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SALT LAKE CITY, - APRIL 2, 1903.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Seventy-third annual conference
of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints will be held
in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake
City, commencing on Saturday,
April 4, 1903. A general attendance
of the officers and members of the Church
is requested.

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

RELIGION CLASS OFFICERS' MEETING.

The Presidency of Stakes, Bishops
of wards, Stake and ward superintendents
and members of the Stake Boards
of Religion classes together with the
officers and instructors are cordially
invited to attend a meeting of Religion
class workers to be held at Barratt
Hall on Saturday, April 4, 1903, at 4:30
o'clock p. m.

ANTHONY H. LUND,
RUDGER CLAWSON,
JOSEPH M. TANNER,
General Superintendent.
L. JOHN NUTTALL,
General Secretary.

DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual conference of the
Deseret Sunday School Union will be
held Sunday, April 5, 1903, at 7:30 p. m.,
in the Tabernacle. The attendance
of stake and ward officers and teachers is
urgently requested and all the Saints
are invited. A preliminary meeting of
stake superintendents, assistants and
secretaries will be held in the assembly
room of the Salt Lake Business college,
Templeton building, at 5 o'clock p. m.,
Sunday, April 5. A full attendance is
desired.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
JOSEPH M. TANNER,
General Superintendency.

WHO CAN GIVE THE NAMES?

A new edition of the Latter-day
Saints hymn book will probably be
issued soon from the publishing office
of the Church in Liverpool. It is desir-
able that the full names of the authors
of the hymns it contains shall be given
in the present edition quite a number
of them are omitted, some of which
have been ascertained but many are
still unknown to the compilers. A list
of the latter will be found in another
part of this issue of the Deseret News.
It is requested by the First Presidency
that any person knowing the name of
the writer of either of the hymns men-
tioned in the list will forward the in-
formation. Also that in cases where
the initials only of the authors are
given, the full names, if possible, be
furnished. Address communications on
this matter to the Historian's Office
South Temple street, Salt Lake City.
We hope sufficient interest in this re-
quest will be felt to bring the informa-
tion desired. All who assist will confer
a favor on the publisher and on the
many thousands of persons who use the
sacred hymns and spiritual songs of the
Church.

POWERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

The dispute over the "trap for suck-
ers" by which the office of Chief of
Police was attempted to be filled at a
recent session of the City Council, has
occasioned much ill-feeling and contin-
ued passages-at-arms between the
Mayor and the majority of the council.
The de facto chief appears to be alive
to the duties of the position in which
he is acting, and is not after the viola-
tors of the city ordinances. The con-
troversy is not founded on the question
of his ability or qualifications, but sim-
ply on the legality of his appointment.
It is unfortunate for the city and for
all parties concerned that this should
be rendered doubtful by the confessed
"trick" that was played to secure it.
The case will have to be settled by
the courts, notwithstanding the lapse
of time of the morning paper that under-
takes to decide it so peremptorily.

The opinion of the City Attorney is
frequently referred to, as though that
was of any particular value. Opinions
from that functionary have been so
often shown to be absurd as well as con-
trary to law, that they do not count
among well-informed people. The lat-
est of them is in relation to the resolu-
tion adopted by the City Council on
Monday last, which the Mayor has un-
dertaken to "veto." The attorney gives
a striking illustration of the process of
reasoning in a circle. He argues that
the council in giving instructions to the
police captain, attempts the "removal
of the Chief of Police without the con-
currence of the Mayor," and to prove
that, decides that in his opinion the
chief was legally appointed, because he
is in the office, in charge of the police

department. The force of this logic is
very Nye-like if not convincing.
Another point is that "the City Coun-
cil is the legislative branch of our mu-
nicipal government and has no execu-
tory powers whatever." Just think of
a limb of the law upholding such an
assertion as that, having before him
the laws of 1899, which he cites in his
effort to bolster up the Mayor's
alleged veto of a council resolution!
The statute referred to says, in refer-
ence to the police and fire departments:
"The head of each department shall, by
and with the advice and consent of the
City Council and approval of the
Mayor, appoint all subordinate officers
employees, men or agents in his depart-
ment." &c. Again: "The action of the
Mayor and the City Council in remov-
ing the head of either department shall
be final and conclusive, and shall not
be reviewed or called in question before
any court." Is not that "executive pow-
er?" If it is executive power in the
Mayor, is it not also executive power in
the City Council?

