

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 17, 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.

SLANDERS ARE CIRCULATING.

As will be remembered, the local anti-Mormon contemporary some time ago forged a story to the effect that an announcement had been made from the headquarters of the Church, that plural marriages were shortly to be restored as the practice of the Church.

The foundation for the story was said to be a letter read at a ward conference in Davis Stake. A lady had told the paper referred to that the letter contained something very sensational, and this hearsay testimony, this gossip, was made the foundation for an infamous charge displayed in flaming headlines.

The entire story, as was proved, was false. A letter containing instructions of interest to members and officers of certain organizations of the Church was read at the ward meeting in question. But it did not contain one word about plural marriages. This was proved, not only by authentic copies of the letter, but by the original letter itself.

But, although the story was refuted, it continues its round in the newspapers, and that was the purpose of its first publication. It was invented and given a sensational send-off for consumption abroad. Several papers had the item as a correspondence from this City, and now we gather from an article in the Washington Herald that a Salt Lake visitor in that city has given to the Washington paper the old, exploded tale as a veritable fact. He calls it a "semi-secret communication" "construed to mean a revival of polygamy," though, as for the semi-secret of it, it was given to the Tribune by Mr. D. Felt, and as for the construction placed upon it, no one outside the Tribune office construed it to mean anything that all the world could not know.

Mr. V. S. Peet, of this City, happened to be in Washington at the time the canard appeared in the Herald, and he replied as follows:

"Editor The Washington Herald: The statement of Philip N. Nelson, of Salt Lake City, Utah, in your column of your paper on Monday, that the head of the Mormon Church had sent out a semi-secret communication, 'construed to mean a revival of polygamy,' is purely sensational, and not one grain of truth in it. If Mr. Nelson or any one else can show any letter or communication from Joseph F. Smith, president of the Mormon Church, or his counselors, that the Mormon Church intends to re-establish polygamy in any form, or manner, I will give \$1,000 for such a letter, or communication, or a copy of it. There are certain newspapers and individuals in Utah who, for gain, notoriety, or religious bigotry, make general statements like the above, but they are never able to produce a shadow of evidence to sustain them. The Mormons have no more idea of re-establishing polygamy in any form than the South has in re-establishing slavery. At its most prosperous period there was less than 4 per cent of Utah's population in polygamy, and today there is not one polygamist in a thousand of the population. There has not been one plural marriage performed, or even sanctioned by the Mormon Church since September 1890. On September 15, 1905, I posted and published in Utah and throughout the country the following rewards, guaranteed by some of the wealthiest non-Mormons in Utah:

"If reasonable proof can be made to show that if even one plural marriage has been performed or sanctioned by the Mormon Church since that time, September, 1890, I will pay \$1,000 for such information; or if it can be shown that Joseph F. Smith since he became president of the Mormon Church has dominated or interfered with in any way the political actions of any individual or party, I will give \$1,000 for such information."

"The above rewards hold good today, and will so continue for some time to come. I am not a Mormon and never expect to be one, but I am interested in Utah, my home, and I am in the East now representing the business men of Utah, and when such misleading statements, like the one above by Mr. Nelson, I am here to answer it, knowing that such attacks on Utah under immigration and capital from flowing into her borders."

"Washington, D. C., March 11, 1908."

We refer to this matter again, because the appearance at this late date of the story in a Washington paper shows how falsehoods originating in a newspaper office in this City, about the people here, are circulating from coast to coast. That they are doing harm to business here, is beyond reasonable dispute. It is not high time for decent public opinion to assert itself, in the interest of the City by putting the proper brand upon a species of journalism that consists mainly in the dissemination of falsehoods?

It does not hurt the Church, Ever

since the foundation of the organization it has been misrepresented and lied about. There is not a public man of any prominence, from the Prophet Joseph and the Patriarch, his brother, down to the leaders of the present day, who have not been the object of calumny. They have been painted as black as hatred could make them. But in spite of all, the Church has grown, and is still growing. The eternal truths which it has been its sublime mission to reveal to the world in this age have broken through prejudices and ignorance, as sunbeams through dense clouds, illuminating the minds of men and influencing the history of the world.

Slanders cannot stop the work of the Almighty, so if that is the purpose of it, it is wasted effort. It is certain, however, that such stories are injurious to the community, from a business point of view. If the energy spent in attack and defense were exercised in united efforts at building up the City and the State, greater advancement would be achieved.

BURBIDGE REMOVED.

