

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE

NORTHWESTERN STATES

A Very Profitable Conference in Portland, Oregon.

The Rapid Growth of the Mission in Minnesota—A Pleasant Trip.

The joint conference of the Portland and Salem conferences, held in Portland, June 24th, 1900, was a grand success. Elder John Henry Smith, of the Council of Apostles, paid us a visit. The conference convened at 10 a. m. Elders John Henry Smith and F. S. Bramwell were the main speakers. They spoke of the rapid growth of the Northwestern States mission.

Reports from the different conferences and Elders were given, showing that there have been quite a number of souls added to the fold.

Our fitting report is very satisfactory. There were present about forty-three Elders, by far the largest gathering that has taken place heretofore in this mission.

On Monday, June 25th, a Priesthood meeting was held. Elder John Henry Smith and our president gave the Elders some very good instructions. After assigning the Elders to their respective fields of labor, the conference and Priesthood meetings were adjourned.

Elder John Henry Smith accepted an invitation to hold, or attend, some meetings on his return trip. So notice was given out that there would be a meeting held at La Grande, Oregon, on the evening of the 26th. Upon the arrival at La Grande, Elder Bramwell and Mr. Causey escorted Brother Smith through the agricultural portion of Grand Ronde Valley. Journalists were delighted with the prosperity of the country.

The beet industry is a thorough success. Many comfortable homes can be seen in this valley. In the evening we were met by Brother W. W. Wood, Elders John Henry Smith and H. A. Bramwell spoke upon the principles of the Gospel to a large and attentive congregation.

Arrangements having been made to hold a meeting at Medical Springs the following evening, the company made a drive of thirty-five miles. L. J. Jardine and Brother O. O. Crockett furnishing teams. This meeting was excellent.

During the meeting, a number of meetings, made their way over hills and valleys to Baker City, a distance of 20 miles, arrangements having previously been made to hold meeting there. We found the meeting at Baker City, where Elder Bird made a few timely remarks, followed by Elder Smith, who dwelt largely upon honesty and obedience.

We feel sure that there will be many souls added to the fold in the Northwestern States. The Elders are making many kind and loving friends. Many are becoming interested in the principles of the everlasting Gospel. While writing on the growth of this mission, I have quite a number of letters in effect when man speaks his opinion, and God speaks through His Prophets. Just prior to the opening of this mission one of the noted writers wrote in a Montana Journal that they would not allow "Mormonism" to be taught in that State, and that if attempts were made to proselyte there would be trouble. However, the voice of God was heard through President George Q. Cannon, that the Elders should be preached and that there should be wards, and I believe he said Stakes would spring up in this mission. This prediction has been forthwith fulfilled. We have quite a number of branches organized and very good prospects of growth. This is evidence that man proposes and God disposes.

Elder Bramwell, with other Elders of faith, were the first to stand with trembling knees and say that God had sent with the message of life and salvation to this State (namely, Montana). They little dreamed that they would live to see such a change.

H. A. BRAMWELL.

LABORING IN MONTANA.

People the Elders Meet—Celebrating the National Holiday.

Courts, Gallatin Co., Mont., July 5, 1900.

To the Editor: I arrived in this conference from Butte on the 4th of last May, where I labored about six months. This is a beautiful valley, exhibiting to a great extent the products of nature. There are a number of rivers winding their course through the valley, and also many small streams entering into the rivers. These are lined with trees, and are now clothed with beautiful foliage. Some of the cottonwoods are large enough for saw timber, and are used for the construction of bridges. Wild fruit grows in great quantities, both in the hills, and along the rivers, and small streams. The system of irrigation is carried on quite extensively. Using an abundance of rain to be produced. There are about fifty threshing machines in the valley, and over 1,000 carloads of wheat are shipped out each year.

Bozeman is the capital of this country, and contains about 4,000 inhabitants. There are not many Latter-day Saints in this valley.

GLENDOWER—"I can call spirits from the vasty deep."

Hotspur—"Why, can I, or so can any man."

"But will they come when you do call for them?"—SHAKESPEARE.

