

## SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual Conference and monthly Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion convened in the Assembly Hall, Saturday morning at 10 a. m. There were present on the stand President Lorenzo Snow and Elders Heber J. Grant and Abraham H. Cannon, of the Quorum of the Apostles, the stake presidency, Elders Angus M. Cannon, Jos. E. Taylor and C. W. Penrose, while the roll call showed the following attendance of Stake officers.

One High Councilor, three Patriarchs, Elders Elias Morris and William C. Dunbar, of the presidency of the High Priests' quorum, eight presidents of Seventies and six home missionaries.

All the wards in the Stake were properly represented excepting the Fifth, Sixth, Tenth, Sixteenth, Eighteenth and Twenty-second city wards and South Cottonwood, North Jordan, Hunter and Pleasant Green, of the country.

The First, Fifth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth quorums of Elders were represented by their presiding officers.

The Stake Presidency of the Relief Societies, Superintendency of the Sunday Schools, and Stake Presidency of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations and the Primary associations responded to the roll call.

The following brethren were appointed to represent the wards named below, the Bishops and counselors being absent: Fifth, Richard J. Filce; Sixth, H. D. Pugh; Tenth, James Malin; Thirteenth, Claudius V. Spencer; Sixteenth, Theodore McKean; Eighteenth, Sidney Clawson; Twenty-second, Bishop Isaac Barton of the Nineteenth; South Jordan, Samuel Bringham; Hunter, A. P. Stenblum.

The Conference was opened by the President of the Stake.

The choir and congregation sang, "Redeemer of Israel."

Prayer was offered by Elder Edward Stevenson.

Singing, choir and congregation, "Come let us anew our journey pursue." After the roll call and the reading of the minutes, members of the quorums of the lesser Priesthood, on recommendation of their Bishops, were unanimously endorsed for ordination to the office of Elder.

Elder Angus M. Cannon trusted that the Spirit of the Lord would manifest His will during the conference, through the prayers of the Saints.

Elder E. W. Davis, president of the First quorum of Elders, reported that his quorum was composed of the Elders of the Fourteenth and Seventeenth wards and contained eighty-eight members, two on foreign missions and six on missions to different parts of the United States. The feeling of the members is one of rejoicing and faithfulness.

Elder Elias Morris, Bishop of the Fifteenth ward and president of the High Priests' quorum, reported those organizations. The monthly meetings of the quorum are well attended and characterized by an excellent spirit. The number of members is rapidly

increasing by the addition of those who have grown old in the work of God, which adds to the interest and value of the meetings.

The ward was spoken of as being in good general condition, but already burdened with the care of the poor, both old and middle-aged, who have been unfortunate in the matter of employment. Such, however, had been advised to be frugal and, as nearly as possible, self-sustaining. The ward, being large, has been divided, and two meetings and two Sunday schools are now in operation. The health of the people is good and all enjoying are themselves in the work of God.

Elder David McKenzie, secretary of the Stake Board of Education, explained the matter of an assessment made upon the various wards of the Stake amounting to some \$20,000 for the relief of the Latter-day Saints' College. To the first call but six of the wards responded, with a total of \$196.65. Subsequently the subject was laid before another meeting, and it was determined to raise ten per cent of the amount. To this call most of the wards responded in whole or in part, contributing a total of \$1,189.80; balance due \$920.20. Several of the accounts owing by the College board are now due, and parties are clamoring for payment.

Elder C. W. Penrose explained that the debt of the College was occasioned by the purchase of the property on which the College is located. The Social Hall property stands as an offset to the debt when it can be properly disposed of. It was the intention to pay off the indebtedness, but the hard times intervened. If there was a different disposition, one of willingness and effort, this amount could be paid.

The college is the only educational institution in the Stake in which the principles of the Gospel can be taught, and it would be a bad thing to let it go down. The teachers are fully capable to do their work. It is desirable that those who have completed the common branches of training shall be sent to the college, the tuition charge there having been reduced to make this possible.

The proof of the ability to pay off the assessment is seen in the fact that some of the poorer wards have overpaid their proportion.

It is not enough that the pupils shall go to the district schools, for here the influence is commonly derogatory to the faith of the children. Something between the district schools and the advanced instruction of the University is necessary, and this can best be obtained in such a school as the college.

Elder Penrose suggested the advisability of making donations to the school and thus erecting monuments to the persons who show their liberality. The Roman Catholics were cited as a worthy example of liberality in educational matters. The officers of the wards were urged to see to it that the people understood this matter and to do their best to pay off the indebtedness.

Elder Joseph E. Taylor spoke of the donation by Horace S. Eldredge of \$5,000 as a fund for establishing the institution, and his giving the interest of \$10,000 for the same purpose. Sister Eliza R. Snow also donated \$300

to the institution. To emulate these examples is much better than to leave the property to be quarreled over by the children. Elder Taylor read the official announcement of the First Presidency concerning the closing of the Church University, and their recommendation that the people concentrate their energies toward sustaining the Latter-day Saints' College and the University of Utah.

The choir sang the anthem,

Praise ye the Father.

Conference was adjourned till 2 p. m. Benediction by Elder Joseph Horne.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

The choir and congregation sang:

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

Prayer was offered by Elder George B. Wallace, after which the choir sang the hymn commencing:

High on the mountain top  
A banner is unfurled.

President Lorenzo Snow advised the Saints in meeting in such a capacity to see that each gains an advantage and makes at least one step of progress. The extensive responsibilities resting upon the Stake presidency render it necessary that they should be sustained in all possible ways by the people in their trying position. If the people would properly understand their rights and privileges in the Gospel, the burdens resting on the different wards of the Stake could easily be lifted.

Some are very ambitious to attain to high positions, both here and hereafter, but they do not see any immediate prospect of doing so. Yet it is the duty of everybody to have an object that he can reach, this being regulated by his powers and abilities. Diversity of talent is necessary, and each man should be placed in such a position as will enable him to use his peculiar talents aright. It may be assumed that whatever gift a person may display, whether spiritual or financial, he has been endowed with it in his pre-existent state, that he may use it here to the best advantage. Jeremiah, a very singular and noble man, was cited as an instance of this. So Abraham, Jesus and others, distinguished themselves in their own particular line of work.

Two important and striking ideas in the plan of salvation are: First, that God will give His Saints all that He has; second, that He will take away all that they possess, or at least require them to offer all on the altar of His work. Hence all should manifest a willingness to conform to the latter condition, that the former may be fulfilled.

In the temple the work is entirely spiritual, no temporal affairs being discussed there. Many thousands of baptisms and other ordinances for the dead have been performed there during the past year, and the speaker expressed his opinion that very few of those thus administered for would reject the work. There is no more faithful labor than this. Joseph Smith said that those who fail to do this work peril their own salvation. Every spirit that has lived on the earth must receive this labor before all things can be made perfect. Only a commencement can be made in this work now.

Elder Heber J. Grant considered