

plished, and the city of the New Jerusalem that has to be built, will have to be done quickly if accomplished within the limit of time prophesied by the Prophet Joseph, and if we did not make more progress the work might devolve upon the Lamanites. He also spoke of the condition of many of the co-operative institutions which he had observed during his visit through the settlements. He spoke on the principle of consecration, and urged the adoption of correct habits of life to secure the blessing and protection of our Heavenly Father.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

Said many topics had been touched upon during this Conference, and he hoped the brethren would remember them and carry them out when they reached their various fields of labor. The subject of education was one he felt deeply interested in, for no people on the earth should be stronger supporters of true education than the Latter-day Saints. The sending of Elders abroad, to combat error, the laying out of colonies and many other important positions that the Elders of this Church have to occupy, demand the most thorough and elevated education to fit and qualify them for these duties. He felt delighted to notice a growing taste and increasing desire to improve, as was noticeable among other things in the large audiences that attended the two previous evening meetings, one in connection with Sunday Schools, the other in connection with the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations, also in the demand for libraries and works of instruction throughout the settlements. It is necessary that we make good selections of books and to teach our children that they must not take for granted that everything they read in books is necessarily true and correct. They should be taught to weigh for themselves the principles they read, and as a guard to throw around them, let them be instructed in the great cardinal truths of the gospel, and he had no fears for the result. For our children naturally are as well developed and capable of refined culture as any children on the face of the earth. He also urged upon parents to fit and qualify their children to fill honorable positions of life by giving them an education, instead of hoarding up means to leave behind them to be squandered and quarreled about. Young men should not give way to timidity and fear because of their early education having been neglected. They should set about with a determination to improve, for no one was too old to learn, and no one is justified in settling down under the impression that he cannot acquire a knowledge of anything or acquiring any branch of education that would prove a benefit and blessing to him. He related a little of the history of an able member of Congress now about forty years of age who when twenty-nine years old could not read, but had since acquired a good education and served his people several years in the State Legislature.

There are many bright intellects now to be found in very obscure families in this Territory, and they will, by and by, display talent that will astound their parents. Therefore I say to parents give the boys and girls every facility for acquiring an education, not confining them to books, but teach them how to labor and earn a living, not to have their minds so filled with book learning as to feel ashamed to take hold of a plow or to do any other kind of manual labor. He thanked God that intelligence was diffused like the free air, not confined to any family or line; that God was establishing no dynasty, no special family arrangement, but His gifts were free to all and were diffused among the people. He called on the brethren to train up their boys to usefulness as well as intellectual acquirements, and on the sisters to have their daughters not only well instructed in the ordinary routine of school education, but in habits of industry and honorable labor. Let our children be taught to depend upon their own exertions for the attainment of a livelihood, and not to expect others to provide it for them. He deplored the disposition in this country to depend on the State for an education and then for a living and would have all educated and sustained in honorable independence.

The choir sang the anthem

"Come, let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord."

Benediction by Elder F. D. Richards.

The choir sang,

Come, dearest Lord, descend and dwell,  
By faith and love, in every breast.

Prayer by Apostle Lorenzo Snow.  
The choir sang,

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word.

