm faith in the divinity of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He performed a successful mission in Great Britain about sixteen years ago, and was diligent and trustworthy in the ministry. Since his return he has been engaged chiefly in business pursuits, but has been ready at all times to enter upon Church labors wherever his talents were required. He is eminently fitted for the task that lies before him, although of a retiring disposition and unobtrusive of appearing in prominent positions.

These appointments, with those previously made by the General Church authorities, are viewed by the body of the Church, so far as we have been able to learn, with great pleasure. The life and force and promptness that have been manifest in filling up vacancies, and in choosing persons to fill positions requiring the services of active minds, are viewed by the Saints with gratitude and delight. The prospects before the Church are of the most promising character, and that the Lord is with His servants, is evident to all who are in fellowship with the spirit and progress of the Church and Kingdom of God.

THE RURAL DELIVERY SYSTEM.

The rural free delivery system, established by the Post Office Department of the United States, the benefits of which have been extended to the suburbs of Salt Lake City, is of very great value to people living outside of city limits, within which the regular postal delivery is in operation. Instead of traveling considerable distances to obtain their mail at post offices, it is carried daily to their residences, or to boxes established at designated points, and they may also post letters in collection boxes, which will be conveyed by carriers to the post offices for which they act.

Rural carriers who deliver and collect mails, also take with them a supply of stamped envelopes and postal cards for the convenience of the public, and may register letters and packages and also receive money or money orders under regulations imposed by the post office department. These carriers may also act as news agents and deliver papers and periodicals under the rules established.

In order to obtain a rural free delivery in any district or section of the country, a petition must be prepared, addressed in the form given below, and setting forth the nature of the country where the delivery is desired, whether densely or sparsely populated, the principal occupations of the people, the character of the roads, and the distances which, under existing conditions, each person has to travel to receive his mail, and accompanied by a map or plat indicating the route proposed. This is the form of the petition:

To the First Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.:
The undersigned heads of families, residing in _____ county, state of _____ respectfully ask that the rural free-delivery service be extended to them, the

delivery to start from _____ post office, _____ county, _____ state, or such other point as the officers of the department may deem best adapted for the service. A map or rough sketch of the proposed route is herewith inclosed. Your petitioners are mostly _____ state occupations, such as _____ farmers, truck gardeners, dairymen, cattle raisers, or whatever the chief occupation of the people may be. The roads over the proposed route are (state whether plowed, gravelled, or otherwise).

There are no unbridged creeks and the roads are passable at all seasons of the year.

We agree to conform to the official regulations governing the service, and to erect boxes which have been approved by the department, for the reception of our mail.

This petition should be signed by the heads of families desiring the free delivery, stating the number in each family over sixteen years of age, and the distance in miles from the nearest post-office. When thus prepared it should be sent to the Representative in Congress, or one of the Senators, with a request for his endorsement and that he then forward it to the postoffice department. We are informed that Senator Thomas Kearns is interested in promoting this accommodation to the people of Utah, and is willing and ready to aid them in securing its advantages.

Honorable Arthur L. Thomas, postmaster of Salt Lake City, has done much toward the extension of the rural free delivery to places adjacent to this city. We have no doubt that he will give further information to those who desire it in regard to this important matter. The service already established works well, and we are sure that its establishment in many places in Utah, suitable for its operations, will prove of inestimable benefit.

THAT SOUTHERN STORM.

The storm raised in the South by the action of President Roosevelt in inviting Booker T. Washington to dinner at the White House, cannot be accounted for without taking into consideration the inveterate prejudice that refuses almost to recognize in a colored man, a human being. The outcry could not have been louder, had the President of the United States been found fraternizing with dogs or hogs, instead of with a man in many respects the peer of the Southern whites. To an unprejudiced mind there is something irrational, something insane in such fury.