How quickly Hotspur's wise and witty retort tears the tragic mantle in which Glendower stalks, and shows beneath the seer's robe, the motley of the mountebank. Most people would have taken the Welchman at his word, and called him seer, without noting the difference between *call* and *command*.

Certain points of comparison are suggested between Glendower's tragic claim and the comic claim made in some special advertisements. I am a woman, I know all about woman. I understand woman, and I can cure woman because I am a woman." The modern Mrs. Hotspur puts her finger right on the weak spot of that clamorous claim by saying: "Why if you can cure woman simply because you are a woman, then so can I and so can any woman." Which very plainly brings out the common sense fact that the cure of diseases does not depend upon being a man or being a woman but does depend upon being a trained and experienced physician.

There is, as far as is known, no qualified woman physician associated with any proprietary medicine firm. It is certain that there is no one, man or woman, who can show an experience or record equal to that of Dr. R. V. Pierce; more than thirty years of treatment of women's diseases with ninety-eight per cent cured out of more than half-a-million women treated. Sick women can consult Dr. Pierce by letter absolutely free of charge. Every letter is held as strictly private and sacredly confidential. All answers are mailed securely sealed in perfectly plain envelopes. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes Weak Women Strong and Sick Women Well.

At the close of the Sunday afternoon

in this valley—but the few who are here are very good to the Elders. The Atua conference since last October. On Monday morning a native Priesthood meeting was held and all enjoyed a portion of the good spirit; at 10 o'clock a. m. an Elders' meeting was held, where we all received some good instructions from our president. This ended our spiritual feast. The Saints and Elders commenced to journey to their various villages and places of labor with a renewed determination to scatter the Gospel truth. JOS. R. WITBECK, Clerk of Conference.

meeting four baptisms were attended to. In all fifteen baptisms in the Atua conference since last October. On Monday morning a native Priesthood meeting was held and all enjoyed a portion of the good spirit; at 10 o'clock a. m. an Elders' meeting was held, where we all received some good instructions from our president. This ended our spiritual feast. The Saints and Elders commenced to journey to their various villages and places of labor with a renewed determination to scatter the Gospel truth. JOS. R. WITBECK, Clerk of Conference.

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Many different kinds of pants, working pants, dress pants and the kind that are classed between the two. For working men we have the corduroy, which is the most durable of all fabrics. Our \$3.00 grade is a remarkable value. Strongest sewing and superior quality corduroy will outwear two or three pair of any other make, are guaranteed not to rip. If your work is such that you do not require anything as heavy as these, we have all styles of worsteds and chevils in prices from \$1.75 pair upward.

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THE MISSIONARY FIELDS THE MISSION IN HOLLAND

An interesting Letter from Elder A. Farrell on that Subject.

First Impressions—Arrangements for the Work—The Labors of the Missionaries Bearing Fruit.

Of a private letter from Elder A. Farrell, dated Rotterdam, June 30, 1900, the following is an extract:

Seeing I have never done so, and you would like to know, you ask, if by a little extra effort, I could not find sufficient time to tell you some of our experiences and doings since leaving Zion. Very lively I can.

It is two years and ten months today since we bid you goodbye at Logan, Aug. 12, 1897, and it was two years and nine months on the 5th inst. since we planted foot on Holland soil. I. e., they call it soil here, though I could not be easily convinced of the fact, but on remembering it to be a peculiarity of the Dutch to express facts—in the construction of their language, though it be not with the object to deceive—just the opposite from what we would do in English, I became more reconciled to the idea that we were really on land. But to tell the truth, I would have been but little more surprised had they ever raised a hitching post, and I had been anchored to some imaginary dock in the midst of the Atlantic ocean. It was terrible: the rain came down in torrents, and I am sure if boats were so situated that they could turn over and sail upside down, we would have had but very little need of a pilot to keep us in the main channel upon that occasion. I had always been curious to know what submarine navigation was like, and, sure enough, without the slightest effort whatever on my part, I had the privilege of experiencing the real thing. There could be nobody tell me nothing about what it is like now. I am perfectly satisfied. The ocean with all that is claimed and said of her on the surface and with all her wonders and well defined underneath, has lost her charms for me. To be obliged to dig in the peak of the highest mountain in the whole of the land of Zion, ten thousand feet above and ten thousand miles away from the suggestion of a sea, would be a gracious relief.