The same statute authorizes the City
Council to "create, support, maintain
and control a police department and a
fire department." Is not that power ex-
ecutive as well as legislative? Take the
entire chapter 124 of the laws of 1901
on the "Powers of City Councils," and
executive as well as legislative author-
ity is clearly conferred as to the regu-
lation and control of city affairs. There
are some things the council cannot do
without the approval of the Mayor;
there are some things the Mayor cannot
do without the consent of the coun-
cil. There are other things that each
can do without consulting the other
and which neither of them can veto or
annul.

The majority of the council have taken
the ground that the action of the
seven members out of a body of fifteen
was not the action of the City Coun-
cil. Therefore they do not acknowledge
the present incumbent as Chief of Pol-
ice. They have not attempted to "re-
move" him without the concurrence of
the Mayor; they proceed on the
premise that he was "not confirmed."
They may be wrong
as to that; it is possible that they may
be right. Only a competent court can
decide the point in dispute. The opin-
ion of the City Attorney does not count
for much, in view of his numerous legal
blunders on other city matters. The
verdict of a newspaper no better in-
formed is of still smaller value, if possi-
ble. The Mayor being guided by such
"authorities" frequently falls into
amazing or amusing errors, and so the
wordy war goes on.

We do not pretend to decide the ques-
tion that must be submitted to the ju-
dicial power, as to the legal status of
the de facto Chief of Police. A strong
argument can doubtless be made on
both sides of the question. But we have
no hesitation in stating our position as
to the powers of the City Council as
clearly defined in the statutes, for they
leave no room for doubt, on the ming-
ling of executive and legislative au-
thority, extending to rules and regula-
tions and labors and works for the
good order, comfort, convenience and
protection of the city and its property.
Of these powers the council cannot be
deprived, either by the obstruction of
any official or the say-so of any oppos-
ing publication.

COMING TO AMERICA.

The magnitude of the immigration
this year may be surmised from the
figures during the month of March. Up
to the 29th day of that month 64,600
immigrants had arrived in New York,
with those of two days more to be ad-
ded, which would probably give another
10,000. Thus the record for March this
year exceeds that of March last year
with about 20,000. If this proportion is
to be maintained during the year, it will
be a record-breaker. Last year's total
immigration was 648,743. If this is ex-
ceeded by only 30 per cent, we would
have a total for this year of not far
from 850,000. The rush from Italy this
year is said to be unprecedented. There
are coming to work on the great rail-
road and city improvements now under
way. The news that there is work at
\$1.50 a day for men willing to toil has
been widely advertised throughout
Italy, and the exodus has followed. But
they also come from other countries.
There is widespread distress throughout
the Old World, while in the United
States there is plenty. That is the rea-
son why they are coming, like the
brethren of Joseph formerly to Egypt,
"that they may live and not die."

THE MONTH OF APRIL.

An eastern exchange has taken the
trouble of looking up historical dates,
and found that April has played a con-
spicuous part in American history.
The War of the Revolution, we are
told, began April 19, 1775, and ended
April 11, 1783. The Sabine disturbance,
involving the southwestern frontier,
Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas began
in April, 1835, running through to June
of the next year. The Mexican war be-
gan April 24, 1846. The Yuma expedi-
tion in California ended in April, 1852,
having begun in December the year
previous. The Gila expedition into New
Mexico was launched April 16, 1857. The
Colorado river expedition in California
ended April 28, 1859. The Pecos expedi-
tion into Texas was launched April 16,
1859. There was the war of the rebel-
lion, which started April 15, 1861. Hostil-
ities actually began when Fort Sumter
was fired upon, April 12, 1861. The
late war with Spain began April 21, in
the same month and but two days later,
with respect to the day of the month,
than the War of the Rebellion which
began April 12. The Spanish-American
war began April 21, 1898, and ended
April 11, 1899.
There are only a few of the import-
ant events of the month of April. The
compiler might have added others.
Thomas Jefferson was born April 2,
1743. On April 6, 1789, Washington was
chosen President of the United States.
On April 14, 1865, Lincoln was assassi-
nated. In April, 1764, the first perma-
nent newspaper of the New World,
Boston News Letters, was established.
Grant was also born in April. Wash-
ington was inaugurated the first presi-
dent of the United States April 30, 1789.
On the same date, 1803, Louisiana was
purchased from France for \$15,000,000.

and in 1812, April 30, Louisiana was ad-
mitted to the Union.
And, as the readers of the "News"
will know, on the 6th of April, 1839,
the Church was formally organized—an
event which will yet be regarded
as the most important in the history
not only of this country, but of the
world.