A Memphis paper characterizes that courtesy of the President as "the most damnable outrage which has ever been perpetrated by any citizen of the United States." Another says: "President Roosevelt has committed a blunder that is worse than a crime, and no atonement or future act of his can remove the self-imprinted stigma." The ex-governor of Georgia is quoted to the effect that, "No self-respecting Southern man can ally himself with the President after what has occurred," and an Alabama paper asks the gentleman to resign the position of federal judge, because of that incident. Worse still, Senator Tillman is quoted as having predicted the murder of thousands of negroes, as an outcome of the White House dinner.

It is very doubtful if those who talk loudly are very sincere. They know the existing prejudices and find pandering to such sentiment a convenient means of gaining a little popular favor. That they are making themselves ridiculous in the eyes of the enlightened public, does not seem to occur to them, or concern them. Booker Washington, some years ago, was similarly honored by the Queen of England, if a correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger is not mistaken, and no serious consequences followed.

The race problem in this country is a most serious one. American statesmen cannot but feel deeply concerned about it. If President Roosevelt desired to have it intelligently discussed from the colored point of view, he could take no more judicious step than to invite to his house a Christian gentleman who has made that question a life study, and give him an opportunity of explaining the situation, as he sees it. That would be a natural explanation of an event that should never have elicited more than a passing comment. To find in it an insult to the South, or a menace to the country is absurd. The agitators will soon find that their little tempest, though quite furious for the size of the teapot in which it has been stirred up, will have no effect upon the great ocean of current history.

NOT "WEYLERISM."

Some of our contemporaries are criticizing the American generals in the Philippines for following Weyler's Cuban policy, by establishing concentrated camps in the island of Samar. But it is clearly too previous to stigmatize the tactics adopted in that island as "Weylerism." What made the proceedings of the Spanish general in Cuba infamous, was not the concentration of the population in camps, but the fact that he adequate provisions were made for them, while concentrated in this manner. Thousands of non-combatants died in those camps of starvation and lack of sanitary regulations, and attempts were even made at preventing American benevolence from relieving the sufferers. Weyler's policy appeared to be to reduce the Cuban population by means of hunger and sickness, when he found it impossible to suppress the insurrection by the usual mode of warfare. And it was against this barbarous method that the sentiment of the civilized world revolted.

There is not the slightest reason for supposing that General Chaffee contemplates anything similar to that. It has been ordered the population of Samar to come in from the jungle and stay at home in the towns and villages. It is, we presume, for the purpose of giving those who are not too intimately identified with the insurgents a chance to prove it, before an active campaign is commenced against these. It is a notice to the people that those who are found away from home, when the hunt for outlaws is on, will be considered as outlaws. But it does not follow that those who embrace the opportunity of abandoning the warpath are to be subject to starvation and sickness. The American policy in the Philippines has from the beginning been one of humanity, notwithstanding the repeated acts of treachery

that have been committed, and there is no reason for believing that this policy is about to be abandoned. The very order which seems so objectionable to some, may be dictated by humane motives. At all events it is time enough to characterize it as "Weylerism," when it is found that Filipinos are herded together in camps where they cannot be properly cared for, and would probably perish by hundreds and thousands.

It cannot be denied that the Philippine situation is less favorable than some reports have indicated. The suggestion has been made in military circles that our army there ought to be increased to 60,000 men. That may not be very important, since in the view of war lords, armies and navies always are too small. But it is stated by some intimately acquainted with the situation, that even in the pacified districts the sympathy for the insurgents is widespread and based on the racial differences and characteristics, and if this is true, the work of transformation will take time and require much patience and statesmanship. And it cannot be successfully accomplished by the army alone, no matter how big it is. A military force sufficient to suppress acts of lawlessness is large enough. The real reform work must be done by educational methods, the results of which may not be fully seen until the present generation shall have, in due time, passed away and another taken its place.

MISS STONE'S RANSOM.

A Turkish official is accredited with the statement that his government will refuse to pay any claims for damages on account of the famous abduction case, first, because Miss Stone went on her journey, though warned of its dangers; second, because it was not known that she intended to go; and third, because the brigands were Bulgarians and planned the plot in Bulgaria.