APOSTLE JOHN H. SMITH

Said he was not-ashamed of the gospel of Christ, because he knew it to be the power of God unto salvation. He felt truly thankful for the pleasure of being here at this Conference, to listen to such words as were calculated to build us up in our most holy faith. The present surrounding circumstances of the Saints remind us of the great contrast with their condition nearly 50 years ago, when persecutions were so severe. The early experience of the Saints was of the most trying character. We are now permitted to worship and dwell in peace. Our opportunities for education in the past were of a very limited character. It was so with him personally. He never had the advantages in his early life that are surrounding our youth at the present time. He believed that God our Heavenly Father intended to make His people the best educated of any of His creatures. It was necessary that we improve and advance step by step in human progress, that we may be better prepared to carry on the great work of God that He laid upon our shoulders. The door for our advancement in letters is now open, and there is no excuse for any one to grow up in ignorance. Very much of course depends upon the mother's influence, for when a mother is determined to have her sons and daughters grow up in the knowledge of letters, and a knowledge of the truth, they will certainly do so and grow up to be honored among mankind. He never heard an Elder in this Church advocate any principle of wrong doing, but from his youth up he had listened to their teaching, and knew that all their counsels and instructions were of a character that would elevate and ennoble and advance mankind in the scale of being. God has designed that His people should be among the best and noblest of His creatures. Let us therefore be zealous in self-culture and good works, and establish for ourselves a reputation that will enable us to stand erect before our fellows, without fear. It is our mission to publish the gospel from land to land and also to be useful at home, for we are called to be saviors of men, and use an influence that will lead the youth away from sin and evil, and elevate them to be fit companions for the highest intelligences. He strongly recommended parents to inspire their children with love and confidence, so that in all their sayings and doings they will feel that there is no one to whom they can appeal so quickly and safely for council, and to whom they can confide their secret desires and thoughts, and confess their follies and sins, than their own parents. He concluded by praying that God may guide us into the truth, and make us what He designs us to be as His sons and daughters, and the saviors of our race.

President Geo. Q. Cannon then read an epitome of receipts and disbursements of tithing for the year 1880. On motion the report was referred to the auditing committee. He also read an account of receipts and disbursements of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund. This report having been audited by a committee appointed for that purpose, it was formally accepted by the Conference.

The Relief Society report was then read and was also accepted as follows:

Officers of the Relief Societies—Eliza R. Snow Smith, President; Zina D. Young and Elizabeth A. Whitney, Counselors; Sarah M. Kimball, Secretary; M. I. Horne, Treasurer.

Stake superintendents who have sent in their reports: Bear Lake, Julia P. Linsey; Davis, Sarah Holmes; Juab, Amelia Goldsborough; Kanab, Elizabeth Nuttall; Willard, B. M. Pratt; Morgan, Lydia Riche; Parowan, Ellen W. Lunt; Salt Lake, M. I. Horne; St. George, Minerva W. Snow; Summit, Sarah S. Richards; Tooele, Mary Ann Hunter; Utah, Margaret T. Smoot; Weber, Jane S. Richards; Sevier, Elizabeth Bean.

Box Elder reported, but the name of the superintendent does not appear.

The following Stakes not reported: Beaver, Cache, Wasatch, Arizona, Little Colorado and Eastern Arizona.

Total of teachers, 1,530; members, 9,650; officers and members, 12,288; meetings held, 1,532; average attendance, 3,834.

Woman's Exponent taken, 960.  
On hand at date of last report: Cash, \$3,342.21; property, \$24,099.23; wheat, 9,859 bushels.

RECEIPTS—In cash, \$3,279.28; in property, \$3,518.20; in wheat 670 bushels.

DISBURSEMENTS—To the poor, \$3,468.31; emigration, \$210.43; temples, \$1,214.11; home industries, \$689.97; books, 143.13; missionary, \$98.70; buildings, \$1,617.47; Indians, \$66.45.

Totals on hand in cash, property and wheat, \$36,822.24.

President Cannon passed a high encomium on the neat and comprehensive report the ladies had presented, and also on the labors that the sisters have so zealously performed, and considered there can be no one at all acquainted with the good being accomplished by them but must highly appreciate them.

The Sunday School Union annual report was then read and accepted as follows:

Sunday School Statistical Report:

No. of schools reported, 274; No. of schools not reported, 10; No. of male officers and teachers, 3,220; No. of female officers and teachers, 2,101; total number of officers and teachers, 5,321; average attendance of officers and teachers, 3,722; No. of male pupils, 15,921; No. of female pupils, 16,565; total number of pupils, 32,486; average attendance of pupils, 22,778; total number of officers, teachers and pupils, 37,807; No. of theological classes, 171; No. of Bible and Testament classes, 985; No. of Book of Mormon classes, 373; No. of Doctrine and Covenant classes, 182; No. of Juvenile Instructor classes, 181; No. of Catechism classes, 156; No. of miscellaneous classes, 1,397; total number of classes, 3,445; No. of books in library, 20,580; amount of funds on hand at end of last year, \$1,170.87; amount of funds collected, \$6,670.69; amount of funds disbursed, \$6,287.07; amount of funds in treasury, \$1,484.66.