Finally, however, amidst considerable consternation, anxiety and an inward longing to know "where we were at," and what the concluding experiences of our voyage were going to be, we were very much surprised as well as relieved at hearing some one, who, to our minds "was either dreaming, or an Englishman, who was just coming from the lower regions, and whose face was as black, or blacker than the dunce he had been occupying, whether or not it was true that passengers were supposed to embark, he growled out: "Yes, and to add to do boot out, no doubt up in an aen purdy queek hurree," which we decided to do without further ceremony, I land of no land.

Having succeeded in finding our way past a hungry, dry, inwardly pair of custom officers, who, by the way, very cunningly taxed us several guilders on goods that were entirely free of duty, those officers were made later, of course, but only after they, by way of "Boks Best," had swallowed the money we gained the upper deck, and hurriedly glancing about in search of some familiar face, we caught sight of Brother Frank Thatcher perched up under the massive eaves of a large government building near by, where he had sought to shield himself as best possible, from the veritable food of rain issuing from a madly weeping and inconsolable sky.

With outstretched arms, all smiles and gladness, we sped away in each other's direction—you can, for all intents and purposes, imagine one, and the remainder of this act, nor need you be in doubt as to whether or not it ended well.

Our much joy and happiness, however, did not seem to lead a quieting or comforting influence to the stricken eyes above; for as we grew glad and cheerful she, poor maiden, with ever increasing energy, screamed forth fits of fearful anguish, until I feared some evil had taken place, and in the absence of some "stronger" Dutch lad to thrust his timely boyish finger in the rupture, all the dikes of heaven had broken through, and I stated before, a steady and healthy increased growth for each succeeding year's operations. What this, the closing year of the old century will yield us remains yet to be seen. Our aim, however, so far as our missionary work is concerned, will be to make it one of our predecessors.

During the last two years we have succeeded in getting nice new halls opened up for all our main branches throughout the mission. I. e., for such branches at least, that were not already provided. Most of our halls, too, have an organ, making the essentials necessary for the insurance of pleasant and enjoyable meetings just that much more complete. The special efforts we have put forth in this direction have netted us very satisfactory returns; for our friends do not at all object to sharing these comforts and in doing so, unconsciously yet, gradually become interested and start to probing, and before they realize themselves what's going on, investigate themselves into the fold of the good Shepherd; while the one from fire within, though it may have been nothing if not amusing to think

consider our meetings their greatest source of real comfort, and only desirable place of recreation. Our worked branches are all in the habit of washing condition. In Rotterdam and Amsterdam we have two in each place opened up, they have given such good results that we would like to open up still another, if we had had a majority sufficient to manipulate them all.

There is no question but what we have an excellent field here in the Netherlands; the crop is a decidedly heavy one, and stands fine for the harvest, but, very sorry to say, the laborers are insufficient both in strength and in numbers to gather it in. It seems really too bad, of course, but it cannot be helped, and we must needs be contented.

As our membership developed in numbers and kinds, accompanied by the natural increase of business and responsibility, the necessity of branching out and improving, if possible, in such directions as the influx of business required, soon became very apparent. We began by changing the system of controlling our finances, and managed, before our present trouble was upon us, our work in splendid running order.

Next thing demanding our immediate attention was the matter of membership records, the old ones being unsatisfactory and incomplete (no one to blame, however, than myself as I had them made when here before), as well as full, running over, in fact, and were therefore unserviceable so far as additional business was concerned. Early in 1899, arranged especially to cover the needs of this field, and by the end of the year we had them (one for each conference and one for the general mission) completed, and all the remaining numbers and the entire mission transcribed into them. It was a big undertaking, and one giving much satisfaction now that it is completed.

