

weather still being unfavorable special meeting was made in prayer that the Lord would grant us fair weather and a successful conference.

At 2 p. m. the first session assembled, the weather being fair, O. P. Greer presiding. The singing was a very pleasing feature throughout conference. Our own hymns were sung in Samoan to the English tunes by the Valia Pentecostal school of Magapasa; renewing the spirit in all present, which prevailed during the five sessions of conference together with M. I. A. and Priesthood meetings held.

Our conference was a success in every way. Good attention was paid by those present. The speakers were inspired in their remarks speaking upon general principles, instructing, encouraging and exhorting the Saints to be firm to the cause of truth which they have embraced. Saturday evening the Valia Pentecostal school gave a very interesting concert in English. Their singing reciting and conduct are encouraging evidence of the rapid progress which they have made in school during the past term. Their entertainment ended with an original farce, a comedy played by three school boys. The Saints and all in attendance, including a few white men, were very much pleased with the progress the pupils have made in the line of English.

The last session of conference was held Monday, May 11, at 10 a. m. Priesthood meeting the Saints prepared to journey to their respective villages. The Elders remained until after our meeting Tuesday, at which the newly arrived brethren received branch appointments. Two baptisms were performed during conference. Three young men of our school were called on missions at the Priesthood meeting, while others are fast preparing themselves for the preaching of the Gospel.

President Sanders will visit the different branches before his return to Upolu. The Elders are enjoying good health in general and are anxiously waiting with the Saints for the arrival of the Book of Mormon. This work has long since been promised to this people and now that their hopes are about to be realized, they have cause to rejoice with us who will have the privilege of explaining its contents unto them.

Elders James Hicks and S. F. Smith arrived here May 28. Several copies of the Book of Mormon were sent with them. The Elders are anxious to see it. It is hoped that the people of Samoa will be awakened from their seemingly spiritual sleep by the presenting to them the word of God to their forefathers as contained in the Book of Mormon.

Elders O. P. Greer and J. M. Wood are released to return home June 2. Elder Hicks, who having labored on Samoa as a missionary some 10 years ago, has been called to succeed Elder Greer as presiding Elder of Tutuila.

THE VOICE OF WARNING.

A Minister Reads It and is Converted.

The following is related in a letter from Elder F. O. Hales, dated Gefu, Sweden, June 2:

On the 26th inst., Elder A. E. Anderson and myself took the train to Seoderhamn, where we visited the Saints and found them all well. We also had the pleasure of calling on friends who are among the prominent people of the town and were received very kindly.

After remaining in this place over night we took a small boat for Sandviken, where we reached after a pleasant ride of one hour and 15 minutes. Here we called on a friend whom we had not seen before, but who had written to us, requesting us to call on him as he wished us to explain the Gospel to him; also stating that he wished to be baptized. For 28 years this man has been a member of the Baptist church and during the last 10 years has served with credit as a minister, traveling and preaching without receiving a salary. For several years he has been a bitter opponent of the Gospel as taught by the Elders. About two years ago this man read a "Voice of Warning" and not stopping to observe who was the author, proceeded to investigate its contents. He read this book three times and again read this book through time and again, together with other books, tracts, and through faith and prayer received a testimony of the Gospel. We were received very kindly by our friend, and on the 28th ult. we had the pleasure of baptizing Brother C. A. Peterson and wife. It was a time of rejoicing to us, and we thank God for blessing such men with a testimony of the Gospel and with strength to embrace it.

"The Gospel is spreading and the Lord is blessing us with success in our labor."

IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

A Conference Held in a Lovely Grove.

Elder Clifford M. Alston writes from Nashville, Tenn., June 12, as follows: That "Middle Tennessee" is not dead, as far as the work of the Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is concerned, was evidenced by the spirit manifest at our recent conference, held at Smyrna, Rutherford Co., Tenn., on Saturday and Sunday, June 6 and 7, 1903. Elder Ben E. Rich, president of the Middle States mission, was in attendance, also 18 Elders, and Sister Elizabeth M. Fox, all doing missionary work in "Sunny Tennessee."

Brother G. W. Gwyn, one of our faithful members, has a lovely grove on his place and graciously tendered us the use of it, where we improvised seats and held our meetings under the trees. The singing was furnished by a double quartet of our workers. We held one public meeting on Saturday afternoon. The speakers were Elders George Brough, J. W. Johnson and L. R. Porter, who treated on the necessity of obedience to God's laws, The Kingdom of God, and Latter-day Revelation.

Sunday morning at 7 o'clock we held our Priesthood meeting, at which all bore testimony to the truth of our professions, and listened to some very encouraging and instructive remarks made by Elder Rich.

