

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE



CONFERENCE IN ILLINOIS.

The First Principles of the Gospel Explained to Eager Listeners.

Changes in the Conference Presidency, Owing to Releases—The New Appointments.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 10, 1900.

To the Editor: The conference of the Southern Illinois district convened on the evening of Aug. 7th and 8th in this city. Hall 9, in the Fraternal building. There were present, Elder Louis A. Kelsch, president of the Northern States mission; Sister Mary Syerla, a lady missionary from Chicago, together with Elder P. J. Sanders and Elder E. J. Dabney, of the Southern Illinois conference. The Saints of Southern Illinois and this city were well represented.

Following the usual preliminaries the time of the first session was occupied by Elders C. N. Maughan and O. J. Harmon, who explained the first principles of the Gospel and spoke earnestly on the necessity of accepting the same. A good feeling prevailed during the enjoyable time was held. On the following evening the hall was again filled with intelligent people, whose expressions bespoke a desire to know the truth. Elders W. H. Hillyard, P. J. Sanders and Kelsch occupied the time. Each speaker was listened to with attention and many expressions of approval could be heard at the close of the services. On Wednesday 13th, a priesthood meeting was held. All the Elders from Zion reported their labors in their respective fields. The general authorities of the Church as voted upon at the last general conference in Salt Lake City were then presented and unanimously sustained, as well as the presidency of the Northern States mission. Elder J. H. Kelsch and Elder P. J. Sanders and Elder E. J. Dabney were honorably released to return home. Elder W. L. Waite was presented and unanimously sustained as his successor, with A. M. Olsen and E. J. Dabney as his counselors. Elder Kelsch instructed those present in their duties and urged them to stand firm, and never weary in their efforts. All Elders were assigned their fields of labor and to enter them with a renewed determination to work diligently in the cause of truth.

The prospects for the spread of the Gospel in the east are very bright. Tracting from door to door is being vigorously carried on and the work is progressing nicely. We are handicapped to some extent, as the major part of the population here are Catholics. Still, we are not discouraged, but speak on the streets. He seems to be thoroughly saturated with prejudice. Intelligent citizens who came to our assistance were very kind. "Anyone but a Mormon" can preach on the streets of St. Louis while I am mayor. "But all is well." We are making friends and a good many are investigating, and our street audience is ever increasing. The light and walk therein and in the end gain the crown of righteousness.

The "News" comes regularly and is scanned eagerly.

C. N. MAUGHAN, Sec.

THE ELDERS WELL RECEIVED.

Even Members of Churches Desirous of Hearing Their Testimony.

Lead City, So. Dakota, Aug. 10, 1900.

To the Editor:

Before coming to this place we found people in the east anxious to hear the ideas regarding this part of the country. Some of our Chicago friends were afraid the class of people would be such that our treatment would be very harsh. Some were afraid we had us all believe we would surely fall in hands of ruffians, and need expect but little mercy. We are more than pleased to state that these are erroneous ideas. The people here are very gracious and kind to us, and they are able to give our eastern people some practical lessons in hospitality.

Four of us spent two months in Des Moines, where we made a host of friends, many of whom are earnestly investigating the Gospel. Vast crowds of people attended our street meetings there and they formed the most orderly street audience I ever saw.

A few weeks ago we came to this city. Lead is about four miles from Deadwood and has about seven thousand inhabitants. The Homestead mine, which was practically the only source of wealth in this district, is located here. Consequently this city is one of the busiest places in the West.

We were greeted kindly here, and were large crowds attend all our street meetings. The people are all eager to procure our literature, and I feel confident that most of it is carefully read. The people all know us by sight, which fact (although different to some extent) is a great advantage to us; for many of the people on seeing us approach the door, meet us with a friendly smile and invite us to their homes, where we are made to feel at home, and we are from, and our purpose in calling.

Some of the most prominent church members here are our best friends and they express a desire to hear us preach somewhere besides on the street. If this friendly feeling continues, we feel confident that we will receive access to some of the pulpits during the winter.

Two Elders are laboring in Spearfish, fifteen miles from here, and they send in very favorable reports. We feel very much interested with the opening here, and entertain bright hopes for the future. The two leading newspapers of all they can add us by printing interviews for us.

All feel real in the work and enjoy visiting the people, and our testimony to the divinity of the Gospel of Christ, and to the restoration of the keys of the kingdom in this age.

Your brother in the cause of Christ, SYLVESTER D. BRADFORD.

DEFAMERS OF "MORMONS."

The True Character of One of Them Exposed to Public View.

Evil Men and "Seducers" Claiming to be Concerned About the Purity of Morals.

Battletown, Meade Co., Kentucky, Aug. 13, 1900.