In this same year '99 we completed the compilation of our new hymn book, set to four-part music. Nearly 75 per cent of the pieces being Zion's hymns, these most appropriate for our use—translating, and many a time, selections from various other works. The book, as a whole, seems to be exactly what we have long been in need of, and will, no doubt, furnish the Saints and Elders with happy material for some number of years to come. I forward you a copy by this mail, under separate cover.

To make sure that you will be busy and have plenty to do at meetings, I have had a number of sets of work translated and working up our assortment of tracts and books, until now we have a sufficient stock on hand to supply, and plenty of room to spare, for many a man as we have at the present time.

Financially we are well abated and a good stiff breeze, in the shape of free will contributions, fills the sails, as our craft gallantly plows her way through the occasionally belty seas and perpetual sea of daily and ever recurring expenses. We have just been passing through a grievous squall, 'tis true, but the horizon showing evidences of a calm sea, and a bright and hopeful future.

This brings us now about up to date, and when looking back over the two years and ten months that have past, carefully enumerating, and honestly acknowledging the vastness of God's goodness toward us, I often become discouraged and my heart grows faint at my unworldly worthiness as a recipient of these manifold blessings. We have never been forsaken. Whenever we had need to seek, the days following, if we knocked, it was opened to us, and when asking, if in righteousness, no matter when or where, the Lord did invariably heed, with an ever inclining ear, and we have had our trials and reverses, of course, but not many, and what we have had we have tried to bear patiently and without murmuring.

Now I must close. Hoping this may find you well and in the enjoyment of every blessing, I am, dear brother, your affectionate son,

ALFRED FARRELL.

FROM THE FAR NORTH.

A Conference of Saints in the Historical Nidaros, Norway.

Trondhjem, Norway, June 21, 1900.

To the Editor: We held our conference May 19th and 20th, our first meeting being held Saturday, the 19th, at 8 p. m. It was presided over by Elder P. Nielsen. There were present thirteen Elders of Zion, most of the Saints of the Trondhjem branch, and a few strangers. We had expected Jas. L. McMurrin of the American mission, and Andreas Peterson, president of the Scandinavian mission; but on account of an accident to the steamer, they did not arrive until 8 a. m., Sunday morning. This, however, did not hinder us from having a very interesting meeting, wherein different Elders had an opportunity to testify of the goodness of God and of the condition of the people among whom they had labored since last conference.

Sunday morning we met in a hall that had been secured, in which to hold our other conference meetings. This hall belongs to the labor union and is centrally located. Here we held three meetings, one at 10 a. m., one at 4 p. m., and one at 8 p. m.

In the meeting at 10 a. m. Elders Z. W. Israelson, C. R. Ronnow and J. M. Lauritzen spoke on the first principles of the Gospel, and the restoration of the Church, and restoration of the Gospel; after which Elder Peterson discoursed, at some length, upon "The Way to find the only true Gospel."

In the afternoon meeting Elder Nielsen spoke a short time, concerning our mission here on earth.

Elder Jas. L. McMurrin, with Elder Peterson as interpreter, occupied the remaining portion of the day with a very comprehensive Gospel sermon and was listened to with marked attention.

In the evening meeting Elders McMurrin and Peterson spoke upon the restoration of the Gospel in the latter days and "Salvation for the Dead." This was the best attended meeting of our entire conference.

Monday at 9:30 a. m. we met in Priesthood meeting, where the Elders gave a verbal report of the labor performed.

At 3 p. m. we again met in Priesthood meeting and after the opening exercises, the sacrament was administered, after which many valuable instructions were given the Elders by Elders McMurrin and Peterson, and the Elders were assigned to their respective fields of labor.

President Nielsen was released from presiding over the conference and assigned to labor in the Copenhagen conference in Denmark, and C. R. Ronnow, who a short time before had left Denmark militarily, because the government had compelled him to leave—was appointed in his stead.

If any of the Saints who have relatives in these parts would write the means of helping to spread the "Gospel message."

The headquarters of our conference is at Trondhjem, the third largest and one of the oldest cities in the kingdom.

The "news" next after letters from home, is the most welcome visitor the Elders have.

Your brother in the cause of truth, C. C. RONNOW.