At 11 o'clock our public meeting convened. Elders C. M. Alston, J. R. Stutz and Ben E. Rich were the speakers on the apostasy and difference between primitive and modern Christianity. Also the striking similarity between the treatment accorded early Christians by the Jews and the giving the "Mormon" people by twentieth century "Christians," was vividly portrayed.

At 2 o'clock a large crowd assembled. Elder Geo. J. Fox spoke of the organization of the primitive church and agreed that it should be the same today. Elder M. A. Clinger treated the first principles of the Gospel and the necessity of obeying them. Sister Fox sang a beautiful solo, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," and in a very nice talk corrected some of the absurd ideas held by the world regarding "Mormons" read this book through time and again.

Elder Ben E. Rich in a discourse of an hour and a half defended us and our work, against the unjust criticism accorded us. He told what we have done, are doing and expect to do by our work of preaching the Gospel. Having appointed a meeting for 3 o'clock p. m., all the available seats were taken at the fourth service. Elders John W. Caspersen, J. J. Redden, L. R. Porter and George Brough spoke on the following subjects, respectively: Faith and Works; Baptism; Holy Ghost and the conflicting powers of good and evil.

Monday morning at a Sacrament meeting all the Elders received their appointments and were assigned new companions. At this conference Elder Geo. J. Fox and wife were released to return home and Elder Geo. Brough was chosen to succeed Elder Fox as president of the conference. Elder J. W. Caspersen was transferred to Ohio to labor.

In the European Mission.

[Millennial Star, June 4.]

The headquarters of the Scottish conference has been changed to 132 North Frederick street, Glasgow.

Arrivals.—Prof. Samuel Duxey of Salt Lake City and Andrew B. Christensen of Gunnison, arrived in Liverpool per S. S. Mayflower, May 31. They will travel and study in several countries of Europe.

Releases.—On account of sickness Elder Robert Bullock is honorably released from his labors in the Scottish conference, with permission to return home, the Mayflower sailing June 4, 1903, per S. S. Mayflower. Elder John S. Perkins is honorably released from his labors in the London conference, with permission to return home by S. S. Cornwall, sailing from Liverpool, June 13, 1903.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRIESTHOOD.

Address Delivered at the Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Assembly Hall, Salt Lake City, April 6, 1903, by

ELDER BEN E. RICH

(President of the Middle States Mission.)

I sincerely trust that the Spirit of the Lord will be with us this afternoon, and that it will rest upon those who may speak as well as those who listen. If we are here to learn more concerning our duties to our God, it is as necessary for the congregation to have the Spirit of the Lord as it is for those who address the congregation. It is not enough that those who speak to us shall do so under the influence of that Spirit, but we should listen and strive to understand the spirit prompting the utterance of the words.

I rejoice that we have the privilege of coming together and listening to the words of counsel and inspiration that fall from the lips of the authorities of the Church. While we are here in conference assembled our brothers and sisters scattered throughout the different nations of the earth are assisting us with their faith and prayers, and they are praying for their deliverance from the land of Babylon; they are praying that the time may come, and that speedily, when they will have the privilege of coming to Zion to worship the Lord. I have listened to the prayers of the faithful Saints in far off Europe and in the missionary fields of America, and I know that it is not necessary for the Elders to preach the principle of the gathering to those who render obedience to the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When they have faith in the Lord Jesus and repent of their sins, and are baptized for the remission of the same, and receive the seal of the Spirit through the laying on of hands, the spirit of gathering rests upon them, and they are anxious to gather to Zion, where they can learn more of the ways of the Lord. It has been predicted that in the last days the mountains of the Lord shall be established in the tops of the mountains, and that people from many nations would be heard to say: "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths." This is being literally fulfilled by the Latter-day Saints in the valleys of these mountains. People from all nations, under heaven, are gathered to Zion, and they are praying that they might come up to this house of the Lord, where they may learn more of the ways of the Lord; for they want to walk in the path that will bring them to the Father. Many are disappointed, and when they behold the acts of some people, they feel that this is a different Zion to the one they have seen in their dreams—to the Zion they have prayed for.

STAKE CONFERENCES.

BEAR LAKE STAKE.

Brief Report of the Conference Proceedings.

The quarterly conference of this stake was held May 30 and 31, Elder Wm. Budge presiding. Elder Budge made the opening remarks on the cultivation of faith and devotion to the work of God.

Elder Patterson, Bishops Humphreys and Elijah C. Keetch spoke concerning the training of children and the responsibility resting upon parents.

In the afternoon Elders W. L. Rich, E. N. Austin, Wm. Hymas and J. A. Sutton were the speakers.