To the Editor:

We, as traveling Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the State of Kentucky, county of Meade, have met with much prejudice and persecution, caused by certain letters written at Salt Lake City.

The "Christian" gentleman, who takes pride in misrepresenting the people of God, was born and raised near Battletown, Ky., where his parents and relatives still reside. But he, being the heartless betrayer and eventual cause of the prejudice against the Church, is now writing letters and is claiming to expose "Mormonism." He claims that he has gone through the Temple and that all the men who live in and near the Temple are "Mormons," and that they are by no means few, are, each and every one of them, now living with from three to four wives.

To those who are better informed his statements are so grossly untrue, that he is fully and maliciously trying to injure the character of the people of God. But we are pleased to say that although the devil has many agents at work, such as the one above quoted, the work of the Lord is steadily progressing, and we have many friends and investigators.

We realize that "those who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution," and also "that evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." 2 Tim. 3: 12-13. But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things." Rom. 2: 2. And we feel like saying, as our Master: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Elders JOHN F. HAMILTON and CLARENCE E. CROWLEY.

NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL.

Manifestations of the Spirit of God Following the Believers.

Pitch, Caswell Co., N. C., Aug. 10th, 1900.

To the Editor:

Eighteen months ago today I left Salt Lake City for the Southern States. When I arrived in Chattanooga, Tenn., I was assigned to labor in the North Carolina conference, where I have labored ever since. I have met a great many friends who are honestly seeking after truth. I find the people of North Carolina to be a very hospitable people as a rule, but there are some that are filled with prejudice.

The Elders in this conference are doing a good work considering the many difficulties which they are encountering. The work progresses much faster in the eastern part of the State as a rule, but we only labor in that section during the winter months, as it is very hot in the summer. For a short time that I have been engaged in missionary work I have enjoyed the best of health.

I have witnessed many manifestations of the Spirit of the Lord, and have gained a testimony that is worth a great deal more than what little I have sacrificed in leaving my home and all that I held dear to me. I know that the signs follow the believers as they do, and I have seen them with my own eyes. I can truthfully say as did Paul of old, that "I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." I know that Joseph Smith was indeed a true Prophet.

The "News" is ever a welcome visitor to our hearts, and it is a great pleasure in reading the many truths contained therein. It is a great help to us in our missionary work.

Your brother in the Gospel, DAVID J. PAICE.

THE EUROPEAN MISSION.

Milnertal, Silesia, Aug. 16.

Arrivals—By S. S. Hinckley the following company arrived 10th inst., in charge of Elder Kirkham, for Great Britain—C. D. Britton, South Cottonwood; C. R. Mabey, Bountiful; J. H. Knapp, Logan, for the Netherlands; L. Rigby, Bountiful; Idaho; J. R. Cheney, Victor, Idaho; for Scandinavia—L. Anderson, Brigham City; C. Hindrup, Copenhagen; E. L. Quist, Salt Lake City; P. Sandvick, J. Fairview.

The following ladies, who are visitors, formed part of the same company: Mrs. A. L. Hildner, of the Netherlands; American Fork; Miss Thine Mortenson, Miss Mary Rixen, Salt Lake City; the last two are touring to Scandinavia, etc., and Mrs. Emily M. Trinton, from Trinton, Salt Lake City, who is a regular appointed missionary along with her husband.

Belgium—Elder Alois Ingram of the Leeds, and Elder G. C. Wood of the Manchester conference, are honorably released to return home by the S. S. Cambroana, sailing from Liverpool, August 16th inst.

President A. L. Farrell, after a highly successful mission in the Netherlands, is honorably released to return home by the S. S. New England, August 20th. Elder Farrell has diligently labored for some three years, and now carries with him the hearty good will and blessing of all concerned.

Appointments—Elder Sylvester Q. Cannon is temporarily appointed to President Farrell's release.

Caleb H. Britton and his wife, Sister Britton, are appointed to labor in the Sheffield conference. Charles R. Mabey is appointed to labor in the North Carolina conference. Jos. H. Knapp is appointed to labor in the Manchester conference.

Visitors—Elders Ezra T. Stevenson and L. H. Hildner, of the New Zealand mission, Sister J. C. Holbrook of the London conference, and Sister Sina Brishall called at 42nd on route to Edinburgh and the north. They were welcome.

WHERE IS JOHN PEARSON?

Information wanted of John Pearson, between the years 1889 and 1894, will

who emigrated (as a member of the Church) to Utah, from Stakebridge, Lancashire, in the early '40's. His sister, Mrs. Hannah Slater, of 11, Villiers street, off Bright street, Bury, England, would like to hear from the above, or if deceased from any of his family. Deseret News Daily and Semi-weekly please copy.

The Work in North Carolina.