FRENCH TEMPERANCE LESSON.

It is claimed that, as a result of the
general consumption of wine and other
liquors in France, alcoholism is increas-
ing to an alarming degree. This is
probably true. For much of the fluid
consumed there as wine is some vile
stuff that cannot but be disease-breeding.

The French government is aware of
the situation, and has therefore sent out
circulars to the people, warning them
against the liquor habit. In these circulars,
alcoholism is defined as chemi-
cal poisoning resulting from the constant
use of alcohol. It adds further:

"The person drinking every day an
immoderate quantity of wine, mead or
beer will as surely become alcoholized
as the person who drinks brandy. The
so-called aperient drinks (absinthe, ver-
mouth, bitters), the aromatic liquors
(calumny spirit with extract of malts-
as or mint, etc.) are all most injurious,
containing not only alcohol but also es-
sences which are just as strong poi-
sons."

The French government has due ap-
prehension of the evils for which drunk-
enness is responsible. In the pamphlets
issued it is pointed out that the drink
habit effaces affection for home and
family, generates neglect of duty, dis-
like for work, begets misery, theft and
other crimes. Not only the most fatal
diseases, it is said, of the stomach and
liver, paralysis, dropsy and madness are
caused by alcoholism, but it is also one
of the most frequent sources of tuber-
culosis. Alcoholism is one of the most
terrible plagues to individual health, the
existence of the home and the progress
as well as prosperity of the nation.

There can be no doubt that the drink
evil is the greatest menace to any na-
tion. In France, where the national
vitality appears to be rather low, its
effects are more noticeable than in na-
tions with more robust strength, but
the menace is there just the same. Un-
doubtedly from that evil come a number
of crimes, poverty and despair, idleness,
insanity and numerous other ills. The
proper mode of campaign against that
demon would be a subject worthy the
consideration of the keenest statesmen
of the world. Philanthropists might
cheerfully devote their millions to the
warfare against it, provided a plan
could be found by which to overcome
it. It does not appear that such a plan
has as yet been devised, for statistics
prove that the consumption of intoxi-
cants increases faster than the popula-
tion, notwithstanding the pledges of
temperance reformers. This is strange,
but it appears to be the case every-
where. In France, it is claimed that
many artisans will spend \$4 cents for
strong drink while they spend 22 cents
for food. No wonder that the govern-
ment should feel in duty bound to lift
a warning voice. But wise law-giving,
strictly enforced, is what is needed
more than paternal advice.

It is better to be born rich than un-
lucky.

It is a good time to prepare for a
rainy day.

The anti-smoke ordinance seems to
have gone up in smoke.

Like the course of empire westward
the President takes his way.

The season for strikes is somewhat
advanced. It usually begins the first
of May.

Judge Adams' decision in the Wabash
injunction case represents his dissolv-
ing views.

Cambridge's victory over Oxford will
tend to make Rhodes scholarships less
desirable.

Admiral Dewey, the pride of the Amer-
ican people, has been on shore duty
too long. He is talking a little too
much.

The President says that the Monroe
doctrine is not international law. No,
but it comes within the "something
equally good" class.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler of Colum-
bia university says that the love of let-
ters among Americans has declined.
Surely not the love of letters of credit.

Shamrock III has made a very good
trial run and easily outsailed Shamrock
I. But let Sir Thomas wait until
Shamrock III puts off her armor before
he begins to boast.

An automobilist at Nice, while engag-
ed in a hill climbing race, has been
killed. The only remarkable thing
about the case is that some innocent
non-participant was not killed.

A Boston professor declares that no
woman who wears a seagull or song
bird on her hat can ever get into
heaven. The professor very evidently
confounds heaven with Boston.

It is announced from Washington
that General Miles' report on his ob-
servations in the Philippines will not
be given out. By way of creating a de-
mand for the report this is equal to ex-
cluding it from the mails as "unfit for
transmission."