Sunday at 11 a. m. after the opening exercises, the meeting was addressed by Elders Wm. Stucki, Oliver Budge, Wm. L. Rich, W. W. Clark and Wm. Budge in the order named. The remarks were replete with good instruction.

In the afternoon Bishop R. Price was the first speaker, referring to the marvelous growth of the Church, and the increasing responsibilities of the Saints.

The general and stake authorities were presented and sustained.

Bishop I. T. Price expressed his enjoyment of the conference and urged parents to watch over their children and with great care to guide them through the slippery paths of youth.

Elder Cole reported and spoke very encouragingly of the Fielding academy.

Elder Heber C. Kutch made the concluding remarks and the benediction was pronounced by Elder J. A. Stucki.

The singing throughout the conference was excellent and the weather ideal.

T. MUNSON, Stake Clerk and Recorder.

KANAB STAKE.

Slim Attendance the First Day—Good Reports.

The Kanab stake quarterly conference was held in Glendale, June 6 and 7, 1903. There were in attendance Elders Thomas Chamberlain and Joe H. Johnson of the Kanab stake presidency; all the Bishops, except the Bishops of Fredonia and Mt. Carmel, and many members of the High Council. Three of the brethren were away from the stake and out at the cattle drive, and were unable to attend conference. Some people had an understanding that conference was postponed for two weeks, and did not know otherwise in time to be in attendance the first day. In consequence of these reasons there were only about 50 persons in attendance the first meeting, held Saturday morning.

Sunday, we had a much better turnout. The remarks of the brethren who spoke during conference were interesting and instructive. Saturday afternoon was granted the sisters of the Relief society to hold their conference. The brethren and sisters enjoyed the good talk of the sisters.

The frost that was quite general throughout the country, destroyed most of the fruit it not quite all. The brethren were away from the stake and out at the cattle drive, and were unable to attend conference. Some people had an understanding that conference was postponed for two weeks, and did not know otherwise in time to be in attendance the first day. In consequence of these reasons there were only about 50 persons in attendance the first meeting, held Saturday morning.

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LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE.

Our faith is not a myth; it is a reality. God has come to the earth in the age in which we live, and His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ of Nazareth, came with Him, and they opened up this work in which we are engaged. They gave to us the Prophet Joseph Smith; they gave to us the Prophet Joseph in the Presidency of the Church; they gave to us the Apostles and the Priesthood, and they have also given us to understand that while they have revealed us out from agency, we are brought back into their presence. Then the books will be opened, and we will discover that we have been talking, aye, and thinking, into such a phantasmagoria, as recorded our words, acts and thoughts in the Lamb's book of life. When that book is opened we will be held accountable for every idle word we have spoken; and the Lord is going to reward us, or He is going to condemn us, for that which we have done. We will be rewarded for our faithfulness, and we will be held accountable for the way and manner in which we have used the authority that He has given us to act in His name; this we know. We also understand that where much is given much will be required. We claim more than is claimed by any other religion on earth. We claim that the windows of heaven have been opened to us; that God has visited the earth in person; that Jesus is our Elder Brother; that unto us is given the privilege, honor and authority to speak in the name of our Father in heaven. As I said, we claim more than is claimed by any other people on the face of the earth, but I want to tell you, my brethren and sisters, that more will be required of us than of any other people, and that we will be judged according to the light that we have received. We have received more light than any other people on the earth; we have received the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its fulness.

THE SPIRIT OF GATHERING—THE MOUNTAIN OF THE LORD'S HOUSE IN THE TOPS OF THE MOUNTAINS—FAITH OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS A REALITY—ALL MANKIND TO BE JUDGED FOR WHAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED—WHERE MUCH IS GIVEN MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED.

The Latter-day Saints must understand that they all hold a portion of the Priesthood of God. All male members of the Church hold a portion of the Priesthood of God, or have the privilege of holding it, from their earlier years to the grave. We are expected to honor that Priesthood. When we come to Zion it is required of us that we shall be making it Zion in very deed, that we shall assist in purifying and cleansing it from everything that is displeasing in the sight of God, making it such a place as would be expected that the Lord would select for the gathering of His people from the nations of the earth.

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Philadelphia, which he reports in a flourishing condition; the Elders are generally received very kindly and thus are doing a good work with many investigators, notwithstanding the general indifference to religion that prevails in the east. Except for some months Elder Alfred labored in the city of Philadelphia, and with much success, particularly in the country, where he made many friends and converts.

Elder Luther H. Twitchell, of Salt Lake City, who was set apart March 18, 1902, for the Southern States mission, returned June 14. He labored in Mississippi and Georgia conferences, where he reports the work in good condition, the Elders working with many and some converts. Elder Twitchell was released earlier than usual owing to illness, otherwise he enjoyed his labors.

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