Worry, Burke Co., N. C., Aug. 11.

To the Editor:

Our conference is progressing well under the direction of our new president, Elder J. S. Wadsworth, from Provo, Utah, with headquarters in Charlotte, N. C. There are thirty-five energetic Elders here, working in a unity of faith and scattering the Gospel seed among the people of this State. As a rule the Elders in the Tennessee conference are well treated. The people are very kind and hospitable in the western part of the State, but some of them are low ministers to lead them astray, and as a consequence they cannot endure the sound doctrine. On the other hand we have some true followers of Jesus, who have gained a testimony of the truth of the Gospel, and are willing to come out from the world with a full desire of serving Him.

I am now at the home of Brother J. W. Wise, a member of the Church who has, at one time, visited the western country, traveling through the States of Idaho and Utah. He speaks very highly of the people. He has been a member of the Church about sixteen years, and he is a true friend of the Elders. When he first saw us, his words were: "Come in, you are welcome at my home." We have had an enjoyable time with him and his family.

The weather is very hot and dry. Crops are injured some on account of the rain. The fruit crops are very good considering the dry weather. Peaches are plentiful, but in size they are small. The health of the people, and the Elders as a rule, is good, and I am happy to say my health is better than for some time. I arrived in Tennessee on the 27th of August, 1899. I was met by Elder D. W. Gibson, from Cedar City, Iron county, Utah. After laboring in Tennessee for six months, making many friends, I went into the State of North Carolina, where I have been laboring up till the present time.

JEFFERSON G. HUNT.

AT THE SEA SIDE.

A Pleasant Outing By Saints and Friends in Los Angeles.

Fishing, Bathing, Boating, and Various Amusements Enjoyed by All.

216 Temple St., Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 13, 1900.

To the Editor:

On the 14th of this month the Saints of this branch with the Elders laboring in the city took an excursion to what is known as Terminal Island, although the place is not an island but a peninsula, a small bay forming the boundary on the north.

Elder E. H. Nye of the California mission, Elders Sharp and Burtin from San Bernardino, and Elder Ross from Santa Ana, were with us. We were also favored with the presence of Bishop E. J. Dabney, who has been in California for a few weeks, taking in the sights and seeking health, which they have indeed found. The party, numbering about fifty, left the city at 8:30 a. m., arriving at the beach at 9:30. Most of the party were seen rolling and plunging in the waves of the old Pacific. This formed the chief sport until nearly noon, when quite a number began to fish and tried their luck at drawing in the innocent herrings, which were to be seen in great numbers in the water. All who tried fishing were well paid for their time and money. The fish fellows seemed to be only too anxious to get land, as they almost fought at times to get on the hooks, or rather to get the bait off the hooks. Several nice strings of fish were secured, and the fish were taken home by different members of the party.

At noon we did justice to the lunch that our good sisters had prepared. All seemed to have enjoyed the repast, as in a few minutes several large baskets of the most delicious sandwiches, pies, cakes, fruit, and all sorts of good things were sent out of sight. A little later on the party were taken to a beautiful spot where two freeters of delicious fish were served from the city, accompanied by Elder Jacobson of the branch, who served it out to the multitude.

During the afternoon fishing, boating and shell gathering, and sundries in and some, while others found pleasure in rolling in the sand, or reposing in the shade of trees, or chatting with those who were not met for some time. All had a most enjoyable time, and old and young alike find pleasure at the seaside. The refreshing breeze, the cool atmosphere, and the ride down to the beach, and the return trip, were all so much enjoyed that the party were fresh one so that at the time being, and enjoyment takes their place.

On this trip the Elders were made the guests of the good sisters, who in all liberality and kindness, paid nearly all the expense of their transportation, etc. The Bishop has treated all the Elders of this State that he has met in the same manner, and they are all truly and always remember him for his kind consideration.

Several changes have lately been made in this conference. Elder J. M. Hess and Elder E. J. Dabney, of W. V. Lay left for Zion last Wednesday evening. The first two, however, will not reach home for several weeks, as they are to visit San Francisco and several places in Nevada, to look up friends that Elder Hess made while laboring there when he first came out. We have with feelings of sorrow that these Elders parted with, as Saints and Elders alike were very much attached to them. In parting, Elder Hess received a handsome walking stick made of native orange and mahogany woods. It was presented by the Elders who have labored under him in the conference for the last few months, as a token of their esteem and respect for him. Elder H. H. Derrick is our new president, and the good work is progressing with prospects for continued success and good fellowship between Saints, Elders and our many friends.

One baptism was made this week and we expect several more in the near future. During the past few weeks quite a number have been added to the fold in different parts of the State, so that we are even in California, with all that may be said of its vice and sin, there are some of the true blood of Israel scattered among the thousands who would not do with "Mormonism."

