

bers in Waikato were true to the Gospel and the good work was spreading. He commented upon the divisions in the Christian church, and the numerous faiths and creeds in the world, notwithstanding that Paul said there must be "One faith, one Lord, one baptism." He spoke upon the apostasy and the restoration of the Gospel, adducing numerous scriptural passages to sustain his position.

Elder L. G. Hoagland represented Te Mahia conference, in which he stated were 537 members, fifty new members having been baptized during the past year. Most of the members were firm in the faith, though it had been necessary to excommunicate a few. He had traveled considerably among outsiders, and was hospitably entertained by them. Some desired them to visit their "kaaingas" (villages) continually, as they knew that the Elders had the light of the Gospel, and could explain the principles clearly. He spoke upon the necessity of searching the Scriptures continually, and urged all present to strive for the exaltation and eternal life reserved for the faithful.

Elder John F. Burton, president of Queensland conference, (Australia,) stated that his district was in a prosperous condition. The members enjoyed the spirit of the Gospel, without which they knew they could not serve God. The records showed an increase of twenty-five during the past year, and all the members have great hopes for the future. He prayed that the blessings of God might rest upon all who had taken upon them the name of Christ.

Hoera Te Ruruku, (a native Elder and president of Rangitoto branch) also addressed the congregation on the first principles of the Gospel. Meeting closed with singing hymn 96, prayer by Ropata Riwai.

The afternoon meeting was opened at 2:45 p. m. with singing hymn 95; prayer by Karaitiana.

Elder C. B. Bartlett was the first speaker, and desired to speak such words as the Lord inspired. He stated that in the Bay of Islands conference many members were bringing forth good fruit, while some were dead branches. There were 396 members in the district, twelve new members had been baptized during the year, and twenty-six children blessed. He spoke upon many of the erroneous teachings of modern Christendom, showing, also, from the sacred volume of Scripture, the true principles of eternal life. The organization of the Church, and prophetic teachings of holy writ were also spoken upon in an interesting manner.

Te Whatahara, an eloquent and influential chief from Poverty Bay district, also addressed the conference at some length. The chief topics treated upon were the Book of Mormon, fulfillment of prophecy, punishment for disobedience, as instanced in the case of Adam and Eve, the antediluvians, Israel in the wilderness, etc., the founding of the true Church by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the necessity of being guided by revelation. It was a powerful sermon, attentively listened to by all present.

Meeting closed with hymn 102; prayer by Nikoro.

The evening meeting was called to order at 6:30 p. m. The congregation joined in singing hymn 6; prayer by Te Natiu; hymn 104.

Elder Jos. C. Jorgensen gave a satisfactory report of Waipapu conference, and rejoiced in the principles that had called together so many Latter-day Saints. The members of the Church have been called upon to sustain the work of the Lord in the latter days, and they therefore needed the power and influence of the Melchisedek Priesthood. He showed how Melchisedek was chosen of God, and commented upon the power of the Priesthood as manifested by Moses, while leading Israel through the wilderness. All who had received that Priesthood, and fall away, will assuredly lose the Spirit of God, and he therefore exhorted all to magnify their callings.

Elder Charles Peterson expressed his joy at being present, and stated that he had labored principally among the Europeans on the South Islands. Many years ago the Gospel was taken from the people there on account of persecution, but now they are willing to listen to the Elders, notwithstanding that the Mormons are an unpopular people. This is an important age, for great prophecies are being fulfilled, as recorded by Moses and the Prophets. Matthew xxiv records the words of Christ, and indicates the troubles that will exist prior to His second coming, and also that "the Gospel must be preached as a witness among all nations, and then shall the end come." The Elders of Israel are now performing this important work, and all should be zealous in their labors. He urged the Saints to withstand all evil and thus obtain great and glorious blessings in the kingdom of God.

Elder J. H. W. Goff, president of Whangarei conference, reported that 300 members had been baptized in his district, and the majority were still firm and steadfast. Forty-five persons had been baptized during the year, and the people generally were very kind and hospitable to the Elders. He rejoiced to observe the growth of the Church, and earnestly exhorted all the members to be steadfast and cling to the principles of eternal life. He spoke upon the gifts and blessings of the Gospel, which can only be obtained by obedience to the laws of God and the laying on of hands by those possessing authority from heaven.

Hohepa Horomona, president of Porirua branch, delivered a forcible address on the restoration of the Gospel and the calling of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The subject of the Book of Mormon was also treated upon.

After two hours' duration, the meeting was closed with singing hymn 89; prayer by Elder James C. Allen.

Second day of conference—meetings were resumed at 10 o'clock, and opened with singing hymn 46; prayer by Te Haata; hymn 26.

Elder Joseph M. Folkman was the first speaker, and he reported Hauraki district where the majority of the members were magnifying their callings. He impressed upon the people the necessity of obedience to all the laws of the Gospel, in order to obtain an exaltation in the kingdom of God. The false doctrines taught in the world were condemned, and the apostasy and restoration were commented upon in an interesting manner. The interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, and its connection with the latter day work was clearly and convincingly shown to apply to the Church founded by divine revelation by Joseph Smith the Prophet.

Elder Joseph W. Linford, president of Wairau conference, briefly referred to the labors of the Elders in that locality. He stated that the members performed their Church duties each day, attending their "karaklas" (prayer meetings) regularly. There are four branches in the conference, and a Sunday school has been organized in connection with each. A good labor has been performed among the outsiders, and he believed that many would shortly join the Church. He bore an earnest testimony that God had restored His Church in latter days, and that Joseph Smith was a true Prophet of God.

Elder W. F. Armstrong greeted all the assembled Saints, and expressed his great pleasure in being present. He stated that he had labored in New South Wales (Australia) about ten months. When the work commenced there, great difficulty was experienced, but, after persistent visiting and delivering tracts from door to door, many were desirous of investigating the Gospel message. He testified that this was the work of God and earnestly prayed that God would ever bless His Saints.

Elder Chris Peterson, president of the Tauranga district, rejoiced to be present to listen to the word of the servants of God. He appreciated his calling as a preacher of the Gospel to a branch of the house of Israel, and desired to assist in the great latter-day work. Like Paul he could say, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation." He spoke upon the laws of God and urged obedience thereunto. He stated that Tauranga district was in a satisfactory condition. There are 164 members in the conference and fifteen new members have been baptized during the year.

Elder J. E. Fisher reported Poverty Bay district, in which were three branches of the Church. The presidents of these were exemplary men, and the priesthood endeavored to magnify their callings. As he had completed his labors among the Maori people, he urged the members to a faithful performance of their duties, that all might be permitted to meet again in the presence of God. He quoted Job's testimony, "I know that my Redeemer liveth and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth."

The remainder of the time was occupied by Piripi Te Maari, a respected chief from Wairarapa district, and Arapata Meha, of Waipawa, both of whom testified to the benefits derived by the Maori people through the indefatigable labors of the Elders of Israel. They also treated upon various principles of the Gospel.

Meeting was closed with singing hymn 22; prayer by Wi Neera.

The afternoon meeting was called to order by President Gardn r. The congregation sang hymn 33; prayer by Eruti Taituha; hymn 92.

Elder George Bowles stated that many of the members in the Wairarapa district were exceedingly good, and performed their duties faithfully in the Church, while others were somewhat dilatory. During the year thirty-one new members have been baptized, for which he praised God, through whose blessing they were converted. The Elders have traveled considerably among outsiders and were invariably treated with much kindness, and he had great hopes of a large increase in the near future. He warned