

SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Salt Lake Stake was held in the Assembly Hall, commencing at 10 a. m. June 1st. The first session was partly taken up with the business of the monthly Priesthood meeting. Elder Angus M. Cannon, president of the Stake, presided.

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

Redeemer of Israel, our only delight,

Prayer was offered by Elder Joseph E. Taylor.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn:

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord.

There were present Elder Brigham Young, of the quorum of Apostles, Patriarch John Smith, all the members of the Stake Presidency, three High Councilors, four Patriarchs, seven presidents of Seventies, twelve home missionaries.

All the wards of the Stake were properly represented excepting the Tenth, and Twenty-first city wards, and Draper and Hunter of the country.

The First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Fifteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second quorums of Elders were represented by their presiding officers.

The Lesser Priesthood was represented by members from the Ninth, Thirteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Sugar House, South Jordan and Hunter wards.

The Stake presidency of the Relief societies, Sunday schools, Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement association and the Primary association responded to the roll call.

The following Bishops reported the condition of their respective wards: James Jensen, of Sandy, Leonard G. Hardy, of the Second ward, and Orson F. Whitney, of the Eighteenth ward.

Conditions in the wards were spoken of as encouraging on the whole, though business depression had caused some suffering. The quorums of Priesthood and the auxiliary organizations were reported as in full working order and satisfactory condition. The unity of ward officers and members and their faithfulness to duty received particular commendation. It was stated that in the city wards increased interest had been taken in the Sunday evening meetings on account of the administration of the Sacrament there.

Elder Angus M. Cannon referred to the matter of Sabbath school fast days, stating that the editor of the *Juvenile Instructor* discouraged the establishment of a fast, if it tended in the least to lessen the devotion of the people to the regular fast day. He recommended that poor people living in the country be encouraged to remain there and not to remove to the city and thus add to the burdens of the Bishops and people of the city wards. All conditions for the support of the needy are much more favorable in the country than in the city. The observance of the regular fast day should be encouraged, not only for the benefit derived from fasting, but also for the sake of the offerings made to the poor on that day.

Nothing should be allowed to interfere with this.

In the passing of the Sacrament it is designed that only those who hold the Priesthood shall be appointed to attend to this duty wherever possible, the Priests being assisted, if necessary, by the Teachers and Deacons.

Brother Cannon commended the general movement toward closing the Sunday schools during the Stake conference. He also referred to the advancement of young men in the Priesthood, urging the avoidance of unnecessary delay in making them acquainted with the order of the Priesthood and the Church government.

Elder Brigham Young considered it important that the details of the ward organization should be carefully looked after. He especially urged the early ordination of young men to the Priesthood, that they may learn while young to appreciate responsibility.

Speaking of the financial ability of the people, he detailed their need of money, all the other necessities of comfort being quite abundant. He thought that if members of the Church would devote their first and strongest energies to the advancement of the Church of Christ, there would not be the present urgent need of the things of earth. A key for the preservation of the people of God in proper feeling toward Him, is the subduing of self and the retention in the heart of the Spirit of the Lord. By a proper regard for this fundamental principle, all the Saints will be able to see clearly and to grasp all the blessings in their way, no matter what provocations to anger may occur. Every victory over these untoward circumstances gives additional strength and purity to the Saint; but if at the moment when a blessing is ready, a man gives way to anger or to sin, he misses the intended favor.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn, commencing:

Our God, we raise to thee,
Thanks for Thy blessings free,
We here enjoy.

Benediction was pronounced by Patriarch John Smith.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Singing by the choir:

How are Thy servants blessed, O Lord,
How sure is their defense.

Prayer by Elder Joseph Horne.
Singing:

High on the mountain top
A banner is unfurled.

Sister Ellen C. Clawson reported the Primary Associations of the Stake; Sister M. I. Horne, the Relief Societies; Sister Nellie C. Taylor the Y. L. M. I. A.; Bishop Henry F. Burton, the Farmers Ward; Elder Thomas C. Griggs, the Stake Sunday Schools; Elder James Stacey the Twenty-second Quorum of Elders.

The reports were of a highly favorable and encouraging nature, showing union on the part of the officers and faithfulness on the part of the members. Special stress was laid on the comforting visits of the Relief Society sisters to the homes of the sick and the needy, and their spiritual ministrations to these and others; the increased interest in the Primary and M. I. A. meetings; the increased care in the keeping of ward and other records; the good done by the Model Sunday school, now closed,

which was conducted in connection with the Latter-day Saints' college; the opportunity afforded by the Sunday school fast, to the pupils who are prevented by their attendance at the common schools from attending the regular fast meetings.

ELDER A. H. CANNON

of the Apostles, referred to the necessity of the young ladies becoming identified with the work of the Relief Societies, throwing aside the erroneous ideas that these societies are not fashionable, and that their religious character makes them less honorable and desirable. He depreciated the tendency to neglect the organizations established in the Church for the sake of similar ones established under non-religious auspices. The fact that these societies are founded under the direction of the Priesthood, should cause the people to take a greater pride and interest in them. The destiny of the Latter-day Saints to provide spiritual and temporal aid to the rest of the world, renders it necessary that the people should prepare in all ways for the emergencies which may arise and demand the exercise of all their energies. Already breadstuffs are rising in price, because the great wheat fields of the central states do not promise a bountiful harvest. Such a state of affairs, added to the speculating tendency, is sufficient to prove that a famine for bread is a possibility; and there is but one way to meet such a condition—by storing food. Wheat is precious, and should be considered so by farmers and consumers; each should make of it a means of profit and safety, not a loss and hazard. The speaker suggested the building of elevators in the different States, where the extra grain of the farmers may be cared for and kept from premature sale and from destruction. Co-operation of the farmers in cropping their land, would be an excellent plan, giving to them a decided advantage in disposing of their crops. The United Order may be brought about by degrees, and the sooner a start is made the better. By such a co-operative process, the young men may be encouraged to remain on the farm, instead of flocking to the cities. Young ladies should be encouraged to become self-supporting, that they may keep pace with the tendency toward woman's increasing power, never losing sight of the fact that, with proper opportunities they should look to their great mission—of becoming wives and mothers in Zion. While these matters may not be considered strictly religious, they are parts of the Gospel in the fact that they tend to the salvation of men.

ELDER C. W. PENROSE

referred to the day as the birthday of President Brigham Young, who was the legitimate and natural successor to the Prophet Joseph Smith. He was one of the greatest men of the wonderful century now drawing to a close. His work in this Territory in temporal as well as spiritual things, is worthy of the admiration and gratitude of the Saints.

Temporal things are as much a part of the religion of Jesus Christ as are those things which pertain to the spiritual nature of man, for man is now temporal as well as spiritual. The work done by President Young in