Yours for the spread of truth, D. H. SEDGWICK.

Information Wanted.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Thomas Barker, or any of his family, who left Oakland, Lancashire, England, between the years 1889 and 1894, will

confer a favor by sending such information to Mrs. Ward, 54 Godson St., Oldham, Lancashire, England.

STAKE CONFERENCES.

Boxelder Stake Conference.

The Box Elder Stake quarterly conference convened at the Tabernacle, Sunday morning, August 19, and was in session two days. Two of the Apostles, George Teasdale and Rudger Clawson, were in attendance both days, and Elder Reed Smoot came up Monday morning. Charles Kelly, president of the Stake, presided.

Sunday morning was devoted principally to Sabbath school exercises, the members of a number of the schools being present and taking part in the exercises. Elders Clawson and Teasdale each spoke in praise of the exercises and encouraged the children in their efforts, and the latter sang with the children and congregation. "In our Lovely Desert."

In the afternoon the building was filled to its utmost capacity. After the opening exercises, Elder Charles Kelly reported the condition of the Stake and said that perfect harmony existed between the presiding officers. He referred to some evils existing among the young people of a degrading nature, which he stated were the work of the bishopric was fully organized except in Beaver ward in which ward Counselor Loveland had recently died. He gave a detailed account of the non-tithe payers in the Stake.

Elder Teasdale referred to the timely excuse people make to avoid tithing. A man who ignores the law of the land is devoid of the spirit of God who made him a commandment. He spoke of immorality and its damning results, and exhorted all to be faithful in spiritual duties—prayer, tithing, fasting for the poor, etc.

Elder Clawson spoke of the laws of God. The presidents of quorums, he said, should know the condition of members and whether or not they observed the laws of God.

In the evening a joint meeting of the Y. M. and Y. W. M. I. A. was held. Elder Nephi Anderson presiding. He was the first speaker and in his remarks he referred to the laws of God. Bishop Fowler, of the Methodist church, "that Utah was nearer the mouth of hell than any place on earth." He spoke of the work of the Latter-day Saints, and the majority of them are all right. He cautioned the young to beware of sin and asked God's Spirit to the mission to make them better students of the scriptures.

Minnie L. Snow made a few timely remarks encouraging the young to lead better lives. She spoke of the influence for good over her children.

Elder Teasdale spoke of the objects of the Gospel and explained the way to be saved in the kingdom of heaven. He also referred to the laws of God and pre-existence. He condemned the fashions, follies, sin and wickedness of the world.

Monday morning Elder Reed Smoot was the principal speaker. He dwelt at length upon the carelessness of the Saints in observing the teachings of the servants of God.

Lucas A. Snow, of the Stake Presidency, was the next speaker. He spoke of things pertaining to the Stake and the general condition of the people.

Olen N. Stohl, of the Stake Presidency, was the next speaker. He spoke of the duty of the Saints in paying their tithing and attending family prayer. He said where family prayer is neglected secret prayer is apt to be neglected also. The Teachers should labor diligently and unselfishly for the good of the kingdom, to have the Saints do their full duty, etc.

Elder Cowley hoped the brethren will carry out the counsel of Brother Lund, as by carrying out the counsel of the Priesthood we are benefited. He referred to the comparatively few converts in the foreign missions, and the necessity of laboring diligently among the Saints, especially among those who are classed as non-tithe payers.

Charles E. Musgrave was set apart as first counselor to Bishop Niles C. Christensen of the Sterling ward by Apostle A. H. Lund.

Eight ordinations to the High Priesthood were made by Elder Lund and the Stake Presidency.

The meeting adjourned with benediction by Elder Henry Beal.

The conference adjourned for three months to meet in Moroni. Closing benediction by Apostle A. H. Lund.

GEORGE TAYLOR, Clerk of Conference.

Alberta Stake.

Cardston, Alberta, Canada, August 28, 1900.

To the Editor:

The quarterly conference of Alberta Stake was held according to appointment, in the cardston meeting house Sunday and Monday, August 26th and 27th.

The president of the Stake, Elder Charles O. Card, presided. Present on the stand were the presidents of the Stake, Elders Joseph W. Summerhays and Henry Peterson of the general Sunday School Union Board; Bishops Card and leading Elders of the Stake.

On Sunday the Sunday school conference of the Stake occupied the time until 4 p. m., after which Elder J. W. Summerhays addressed the congregation on the duty of parents in rearing their children in the principles of the Gospel, especially virtue, and purity of thought, word and deed.

Elder C. O. Card followed, impressing upon the Saints the necessity of being thoroughly conversant with the Word of the Lord, as given through the periodicals of the Church.

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