Officers of the Deseret Sunday School Union: George Q. Cannon, General Superintendent; George Goddard, 1st Assistant; Levi W. Richards, Secretary; George Reynolds, Treasurer.

PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR.

In reading over these statements there are some things it may be necessary to mention. It would take too much time to give before this conference a detailed account of all the receipts and disbursements of the Trustee-in-Trust. We have, however, an Auditing Committee, which was duly appointed by the Conference, for the purpose of examining all the income and expenditure, and comparing and investigating all these matters. We have to look to them for their action in regard to these details, and a vote has already been taken on the subject. However, it is proper you should know these things. And I would state that although I act as Trustee-in-Trust, still the Auditing Committee, I presume, know more of the details of these things than I do, because they come more especially under their supervision.

In regard to the operations of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company, we remitted, as you know, at the jubilee, quite a large amount, leaving a debt, also, of a very large amount. I find the statement is not here. However, I suppose it amounts, in general terms, to some \$700,000 or \$800,000 yet due to that fund, and having remitted a like amount, we do expect the brethren who are owing this fund will try now to meet their obligations in order that we may have a better showing than we have to-day. We certainly ought to be ashamed, as a people, of our negligence in regard to this thing. Out of this \$800,000, we have only received about \$3,000 within the last six months—that is, about the one hundredth part. It is rather a poor showing for Latter-day Saints, who profess to be honest; and I think we ought to attend to these matters. This money has been laid out to assist people in coming to this land, and their promises to pay have been received. We have authorized the Bishops and Presidents of the several Stakes to remit a certain amount of this indebtedness, and we do expect that those who are owing a balance will be honorable enough to attend to it, otherwise it places it out of our power, without calling upon those who have hitherto subscribed, to help us to meet obligations, and that would

hardly be an act of justice. We therefore call upon those brethren who are owing the Emigration Fund to attend to it in order that the funds of the company may be relieved, and that we may be able to give assistance to those who desire to emigrate to this country, for there are others, besides you who ought to receive the benefit of this fund, and those who do not pay their indebtedness are depriving them of this privilege. Excuse me if I talk plainly upon this subject. It is a subject of importance and men ought to meet their indebtedness; but when men do not attempt to meet obligations that are due to the poor, they become delinquent before their brethren and before their God. We do not have jubilees, you know, every year, they only come once in 50 years, therefore these things ought to be attended to. I speak thus in behalf of the poor in Europe. Their cries come to me from time to time, and to the Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company, saying, "Cannot you assist us." Why, yes, we could help you bountifully if your brethren who have received assistance would only be honest and meet their obligations and we would do it very gladly, with a willing heart, and with good feelings.

In regard to the labors of the Relief Society, they are certainly very creditable and very praise worthy, and I felt unwilling that these sisters should not be made mention of, for they are doing a very creditable labor in Israel. It seems to be the peculiar province of the sisters to act in this capacity, and I do not know but they put to blush a little even some of us brethren. We act, it is true, pretty liberally in many instances, and in some not very; but the sisters have been very liberal and generous, and have accomplished the object they have had in view, which has been to look after the poor, the needy, the destitute, the sick and the afflicted, and to administer to their wants. And I suppose they are about the best kind of teachers that our Bishops have to assist them in their several wards. I think the Bishops would give that testimony. They are very efficient in assisting them in their various wards, and they make splendid teachers in going round and looking after the welfare especially of their sisters, for they can sympathize and know their requirements better than men do sometimes. And, then, these sisters are producing a very good moral influence in their teachings. We have many pure, high minded ladies who go forth among the people and travel from place to place as missionaries, teaching, instructing, guiding, blessing and benefiting the people; and I say God bless the sisters for their labors, and I say to them continue in your good work and God will continue to bless you and your children after you, and many thousands will yet rise and call you blessed. Seek to instill into your daughters, as you are doing, and into your sons, the principles of chastity and virtue and honor, that while men without principle and without honor, and contrary to truth are maligning you, you may stand forth and your children with you as the protectors and maintainers of virtue, and keep your daughters from the contaminating influence of those abominable wretches, characters who are seeking to introduce iniquity in our midst, and to destroy your virtue. There are numbers of these men, and they publish unblushingly in their papers that they would rather your sons and your daughters were drunkards and prostitutes and debauchees, than be subject to the tyranny we exercise over you. Do you want their tender mercies? Do you want to wallow in their corruption? Do you want to be besmeared with their infamy? God forbid! [Amen by the congregation.] God forbid! I say "my soul enter not thou into their secret, and with them mine honor be not thou united." They are too low, too degraded for honorable men and women to have anything to do with, and I call upon the Elders and upon the fathers of this people and upon the sisters and mothers of this people to protect their sons and daughters from those loathsome lepers that have come among you who profess to be the advocates of freedom, forsooth, and equal rights—just as much as the devil is. The devil is a pretended advocate of "freedom and of the rights of men;" but we don't want to place ourselves under his tender mercies nor theirs.

