

Elder George Goddard led the congregational singing of

"Truth reflects upon our senses."

Prayer by Apostle M. W. Merrill.  
The congregation then sang:

"We thank Thee, O God, for a prophet."

APOSTLE ABRAHAM H. CANNON

feared the Saints generally did not appreciate the privilege they had of living upon the earth in the last days when the Gospel truths have been restored from heaven; like Nepht of old, who when his elder brethren got discouraged, stepped forward to perform the mission entrusted to him, so should the servants of God in these last days always be diligent in carrying out the behests of the Almighty. Joseph, the Prophet, who stood manfully in the midst of persecution, opposition and death, is another illustrious example of faithfulness and integrity. The carrying out of the plans of the Lord has always been connected with great difficulties and trials; in every country where the Gospel has been introduced in this dispensation the adversary has exerted his powers to hinder that work in its progress, but perseverance and faithfulness, on the part of the Elders have invariably insured success. Men who debase themselves by becoming intoxicated, and who in other respects transgress, are unfit to bear the holy Priesthood; they not only imperil their own salvation but their influence for evil will be felt in the neighborhoods where they reside, and as far as their lives and conduct are known. In almost every instance where children stray away from the path of duty, there are influences at work somewhere which are the direct or indirect causes of their actions, and often some one of more mature years is responsible for their ruin. The Elders in Israel should ever be ready to lend a helping hand to the young and all with whom they associate; their examples should be consistent with their advice and counsel. Nor should a young and unexperienced Saint be cast away as something beyond redemption, even if guilty of some of the follies of youth, but he should be labored with patiently and perchance he may repent sincerely and become a bright star in the midst of the people, like others who years ago were wayward and careless. The Saints should always feel charitable toward fallen mankind on general principles, even toward their enemies, but particularly toward the weak and erring in their own midst.

APOSTLE MARRINER W. MERRILL

referred to his forty years' standing in the Church, and the hand-dealings of the Lord with him as an individual during that length of time. He related an incident when he, previous to his baptism, was tormented by evil spirits and came very near losing his life under their influence. He sought the Lord in childish but earnest prayer which brought him immediate and permanent relief. Soon after he heard the fullness of the Gospel preached for the first time, and was immediately convinced of its truth. The Holy Ghost was poured out upon him in great measure, and since that time he had never been deprived of the testimony of Jesus, nor had he ever doubted the divinity of the great latter-day work. The speaker sincerely

believed that no one in the Church need be without a testimony for himself in regard to the truth of Mormonism. All who will ask of the Lord in a proper manner will receive that assurance of its divinity which will make them independent of all other mortals in this regard, and they will know for a surety whether the Gospel, as taught by the Latter-day Saints, be of God or of man. No member in the Church has a right to enlarge upon the faults and imperfections of their file leaders, as many have been guilty of doing in times past; the practice is so dangerous that it has led many to apostasy. On the other hand the Saints should seek unto their file leaders for counsel and advice, be united and on good terms with the Bishop and local officers in the respective wards where they reside, set their houses in order, forgive their brethren who may sin against them and thus insure to themselves that divine forgiveness which they all need.

The speaker discouraged the contracting of unnecessary debts and the mortgaging of homes — practices which have brought so many a financial ruin, and a condition of despondency and despair. All Saints should be strictly honest in their dealings with all men, and no one has a right to take advantage of any provision in the law which may place his creditors in a condition that they cannot through legal procedure enforce payment of honest debts. The speaker concluded by exhorting the Saints to faithfulness and to observe things which the Lord has commanded.

After the singing of the Doxology benediction was offered by Apostle Heber J. Grant.

Another overflow meeting was held at 2 p.m., Apostle Franklin D. Richards presiding.

The congregation sang,

Come, come, ye Saints, no toil nor labor fear.

Prayer by Elder George Goddard.

The congregation sang:

Arise, my soul, arise.

The officers of the Eleventh Ward administered the Sacrament.

APOSTLE JOHN W. TAYLOR

referred to the growth of the Church and the great labor and responsibility resting upon those whose duty it is to teach and instruct the people. He enlarged upon the evil results of contracting debts. The Saints should endeavor to live within their means and deny themselves things which they cannot afford to pay for. Last year the counsel was given to the Saints to engage in home manufacture, and particularly take stock in the Utah sugar factory, but only a few had done this, and those few, including several of the general authorities of the Church were forced to take much more stock than they really were able to carry. It would have been an easy task for the people at large to subscribe for the stock had the Saints generally responded to the counsel given. The Saints can never become a very prosperous people until they learn to be more self-sustaining than they are at the present time. They must encourage home industries, and learn to work in the interests of the whole people.

The speaker made an earnest appeal to the people to live temperate lives, keep

the Word of Wisdom, attend to their prayers, and all other duties as Saints. In referring to the late persecutions of the Saints Elder Taylor was convinced that the hand of the Lord was in it. Among its other beneficial results was the location of other settlements by the Saints in Mexico, where there are several millions of the House of Israel to whom the Gospel should be preached. He discouraged the intermarriage of the Saints with those not of their faith and said it would bring sorrow and distress upon those who were guilty of these practices. The daughters of Zion should not be given in marriage to the Gentiles. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers," was the injunction of Paul to the Corinthians, and the same counsel holds good today. In conclusion the speaker testified that those who would seek the Lord for aid and support would receive strength sufficient for their day and come through safely, though the Saints might continue to pass through tribulations and trials until Christ should come.

APOSTLE JOHN HENRY SMITH

complimented the people for their willingness in times past to pay their tithes and offerings and in other respects comply with the commandments of the Lord; still there was much room for improvement. The Saints, both young and old, should live strictly pure and chaste lives, and avoid the contaminating influences which those who are not of them are trying to introduce into their midst. It is indeed a source of the greatest grief when fathers and mothers are compelled to witness their sons and daughters depart from the rules of charity and propriety. The Lord will have a pure and holy people, and it devolves upon the Saints to redeem the world from its present state of immorality, and preserve those true and life-giving principles which the Lord has given for the salvation of mankind.

APOSTLE MOSES THATCHER

advised the Saints to be careful in regard to making covenants with the Lord or with one another, for God was always displeased with covenant breakers. In reference to home industries, which the speaker had always sustained and fostered with his means, they should be entered into with prudence and forethought, and with a determination to make them a success. Men sometimes acted from the impulse of the moment, and were guilty of making hasty moves which afterwards might be regretted, but with wisdom and careful manipulation home industries would certainly prosper. A spirit of forgiveness and charity should be cultivated, and the faults of brethren reproved in kindness and under the influence of the Spirit of God. The Saints should learn to love one another with that divine love and affection which the Spirit of God engenders in the hearts of those who have repented of their sins and entered into His service.

APOSTLE FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS,

in making some closing remarks regarding the completion of the Temple in Salt Lake City, said that in human experience in building houses men nearly always find the cost greater as they proceed than the first estimates.