That is not ingenious. In countries under Turkish dominion, travelers do not go from one place to another without the knowledge of the authorities, for they always have to take passports, and these cannot be secured without a satisfactory account of the details of the journey, the destination, its purpose, etc. But let that pass. The question still remains, how does the Turkish government at this time know that the brigands were Bulgarians and that the plot was planned on Bulgarian soil? That statement would seem to reveal more knowledge of the unfortunate affair than prudence at present ought to admit on the part of the Turkish government officials.

But the question of indemnity is not yet up for discussion. The important point now is to find the captives, unharmed if possible. When that is done, the affair can be investigated and the responsibility laid wherever it belongs.

So far, there seems to have been more quibbling about who did it, than efforts at rescuing the prisoners. The Turks charge it to the Bulgarians who, they claim, are anxious to stir up a quarrel between the United States and Turkey. The Bulgarians say this is slander, and that it was the work of Turks who hurried their victims into Bulgarian territory in order to arouse indignation against the Macedonian committee. But this quarrel is idle, as long as the bandits have not been located and called to account. When that is done, the bill will be presented to Turkey, and it will be paid to the last dollar. Turkey can hardly refuse to pay, as long as she claims suzerainty over Bulgaria, even if she afterwards finds that the latter country is under obligation to refund the money. That, we fancy, Turkey and Bulgaria will have to settle themselves.

Miss Stone is described as a cultured lady from Chelsea, Mass. Before she went as a missionary to Bulgaria twenty-five years ago, she was on the staff of the Congregationalist of Boston, the leading weekly paper of the Congregational denomination. She had charge of the Bible women in her field—women who go about among the homes of the people in the villages. She had traveled over most of Bulgaria and Macedonia and was widely known and beloved. During the summer she held her usual training school in Bansko, a mountain village of Macedonia, and on September 2 started with a party of twelve for Djumia. Late in the afternoon they were surrounded in a mountain defile by thirty or forty armed men, dressed in Turkish costume, with faces masked or blackened. The rest of the party was robbed and Miss Stone and a Mrs. Talika were taken to the mountains, whence a letter was sent to missionaries in Bulgaria demanding a ransom.

These are the facts, as given in the press dispatches. She was not at the time of capture, traveling over an unknown road in a district scarcely ever visited. Undoubtedly she had been over that road time and again. Her capture was a deep laid plot. The matter should be probed to the bottom, and the responsibility placed where it belongs. And if the incident can be made the starting point for reforms in Turkey, whereby life and property become more secure than they are now, it will not be without benefit to mankind.

Has the French expedition to the Levant levanted?

A burnt child dreads the doctor quite as much as the fire.

A shattered tradition is often a making way for new light.

In Venezuela President Castro may proclaim that there is peace, peace, but there is no peace.

A surplus in the national treasury cannot be put to better use than redeeming the national debt.

Judge Advocate Lemly wears glasses, but that doesn't mean that he looks at things as through a glass darkly.

Mistaken-for-a-deer-and-killed accidents in Maine equal in number the football fatalities of the whole country.

According to Treasurer Roberts' report the national treasury is in a state of gorge. It is a gorgeous state to be in.

In Prussia 5,070 men and 1,348 women committed suicide in 1899. That beats

the murder record of this country considerably.

Lord Roberts was given half a million dollars for conquering the Boers. This shows the folly of paying a man in full before he completes his job.

When new battleship plans are announced their tonnage displacement is always given. How much money do they displace is the question that most interests the people.

"There is nothing the American people so love as fair play," says the Philadelphia Record. Yes there is. There are Thanksgiving turkey and baseball.

They put a new interpretation on the golden rule in Colorado. At 16x a committee took a man who was in the habit of whipping his wife and gave him a good horsewhipping.

The New York Post says that on the two battleship plans proposed by the majority and minority of the board of construction, the navy is at the present time a house divided against itself. Then at the present time the navy must be a sort of catamaran affair.

