

was, that every apprehension has disappeared. You know you have found the path that leads to eternal glory. You have received the testimony of the Son of God and know that that which has been done is in accordance with His will.

This is the universal testimony of all those who have the knowledge that they are walking in the path that leads to the glory of our Heavenly Father. I am thankful that God has restored that for which so many have sought, even with tears, without finding it. I thank God that it has been restored with the power and authority and all the blessings pertaining thereto.

"Cursed is he who trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm," but our God can be trusted, no matter how deep the affliction. He never has deserted us and never will. He is the same today as He was yesterday and will be forever. We may pass through deep waters or the fiery furnace of affliction, but we shall come out victorious. If we will only hold out without flinching, God will certainly lead us to eternal glory, which I hope may be our lot.

The choir sang the anthem:

O Give Thanks.

Benediction by Bishop W. B. Preston.

Adjourned until 7 o'clock p.m.

#### Evening Session.

The choir sang "Lord, Thou wilt hear me when I pray," etc.

Prayer by Elder W. C. Dunbar.

Singing: "Hark, listen to the trumpeters."

Bishop's Counselor William McLachlan was the first speaker. He said the Seventh Ward was in a better condition spiritually today than at any time during the last twenty years. Especially was the improvement noticeable among the young. It was customary to invite them to speak in the regular ward meetings, and the hearty response that accompanied these requests was a matter of great satisfaction.

#### ELDER JAMES L. M'MURRIN

spoke, in substance, as follows: We often hear it asserted by those who are prejudiced and uninformed that the Latter-day Saints are an ignorant and polluted people; that they are merely tools in the hands of crafty priests. The very reverse is true. They are not ignorant, neither are they deceived. They have accepted the Gospel only after careful and mature deliberation. It was the power of the Holy Ghost that caused them to take such a step. It is the same power that unites them together today. The Latter-day Saints are also accused of being unable to think and act for themselves and that they join the Church upon promise of temporal reward. Such misrepresentation is slander. It requires a great amount of moral courage to become identified with such an unpopular people. Courage, devotion and integrity are strong characteristics of the Latter-day Saints.

#### ELDER JAMES E. TALMAGE

delivered an instructive discourse on education. It was full of wise and pointed suggestions. A brief synopsis would not convey an adequate idea of

the speaker's remarks, and we have not space to present them in full.

Bishop Heber Bennion, of Taylorsville, reported his ward as being in good spiritual condition.

The choir sang:

Do they ever pray for me?

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.

#### SECOND DAY.

##### Morning Session.

The choir of the Latter-day Saints College of the Stake, assisted by the Tabernacle choir, sang "Morning."

Prayer by Elder Geo. B. Wallace.

"Affection" was sung.

#### ELDER EDWARD W. DAVIS,

in reporting the condition of the First Quorum of Elders, said the meetings are held on the last Monday in each month at 7:30 p.m., in the Fourteenth Ward Assembly Rooms. They are pretty well attended by the active members, who are always present, and a good time is always had. He was surprised to see the indifference existing among the Elders, as before they receive this office, they covenant to attend their quorum meetings and all duties pertaining thereto. Those who do attend, are well repaid and are progressing in the principles of truth.

Bishop E. F. Sheets reported the condition of the Eighth Ward. The organizations are all in pretty good condition and progressing. Some are faithful in all their duties, others are careless and indifferent. These are being labored with, and action taken where there is no indication of repentance.

#### COUNSELOR JOS. E. TAYLOR

said, in substance: The organizations in the Salt Lake Stake are as full and complete as in any Stake of Zion. They are in good working order. The Bishop does, or should, reflect strongly the true condition of the people in his ward. He should be known by the people, and every member of his ward should be known by him. The duties of a Bishop are very responsible; he is held accountable for the standing of the members of his ward, and where there are covenant-breakers, they should be dealt with in all kindness, persuasion and brotherly love, but with firmness.

When the angels of God ministered unto Joseph Smith, what instructions he received he was bound to at once carry out faithfully. If negligent he suffered the chastisement of the Almighty and not until he had fully followed out the instructions received from heavenly angels did that responsibility end. So it is with the Bishops and all who hold office in this Church. God will hold every man responsible for the trust reposed in him; and not until he has carried out faithfully the obligations imposed is he free from the penalty of non-fulfilment of the covenants he has made.

The duties of the Teacher today are as much neglected as any in the Church. The Bishop calls to his aid the High Priests, the Seventies and all members of his ward to minister among all the people. Purge out iniquity from among the people. Those

who do not attend to their full duties, pay their tithing, attend their quorum meetings, and be on hand at all times to do what they are called upon to do, should be labored with and encouraged, and if they do not repent they should be dealt with.

It is too often the case that little difficulties which ought to be settled by the Teachers, are sent up to the Bishop's court; and often cases which should be determined by the Bishop's court are handed over to the High Council of the Stake. Instead of allowing these lesser things to be made public, and cause ill-feeling, Teachers should be sent to visit such as are in difficulty, and try and settle the differences. When cases are reported to the High Council it is occasionally deemed better, and we have done so of late, to select two or three from among the High Council and appoint them a committee to go and labor with those in trouble and try to adjudicate all differences in the spirit of the Gospel, without going further. In all cases where this mode has been successful there is yet to be found one that has not been settled in equity, good feeling and in the most satisfactory manner. This mode saves the time of the High Council, and is attended with much good. Where those differing are brought together in humility and talked to kindly, they themselves settle their own misunderstandings. This is far better than to have a case decided arbitrarily by the High Council or others appointed to decide such cases. It is better still, if those who are in the wrong, and those wronged, would go before their God in humility and prayer. He will always open their way for a perfect and satisfactory settlement.

Where difficulties cannot be adjusted by the Teacher, the latter should make a complaint to the head of the ward that such is the case, and then the responsibility is laid on the shoulders of the Bishop, who should then take up the labor of adjusting the matter.

It is necessary that reproof should sometimes be administered to the erring; but in so doing the spirit of the Lord should be the guiding influence.

Fathers and mothers should instruct their children at their fireside in the principles of the Gospel; encourage them to study the truths restored in the latter days; urge them to attend meetings and prayers and be faithful in all things, and then the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon them.

As there are diseases stalking abroad and death is busy in the midst of the people, it should stir up the Elders to be faithful, humble, prayerful and on hand, that when they are called to administer to the sick the power of the Almighty may follow their administrations. This will strengthen the youth and be a testimony for them. Then will the Lord be with this people, the people will be more united, iniquity will be purged out, and the Saints will prosper.

Bishop James C. Watson of the Sixth ward, reported the condition of his ward as prosperous.

Sister Elmina Taylor gave a report of the Relief Societies of this Stake.

Sister Mary A. Freeze reported the prosperity and general condition of the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement association of the Stake.