The removal of Captain Burbidge from the position on the police force, which he has filled with ability for a number of years, is important; first because it dispels any illusion that may have been entertained as to the independence of the City authorities of the lash of what Mr. Fernstrom calls the "hierarchs" of the party. It is one more evidence of the incompetence of the officials and the unalterable intention of said "hierarchs" to run things in the interest of the party, and not of the City.

It is important, secondly, because the somewhat unusual mode of procedure must be construed as a reprimand to the Chief of Police, who is on record as having said that he appreciates the value of the deposed Captain, to the department. Next, we presume, the Chief will be notified to resign.

It was stated that Captain Burbidge was removed "for the good of the service." But that was not accepted as true by "American" councilmen who gave as a reason for their vote that they believed in giving "the spoils" to "the victors." When a man believes that a municipal election is a "battle" and that municipal offices are "loot," he does not have to remove an officer "for the good of the service." He does not need that subterfuge.

The logical sequence of last night's action is the removal of Chief Pitt and the re-instatement of ex-Chief Sheets—"for the good of the service."

RUSSIAN JEWS.

A correspondent of Emanuel, a paper edited by Rabbi Vorsanger of San Francisco, gives a pitiful picture of the condition of the Jews in Russia. He says that poverty, starvation and disease are the afflictions which now beset the six million Jews in that country and Rumania. The government does afford some modicum of relief to the starving Russian moujik and laborer; but for the Jew there is no charity, no mercy! The little assistance which used to come from America and England is diminishing daily. Part of the money sent by relatives who have emigrated is stolen in transmission, whilst those who could make sure that their doles would reach their destination are unemployed, and "sweated" when they work, and are no longer able to render any assistance. The revolutionary movement has destroyed the industries in the Pale. Thus, for instance, whilst the factories at Lodz are not working, or only working half time, the Russian factories at Moscow have been over busy. But in Moscow there are not any Jewish workers. What is to become of the mass of the Jewish population in Russia is beyond man's ken. It is useless to look for the causes when a calamity is staring in the face. It is useless to point out that early and imprudent marriages are one of the causes of the great poverty. A preacher of Mithrasianism would probably be stoned if he dared to suggest it to the Jews of Russia. Russian regeneration would do something, but regeneration is not in sight, and meanwhile the mass of Russian Jews are starving, the price of the most necessary food having risen to enormously high prices. The price of the loaf of bread has gone up from three to seven kopeks!

And yet Rabbi Vorsanger has no word of encouragement for the Hebrews who believe in the ancient Seers and look for a rehabilitation of the nation in the land of their fathers, as the final solution of the problem. Is there any other? And who knows but that, when oppression becomes heaviest, the hour of liberation will strike?

CHURCH AND SECTS.

A recent number of "Kerk en Seete," a periodical published at Baarn, Holland, and edited by Dr. S. D. Van Veen, professor in church history and dogmatics at the Utrecht university, is devoted to "Mormonism." It contains a concise and clear statement of the origin of the Church and its doctrines, written for that magazine by Elder C. W. Penrose, of the Council of the Twelve, and now presiding over the European mission. The article deals with the first vision of the Prophet Joseph, the Book of Mormon, the testimony of the witnesses, the spread of the Gospel, the first principles, the apostasy and restoration, salvation for the dead, the last dispensation, celestial marriage, church government, auxiliary organizations, movements of the Church, Utah and the Nation, missions in the Netherlands, Church buildings, publications, etc., and the article closes with a translation of "The Address to the World," by the First Presidency as accepted in general conference on April 5, 1907. As can be seen from this synopsis, the article is very comprehensive, covering the entire ground of the subject. It is one that will be read with interest by all who understand the Dutch language, and we would suggest to our friends from the Netherlands that they might get a copy of the magazine and send it to their friends who inquire about the principles of the Gospel.

"Kerk en Seete" is published by the Hollandia-Drukkerij, Baarn, Holland. It consists of a series of brochures each containing a complete article on existing churches or sects, written from

the standpoint of the respective churches themselves. This is a splendid idea. It insures the student of an impartial representation of the subject. It is too often the case that the history as well as the doctrines of unpopular sects are misrepresented, through ignorance, or lack of an intelligent understanding of principles set forth, or even through prejudice. The exponents of one faith very seldom represent another faith in its true light. They do not see it in that light, themselves, and they cannot correctly state what they know only by misapprehension. The plan of the publishers of the little magazine is the only one that deserves the appellation scientific. The publishers present articles on Catholicism, Protestantism, Talmudism, Zionism, Communistic Sects, Christian Science, and many other subjects.