I am pleased to listen to the statements that have been made in regard to our Sunday Schools, and I would say that there is not a more

honorable employment in which our Elders, our sisters and our brethren can be engaged in than in training up our children in the ways of life, and I am happy to find that there are nearly 33,000 of our children that are under their influence, who are teaching them the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants and the revelations of God, who are teaching them morality and purity and virtue, and training them up in the fear of God. Continue to do it and you will have a generation that will rise up and bless you and and bless mankind in spite of themselves and in spite of the corruption with which we are surrounded. God bless all men and all women who seek to promote good and pure, virtuous, holy and honorable principles, and the curse of God will rest upon those who take a contrary course. These things do not always appear at once, but these things will follow as sure as God reigns in the heavens. Then, in regard to the views, ideas and notions of those outside, many of whom are consistent and thoughtful, but a great many of whom are corrupt and led by improper and corrupt principles—in regard to their ideas, we ask very little odds of them. We will try to pursue the even tenor of our way; we will cleave to God, to truth, to righteousness; we will stand as saviors upon Mount Zion, and bless all who will receive the truth, will maintain the principles of liberty, equality and brotherhood among all peoples, and we will oppose fraud, and corruption and illiberality and degradation in every form and bondage in every shape, and we will pray to the Almighty to help us carry out these principles, which are in the interests of humanity, so far as He gives us strength and power to do it. But to barter away the principles that God has committed to us—never, no never, no never; and let all the congregation say "Amen." [The vast assemblage responded as with one voice, "Amen."] God bless you, and lead you in the paths of truth. Amen.

Conference adjourned till to-morrow (Wednesday), at 10 a.m.

The choir and congregation sang:

We thank thee, O God, for a Prophet.

Benediction by Apostle Erastus Snow.

A Priesthood meeting was held in the Assembly Hall, at 7 p.m., at which the speakers were Presidents George Q. Cannon, Wilford Woodruff and John Taylor. Much excellent instruction was imparted, many financial transactions were explained, and the whole proceedings were eminently satisfactory to those who had the privilege of being present.

FOURTH DAY.

Wednesday, 10 a.m.

Conference called to order by President Geo. Q. Cannon.

The choir sang:

My God the spring of all my joy,  
The life of my delight.

Prayer by Elder William B. Preston.

The choir sang:

Come follow me, the Savior said,  
Then let us in His footsteps tread.

ELDER WM. BUDGE

Rejoiced very much in having the privilege of standing up before the present congregation to make a few remarks. He had been absent three years, which made the present opportunity more precious to him. He had been engaged with a large number of faithful Elders in preaching the gospel in the old country. His experience abroad had confirmed the truth and the power of the gospel on his mind. A great change had taken place in the old world among the professing "Christians" since he was there before, there is less confidence among them in the churches to which they belong, and in each other, a trust or confidence is reposed in scarcely any kind of creed or society. They have systems of religion, but they are simply forms. He rejoiced therefore in the gospel of Jesus Christ which brings solid comfort and joy to the believer, which is in striking contrast to the empty and powerless forms of the religions of the age. He spoke of the abject slavery and poverty among the masses of the people abroad, and the excessive wealth of the favored and aristocratic class. He then spoke of the labors of the Elders who are now sent out to warn the nations and calling people to repentance. He felt truly thankful for the aid and counsel of the First Presidency which he received while abroad, and for the faithful Elders

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