Governor Wells' upon the advice and
recommendation of the other members
of the board of pardons, has ordered the
release of young George on parole. He
is the young man who, it was alleged,
had broken his parole and was cap-
tured by guards from the state prison.
To say the least they acted with more
zeal than discretion, for it was plain to
all acquainted with the circumstances
of the case that George had not intend-
ed to break his parole. This is evident-
ly the view of the governor and mem-
bers of the board of pardons. The
action of his excellency is in the inter-
ests of justice to the prisoner and the
state and is to be commended.

THE BURDICK INQUEST.

Portland Oregonian.
Mrs. Burdick's story has been told.
Of the four persons involved in the
"harmful proceedings" which form the
details of this recital it is hard to tell

which one is the most deserving of cen-
sure. The transactions related covered
a considerable period of time, with the
full knowledge of all of those most inti-
mately concerned. The two husbands
have paid the extreme penalty for their
social and marital sins. Who shall say
that this was not lighter than that
which has been visited upon the wives
in public scandal and in social condem-
nation that is accounted worse than
death to a woman of ordinary sensi-
bility?

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The too obvious moral of this re-
markable case has been dwelt upon suf-
ficiently. The mere fact that it has
aroused the attention of the whole
country is evidence enough of its excep-
tional nature. It may be fairly be-
lieved that there are few such people
in the world such as have been pilloried
before the country by this extraordi-
nary case in a neighboring city. It
serves again to emphasize the truth
that truth is stranger than fiction, and
the stern warning that the wages
of sin is death.

NOT TIMID.

Boston Transcript.
Probably President Roosevelt is not
losing a wink of sleep because of the
prophecies of evil times to befall him
on his trip through the West. Even the
story which tells of a plan to kidnap
some of his companions, which most
persons would consider a bit disturbing,
will not ruffle him. On the contrary,
such reports will the more likely give
zeal to his trip that nothing else could
as well furnish. He may even hope for
a realization of some of the attempts
prophecied, and so go "loaded" for all
kinds of "big fun." He would win of
course, and the glory attaching to him
would be greater than if he should
slay a pair of grizzly bears, with knife
and bullet in a close combat.

New York Mail and Express.

According to Astrologer Pfuhl, the
President is going to have a strenuous
trip in the West. His life will be "in
danger of explosion, railroad accident,
firearms and elevators." And still he
shows no disposition to be Pfuhled into
staying at home.

Los Angeles Times.

A warned President is not in nearly
so much peril as one who feels that he
is secure in the guardianship of his
countrymen, and rests there content
until some murderous miscreant arises
to plunge the nation and the world into
sorrow. President Roosevelt having
been warned that there are designs
upon himself or on members of his
party while upon the forthcoming
journey to the West, whether the
warning be based upon a vagary or
not, will be fairly sure to safeguard
himself from the freaks, criminals and
fanatics whose one ambition is to fire
at a shining mark.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The National Geographic Magazine
for April opens with an interesting,
profusely illustrated article on "Rein-
deer in Alaska," by Gilbert H. Grosve-
nor. Another article describes, "Hene-
yuan, the Yunnan Elbow." The re-
mainder of the magazine is devoted to
geographical topics—McClure, Phillips
& Co., N. Y.

Lee's Texas Magazine for March has
some short stories, poems and other at-
tractive features. It is a good pub-
lication.—Dallas, Tex.

In the April What to Eat valuable
suggestions are found for Easter. There
is an "Easter Comedy," a story by Ed-
win L. Sabian; "Easter Tidbits," "Eas-
ter Canaries," etc. The editorials treat
of "Failure of Congress to Pass Pure
Food Bill," "How to Avoid Food
Frauds," "The Optic Nerve and the
Stomach," and "The Influence of
Laughter on Digestion."—The Pierce
Publishing Co., Chicago, Ill.

The frontispiece of The World's Work
for April is a fine portrait of Secretary
Cortelyou. In "The March of Events"
leading topics are ably discussed.
Among the special articles are:
"Whence Come Our Immigrants?" W.
Evans Gordon, M. P.; "The Plat-
tineau of the Great City," illustrated,
Albert Bigelow Paine; "Twenty Millions
for Practical Church Work," Edmund
M. Mills; "Growing American Lemons,"
illustrated, W. S. Harwood; "New Cit-
izens for the Republic," illustrated, A.
R. Dugmore; "The New Department of
Commerce and Labor," Frederick Emery,
and "A Vast Machine for Social Bet-
terment," Raymond Stevens.—Doub-
leday, Page & Co., N. Y.

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