May the friends of temperance be as successful as St. Patrick in ridding this country of snakes.

The world at large is glad China and Japan have settled the Tatsu Maru case by diplomatic conferences rather than with the crunchings of the iron jaws of war.

Jerse Knods Cooke has told why he deserted his wife for a pretty little girl and why he laid aside his clerical frock and donned the overalls of the painter and decorator. For his frankness he is asking in return that the broad sentiment of the west accept him and his companion.

F. Aug. Heinze has asked Judge Hunt for an extension of time in which his fine is to be deposited with the United States court clerk. F. Aug. is also waiting for action on a bill to be introduced by Senator Carter. Before he gets through waiting his waiting list may be a big one.

Now that John Burbidge is out of the police department, the force is without a capable executive officer. The campaign of the Tribune to give full sway to the criminal element is being waged successfully, supported, as it is, by the marionettes in the council who do a "thumbs up or thumbs down" stunt whenever the "American hierarchy" who ever he is, pulls a string.

What Coxey's army accomplished after its long march on to Washington will probably be the result obtained at Sacramento by a replica of the army on unemployed which has announced that it will storm the California capital to demand its rights. The natural trend in this green footstool gives to every man his "rights" if he seeks them in a rational manner.

To the President, be he of this political party or that, every citizen owes his full allegiance and the right to freedom of speech should not be construed to be a license to attack and slander the chief executive of this nation. With this belief firmly rooted, without comment on the ground upon which he stands, we add our rebuke to that all loyal citizens must heap upon Senator Tillman.

We are in receipt of a letter from a citizen who classes himself as "American" but who, nevertheless, endorses Gov. Cutler in the stand he has taken against the practice of neglecting to summon medical aid in cases of sickness of children. Our correspondent is rather severe in his condemnation of Christian Science, but he says he "heartily concurs with the Governor in his manly stand and it is quite refreshing to know that occasionally a politician has the courage of his convictions and is ready to express them. Though an anti-Mormon I take off my hat to him."

"Strike while the iron is hot" is very good advice to the men who walked out at the Rio Grande shops yesterday. Do they realize that when they walked out the iron got cold? Did they not realize that if they walked out others would walk in to heat the iron and fashion it with strong blows of the hammer? In these particularly troublous times a man is very fortunate to have employment and for a trivial cause should not give up that employment. Maybe the workman who went on strike is not the only one who will feel the cruelty of the act—maybe there is a wife and a little family of children who have some claim on the workman's wage.

LESSONS FROM THE FIRE.

Chicago Record-Herald.
The investigation of the Collinwood school fire has resulted in a coroner's report which declares that the fire was caused by overheated pipes in a closet under a flight of stairs and that the great loss of life was due to the fact that the children were obliged to turn out because of a partition that projected in front of a staircase. In effect, then, the cause is explained by continued carelessness over an obvious case of faulty construction. There should have been some protection by fire-proof materials that the fire would have been absolutely impossible. This is not to contend for a theory or an unattainable ideal. The means of protection were at hand and ordinary prudence called for their use. The partition was another serious fault of construction, and it ought not to have been tolerated, for the public has had repeated and awful warnings of the danger from poor and confusing exits from buildings. If, moreover, there is little profit in a fight with the fire, it is a grievous wrong if this latest terrible lesson were neglected in any part of the country.

THE YANKEE TAR.

Los Angeles Times.
Now as to the criticism of our navy. In spite of whatever of rimony, of careless statement, of partiality, of deliberate misstatement of facts, or desire to exaggerate defects on one side, or to conceal them on the other, there may be in it all—the discussion will do good in the end. However good our ships may be they can be better. Let us have the best. But whatever facts may come to light, we are ready to go on record with the guess that our navy is as good as any ship for ship. We are more ready to risk the opinion that in case of conflict our ships in a fair fight will take care of more than their equal number—in units, in guns, in men and in caliber of armament—of any ships possible to pick from any navy in the world. And all the world now knows that they can make time—fifty-nine days from Hampton Roads to Magdalena bay!

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

(For the "News" by H. J. Hagood.)

There is no limit to the salary the captain of industry is willing to pay when he sees the man he wants. One of the largest industrial combinations sent representatives 3,000 miles across the sea to offer a salary of \$25,000 a year to a man who had the qualifications necessary to establish and take charge of its most important departments. This flattering offer was refused, although the company was willing to go even higher, and the place is still unfilled. One might go on indefinitely with instances like this.

