

are quite a number of stakes from which we have not received reports; hence we shall not present a statistical statement to the Conference. We propose this morning to present the authorities of the Church. President Cannon will submit them for your action.

President George Q. Cannon then presented the authorities to be voted upon by the general assembly, as follows:

Wilford Woodruff, as Prophet, Seer and Revelator and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in all the world.

George Q. Cannon as First Counselor in the First Presidency.

Joseph F. Smith as Second Counselor in the First Presidency.

Lorenzo Snow as President of the Twelve Apostles.

As members of the Council of the Twelve Apostles—Lorenzo Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Brigham Young, Moses Thatcher, Francis M. Lyman, John H. Smith, George Teasdale, Heber J. Grant and John W. Taylor.

At this point

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF arose and spoke as follows:

I wish to say to this assembly of Latter-day Saints that there are three vacancies in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, in consequence of the organization of the First Presidency. We have felt that it is time to fill that quorum now, at this conference, and the people should be prepared for the presenting by the Twelve Apostles of such names as they may feel by the Spirit of God to be worthy and proper persons to receive this ordination or to occupy this position. The Twelve Apostles are Prophets, Seers and Revelators. I have confidence in them; I believe they have power to present such things as would be in accordance with the will of God. They (the Apostles) presented to me a list of names. I wish here to say, and I want it understood, that neither myself, President George Q. Cannon nor President Joseph F. Smith, who are my Counselors, presented any of these names. We left it with the Quorum of the Apostles. I became thoroughly satisfied that they had upon that list such names as would be acceptable unto the Lord. We took those names and made it a matter of prayer, and the Spirit of the Lord manifested unto me those whom we should appoint. They have all been accepted by the Quorum of the Apostles as well as the Presidency of the Church. I have a reason for making these remarks.

After President Woodruff had taken his seat, President Cannon resumed the presentation of the authorities, submitting the names of the following three brethren for appointment to the Apostleship, to fill the three vacancies in the Quorum of the Twelve before referred to:

Mariner W. Merrill, Anton H. Lund, Abraham H. Cannon. Counselors to the Twelve Apostles—John W. Young and Daniel H. Wells.

The Counselors in the First Presi-

dency and the Twelve Apostles, with their Counselors, as Prophets, Seers and Revelators.

Patriarch to the Church: John Smith.

First Seven Presidents of the Seventies: Henry Herriman, Jacob Gates, Seymour B. Young, C. D. Fjeldsted, John Morgan and B. H. Roberts.

Wm. B. Preston as Presiding Bishop, with Robert T. Burton as his First and John R. Winder as his Second Counselor.

Franklin D. Richards as Church Historian and General Church Recorder.

John Jaques as Assistant Church Historian and General Church Recorder.

As the Church Board of Education: Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow, George Q. Cannon, Karl G. Maeser, Willard Young, George W. Thatcher, Amos Howe, Anton H. Lund, James Sharp.

Joseph Don Carlos Young, as General Church Architect.

John Nicholson, as Clerk of the Conference.

The vote upon each of the persons named for the positions specified was unanimous.

PRESIDENT CANNON,

after he had submitted the names of the authorities, delivered an elaborate and instructive discourse, of which a synopsis would not give a commensurate idea. It will doubtless hereafter be published in full. The leading topics embraced in it were the cause and cure of disunion when it exists among the Saints; the beauty and completeness of the organization of the Church; there is no domination of the State by the Church, nor combination of the two; the necessity for the Saints to seek counsel from those who are in a position to guide them aright; the beauty and necessity of wisdom in our acts and utterances; important points associated with the doctrine of the resurrection, about which some have formed erroneous conceptions. The concluding portion of the discourse was devoted to a definition of the glorious hopes and destiny of the faithful, and was of a nature to specially comfort those whose pathway through life is beset with trials.

The choir sang the anthem:

Arise, shine, for thy light is come.

Benediction by John Henry Smith.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The choir sang:

Praise ye the Lord! my heart shall join
In work so pleasant, so divine,
Now while the flesh is my abode,
And when my soul ascends to God.

Prayer by Elder Wm. M. Palmer.

The choir sang:

Ye children of our God
Ye Saints of latter days,
Surround the table of the Lord
And join to sing his praise.

The Priesthood of the Tenth Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

PRESIDING BISHOP WM. B. PRESTON

was called to address the congrega-

tion. He said that it was necessary for the people to keep very still in order for such a vast assemblage to hear the speakers. If we do not enjoy all the blessings of the Gospel it is because of our own neglect. The Gospel is a perfect law of liberty, and if we do not enjoy this liberty we are our own bondsmen; if we do not enjoy the blessings of the Government of God, it is because we fail to govern ourselves. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the truth; it embraces all the principles of life, and brings salvation to those who obey it. I am requested to represent the Aaronic Priesthood this afternoon. This branch is to aid as an appendage to the Melchisedec Priesthood. In it are Bishops, Priests, Teachers and Deacons, called to operate in these callings as servants of God. The Bishop as a father to those over whom he is called to preside; not an autocrat, but a father. I have sometimes thought we did not bestow thought and care enough upon our calling to perform it properly. It is our duty to attend to temporal matters; to see that the poor are provided for; to see that there is nothing wrong among the people—this to be done through the Teachers who visit from house to house. It is also the duty of Priests to visit the house of each member, and to preach the Gospel to every household. Are the Priests faithful in performing this duty? If not, there is something for them to repent of, as there is with the Bishops and others if they are neglectful. There is no more important calling than that of a Teacher in attending to matters relating to the welfare of the Saints, and administering to their comfort and support. If they have not done this they have not perfected themselves as teachers. In all their labors they are to be assisted by the Deacons as may be necessary. The beauty of the Gospel is that all have something to do. It is our duty to set a good example before all. We are responsible for our own course. If Zion is not redeemed as quickly as she ought to be, it is our own fault. If the sick are not healed, it is because of our lack of faith. We all have a duty and will be held responsible by the Lord for the way we perform it. I have been delighted with the words of light and truth we have received at this conference. The duty that rests upon us is to set ourselves in order in accordance with the plan of salvation. Then the whole house would be in order, and all obstacles would be removed from our path. Let us honor God and keep His laws, that we may receive the blessings of the faithful.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON,

by request of President Woodruff, read from the sixty-eighth section of the Doctrine and Covenants, as follows:

My servant, Orson Hyde, was called by his ordinance to proclaim the everlasting gospel, by the Spirit of the living God, from people to people, and from land to land, in the congregations of the wicked, in their synagogues, reasoning with, and expounding all Scriptures unto them.

And behold, and lo, this is an ensample unto all those who were ordained unto this