

SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The monthly Priesthood meeting and quarterly conference of the Salt Lake Stake opened in the Assembly hall, this city, at 10 a. m. today, June 6. There were present Elder F. M. Lyman, of the quorum of the Apostles, Elders Angus M. Cannon, Joseph E. Taylor and Charles W. Penrose, of the Stake presidency, three Patriarchs, four High Counsellors, Wm. C. Dunbar and Geo. B. Wallace, of the presidency of the High Priests' quorum, five presidents of Seventies, and seven home missionaries. All the wards of the Stake were represented except the Second, Fifth and Fifteenth city wards, and Hunter, Peasant Green and Cannon of the county.

The First, Second, Fifth, Tenth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-first quorum of Elders were properly represented. Members of the Lesser Priesthood quorums were in attendance from a large number of the wards, together with a goodly representation of the Saints residing in the Stake. Representatives of the Stake organizations of Relief Societies, Sunday schools, Y. M. and Y. L. M. I. A., Primary associations and the Kindergarten association were present.

The conference was opened by the choir and congregation singing the hymn commencing,

Come all ye sons of Zion,
And let us praise the Lord.

Prayer was offered by Elder Geo. B. Wallace.

Singing by the choir,

Praise ye the Lord, my heart shall join
In work so pleasant, so divine.

On recommendation of their Bishops, thirty-nine brethren were authorized by vote of the conference to be ordained to the office of Elder.

Elder F. M. Lyman addressed the conference. He spoke of the duty of the Saints, and the labor of the Apostles in traveling among the various Stakes to instruct those who assemble, and always traveling under the direction of the First Presidency, whether their labors be performed at home or abroad. Being representatives of the First Presidency, the Apostles were worthy of the confidence and obedience of the people and Priesthood. If the Apostle should make a mistake, it could be corrected in proper order; all were liable to error and responsible for their instructions and the carrying of them out. Propriety should be observed in all gatherings of the Church, that every meeting might be valuable and profitable. Business might be brought before a conference, if it be properly associated with that conference, but care should be taken that business not pertaining thereto be not presented. In the absence of the written word on any important matter, the living oracles of God could be consulted, with the loss of very little time. Bearing the keys of the kingdom, the Apostles were in possession of the power to regulate and set in order all things pertaining to the Church. These Apostles traveled among the people with powers of observation and of setting at rights all things which were out of order. If the counsel of the Apostles should not be accepted in a locality, the people of that place would become responsible

for the neglect. If it were accepted and found to be wrong, the Apostle would be responsible, and the people clear of error. Instead of being disregarded, the instructions of those oracles of God should be seized with avidity and carried out to the best ability of the people.

Elder Lyman inferred that on account of the work spreading and the ministrations of the Apostles being needed elsewhere, they might not be of so easy access in the future as in the past; hence their instructions should be appreciated. He questioned the propriety of bringing into the Stake conference the routine business which had been transacted in the present meeting. He urged the competency of the various wards to decide upon the worthiness of the candidates for the offices of the Lesser Priesthood and of the Elder, therefore gave instructions that all such cases be presented in the future before the ward gatherings of the Saints, according to the revelation in the Doctrine and Covenants. This would be perfectly proper, and would meet all the requirements of the case. This should be followed when there is a regularly organized branch of the Church; but when an emergency arises where there is no organized branch, a man possessing the proper authority might take upon himself the responsibility of special ordinations. The speaker referred to special officers who should be appointed with the approval of the High Council or the conference, but these were of extraordinary importance. Too much of detail in the transaction of business in any meeting was deprecated; everything should be done in proper order, but brevity should be observed, where it is consistent with care and correctness. The sustaining of officers should be observed with propriety, Stake officers in Stake gatherings, ward officers in ward gatherings, etc.

Elder Lyman suggested that ward and Stake officers seek the assistance and confidence of the Apostles, that all might be sustained and the powers of darkness successfully opposed. The necessity of the Salt Lake Stake setting a proper example before the other Stakes was emphasized because of its being the most populous and central Stake of Zion, and the likelihood of its example being followed elsewhere. Mistakes would likely grow and spread, and be difficult of correction; hence the necessity of care that as few mistakes as possible be made. The proper gradation of ordination in the Priesthood was emphasized, that all might be given an opportunity of laboring in the various offices of the lesser Priesthood before being ordained Elders. Proper discipline should be observed in the matter of Elders and their attendance upon their various duties.

The speaker closed by taking a vote of approval of his counsel, which was unanimously given.

The choir sang the anthem:

Guide us, O Thou great Jehovah.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder William C. Dunbar.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The choir sang the hymn commencing:

Earth with her ten thousand flowers.

Elder William C. Allen offered the opening prayer.

Singing by the choir,

O God, our help in ages past
Our hope in years to come.

Elder Angus M. Cannon, President of the Stake, urged the acceptance of the counsel of the living oracles, for the guidance of the people under their changing conditions. Upon the disappearance of these oracles from among men, the people anciently had fallen away from a perfect understanding even of the written word. He stated that instruction had been given lately to adhere to the written word in the matter of baptism, not changing the wording of the ordinance. The pioneer monument fund was referred to, and the people urged to be more liberal in their donations to it, that the apportionment to the Stake might soon be met. The monument would be a credit to the Latter-day Saints, and even strangers had shown their appreciation of it by making contributions.

Brother Cannon stated that two new wards had been organized in the Stake since last conference, and it was the design to organize others when required, that good facilities might be offered for the people to attend their Sacrament meetings. He spoke of the sparse attendance of officers at the morning session, stating that it was due to men being employed in work from which they could not be excused. The work of the High Council and home missionaries was spoken of with praise and satisfaction, the increased diligence of the latter class being especially commended. A good indication was in the less frequent meetings of the High Council and the unity of decisions in their meetings and in the Bishops' courts. The fact of the recent Church address being loyally sustained throughout the Stake was commented on, the people having been led to rejoice because of the rule of conduct laid down. A few remarks were made in explanation of the address and in respect to its acceptance among the people.

The discouraging financial condition of the people was referred to, and care was urged in seeking out the needy, many of whom would be timid about making their wants known. Care in financial matters and economy of life were recommended, that the people might not come into bondage. Rather should the Latter-day Saints become masters of the situation, through their care in their work and in sustaining home industries.

Co-operation and union in the affairs of life, to employ the poor, and make them self-sustaining, that all might rejoice in prosperity, was the closing counsel of the speaker.

Elder John Henry Smith, of the council of the Apostles, followed. He referred to the financial condition of the people, and pointed out the way of relief in the utilizing of surrounding resources. The spirit of industry and sturdy independence should be encouraged, for it seems to be dying out among the young. Referring to the pioneer monument he stated that the people of this city should not consider it a hardship to donate to its erection. The adornment of the temple block should be a matter of pride to the people, who could well sacrifice for the accomplishment of so excellent a purpose. The difficulties of keeping up the in-