So well qualified a Judge as Elbert H. Gray, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation, which pays out in salaries and wages about \$125,000,000 a year, sums up the matter when he says: "The real question is not the size of the salaries but whether the right men are drawing them. One man may be cheap at \$10,000 a year, while another man in the same position might be dear at \$1,000 a year."

The tendency of the business world just now is not to search for men who will take low salaries, but for men who deserve high salaries.

The difficulty does not lie in lack of ability any more than it does in the niggardliness of employers. It is true that the demands of business have increased enormously, and the man who was considered above the average twenty years ago, would not be up to present standards. Human ability, however, has kept pace with the advance in business methods, and the average salesman, executive, clerical or technical man of today is even more capable than one in the same line of work ten years ago.

What employers need today is not more ability. There is enough of that—in fact, as a well known business man recently remarked, perhaps there is too much! What is needed are more men with the power and inclination to use the ability they have.

Employers want men who combine with their ambition, education and natural talents, honesty and the capacity for hard work. This sums up the requirements, and the scarcity of men who meet them explains the world-wide search that is now going on. There is no lack of ability, but there is lack of the integrity, the energy and the infinite capacity for taking pains, without which even great ability can accomplish little.

JUST FOR FUN.

Ambiguous "Seeing."
Passenger to guard of crowded Plymouth train, who, after much trouble, has found him a comfortable seat—Thank you, guard, I'll see you at the other end.
Guard—Beg pardon, sir. Would you mind "seeing" me now, as I'm relieved at Bristol!—Punch.

The Answering Effect.
"Are you going to answer the accusations your enemies have made?"
"I think not," replied Senator Sorghum. "As a rule, answering accusations merely helps to keep the public from forgetting them."—Washington Star.

The Paying Teller Admonished.
The teller—See here, young man, your o' your bunco business. Them ain't the same bills I deposited here last month.—Brooklyn Life.

In Boston—"Yes, sir, before I was 10 years old I knew everything." "I suspected everything at six."—Life.

Miss X—"Wouldn't it be horrible to have to die an old maid?" Miss Y—"Not half so horrible as to have to live that way."—Cleveland Leader.

"What do you think young Chumpley weighs?" "About 200 pounds on the scales and about 10 ounces in the community."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"There is one paradoxical quality which a vine possesses." "What is that?" "It can keep on running while it is still rooted to the spot."—Baltimore American.

Rodd—"I understand that new automobile of yours goes like the wind." Greene—"That's right. Nobody can tell just when the wind is going to start or when it is going to stop."—Yonkers Statesman.

"Now," said the good fairy, "I will endow you with tenacity, prudence, foresight, and thrift. With these you can easily acquire wealth." "Oh, both-er," complained the modern hero. "Can't you fix me up with a few secret rebates instead?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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Wednesday Matinee.
NIXON & ZIMMERMAN.
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Every Evening (except Sunday), 8:15, 7c, 10c, 25c, Box seats, \$1.50.
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Matinee Wednesday and Saturday. All seats reserved, 25 cents.
Commencing Thursday, March 19th, for four nights and Saturday matinee, "TEEZY WEEZY."

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We have listed for 30 days a fine five room brick cottage, modern, which is renting for \$25.00 per month. It is situated between Second and Third South, west. We will sell this for \$1,000 cash, balance on time at 7 per cent. A good investment.

9 room modern brick, just east of Center St. on Pear. Suitable for two tenants, renting for \$38.00 per month. Price \$4,200.

7 room brick, two-story house, on Fifth North, with 4x10 rods of land. The land alone is worth \$2,200; the house cost \$3,500. We will take \$3,500 for the place and will make easy terms.

5 room modern house on Third avenue, cement sidewalk, and sewer connections. \$3,250. TERMS.

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13 room house in Waterloo, 6x8 rods of well kept ground, good outbuilding. This property was heretofore listed at \$5,250. The owner will now sell for \$4,150. Come and see it.

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We have associated with us at Washington, D. C., an attorney who has been in continuous practise for the past twenty years, and we are in position to guarantee that any patent matters placed in our hands will receive prompt and careful attention, and that the charges will always be moderate.

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All patents secured through our Bureau will be advertised for sale at our expense, and will thus be brought to the attention of the thousands of readers and materially assist the inventors in disposing of their patents.

If you have made an invention, send us a rough sketch and description with \$5, and we will have our attorney make a thorough search of the records of the United States Patent Office, and advise you as to the securing of patent, the cost and the manner of proceeding.

PATENT BUREAU, THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City.

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