It looks as though the Shiley investigation would continue for some time yet. The chief party concerned having given his testimony, popular interest in the proceedings has almost ceased. It may be doubted if the evidence thus far adduced has changed public sentiment one way or the other. The findings of the court will be awaited with interest, and whatever they may be there can be little doubt that great weight and consideration will be given them. The court has been most fair and impartial and the most ardent partisan cannot charge it with bias either way. It has been pre-eminently judicial in spirit.

It comes from London that General Buller threatens to blossom into a British Boulanger; that he does not appear to court privacy or to discountenance demonstrations. He attended a theater in London the other evening and when he was recognized and cheered, he rose to his feet and bowed his acknowledgments. Outside the building he was surrounded by cheering crowds and the police had to be called in to clear a way. Surely a British Boulanger would be a rare exotic on English soil. Fancy him riding down Rotten Row on a black charger (a hackney would never do) as Boulanger was wont to ride in the Bois. Buller riding down Rotten Row on a black charger! A jackdaw strutting in peacock feathers.

BUFFALO'S FINANCIAL FIASCO.

Kansas City Star.

The losses of the Pan-American Exposition company are much to be regretted. The Buffalo fair has been one of great magnitude and beauty. The largest credit belongs to its promoters and designers. Its moral purpose—that of representing the resources and achievements of the American republic—was that should have appealed strongly to all Americans, whether of the United States or other countries. Doubtless the assassination of President McKinley has had a good deal to do with the losses. It is impressive at this time to recall that one of the President's first charges upon after he was shot was to express the hope that the tragedy would not injure the fair. However, the Buffalo exposition has done much to broaden the country's ideas of American accomplishment, and it prepared the way for similar action at the Pan-American Congress, now in session in the City of Mexico.

New York Evening Post.

The outcome at Buffalo will further renew the doubt felt in many minds as to whether such occasions have really the beneficial stimulating effect upon trade which is usually attributed to them. Except for the exposition at Paris, which may have left no injurious results, owing to its unique surroundings, nearly every exposition has caused a financial loss to the city where for years the long lines of empty apartment houses testified to the over-investment that had taken place in preparation for visitors. Very seldom has the outcome been profitable for stockholders and promoters.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

It is universally conceded that as an illumination the Buffalo exposition has been a glittering success. To make it such cost money. "You can't eat your cake and have it," runs the old adage. Buffalo has shot off her fireworks, and finds that the values burned up in Roman candles and pin wheels cannot be collected from the ashes.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Evidently the St. Louisians are shrewder financiers than those whose iridescent dreams were fitly typified by the "Rainbow City" at Buffalo. But if they shall succeed in making profitable, or even in carrying through without loss the exposition which they are now preparing on a scale of magnitude heretofore undreamed of, they will have achieved something the recital of which will claim their shrewdness with the mantle of genius.

Springfield Republican.

All-local enterprise has been given a temporary and deceptive lift, and in the relapse must suffer to some extent. The world's fair flitted Chicago with a capture was a deep laid plot. The matter should be probed to the bottom, and the responsibility placed where it belongs. And if the incident can be made the starting point for reforms in Turkey, whereby life and property become more secure than they are now, it will not be without benefit to mankind.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Notwithstanding the financial deficit, the exposition, with its untraveled electrical display, will stand in memory as a superb reminder of the public spirit and enterprise of the City of Buffalo. With the dark shadow of a national tragedy over her at a time when the exposition had hoped to enter its series of record-making attendance, she attired the blare of trumpets and hushed the noise of gala days to bow reverently and anxiously at the bedside of the stricken President. Her demeanor under this trying misfortune commanded the admiration of the nation.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Juvenile Instructor for Nov. 1 is at hand in good time with an excellent list of contents. Its leading article is a biographical sketch of Joseph G. Pones, under the caption, "Some of Our Contemporaries." This is followed by "Reminiscences of a Traveling Elder," by W. Woodward. Of great interest is an illustrated article, "The Berlin Sunday School." "The Child in Religion" is the subject of some instructive remarks by Superintendent Joseph M. Tanner. "A Conforming Manifestation" is an incident of missionary life told by Geo. H. Jex. "As the Tule is Bent,"

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