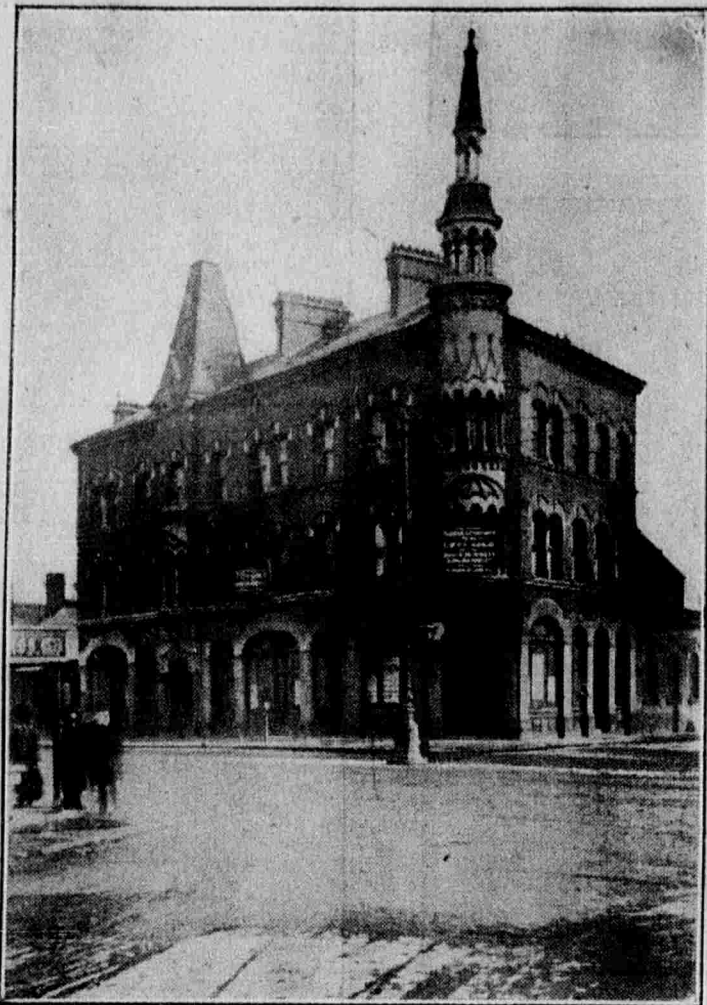


New Latter-Day Saints Headquarters in London

THE London illustrated papers to hand this week devote considerable space to articles and pictures on the new Latter-Day Saints Headquarters at South Tottenham, which has been recently purchased by the Church. The Daily Chronicle of Thursday, May 21, carries a five-picture half-tone "lay-out," showing the Markfield hotel, recently purchased; President Peterson of the London conference; Elders at work mixing paint, among whom can be faintly distinguished Mr. Willes, the Main street druggist; Elders at work in a room, and the stage in the large hall. The half-tone work, however, is of such quality that it will not permit successful reproduction in the "News." The Daily Mirror also carries several similar pictures, while those appearing in the Daily Graphic are herewith reproduced on this page.

In addition to this the Curtis Brown International Publishing Bureau, which supplies a number of American newspapers, including the Deseret News, with a regular foreign service, this week sends out a story to all its clients on the work of the Latter-Day Saints in England. It follows below.



NEW L. D. S. HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON, TO BE DEDICATED JUNE 28.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Jun 3.—Mormonism is gaining ground rapidly in England, and nothing will bring home the fact of that growth so sharply to the English people as the dedication on June 28 next of the elaborate new headquarters which have been acquired by the Mormon missionaries for the London district. The Latter-day Saints mission to London has outgrown the old headquarters in a commodious house known as "Deseret" in Farnleigh Road, Stoke Newington, and the mission has now acquired a building which is eminently adapted to their work. It was built twenty years ago at a cost of \$100,000, and was designed for a hotel, saloon and music hall, but the missionaries refused to grant it a license, and it has been lying vacant ever since. A white elephant on the owner's hands. The thrifty Mormons have acquired it for about half what it cost to build, and are hard at work renovating it and fitting it up for their purposes.

The chief feature of course is the amusement hall, which will seat 1,000 people comfortably. A platform has been erected at one end and an organ will soon be installed. At present the music is furnished by two harmoniums.

There are a number of smaller rooms on the ground floor which can be used for small meetings and committees, and upstairs there are about twenty rooms in which the Mormon missionaries and workers will live.

AN IDEAL CENTER.

The new headquarters is known as the old Markfield hotel, and is situated in the High Road, Tottenham, an ideal center for the proselyting work of the Mormons, for it is in the center of a district occupied almost exclusively by humble folk who in England are apt to run after a new religion and the chief excitement in whose drab dull lives is afforded by the various activities connected with the churches.

Great preparations are being made for the dedication. Apostle Charles W. Penrose, the chief of the European mission, is coming from Liverpool to conduct it, and there will be a great gathering of elders from all over Europe.

WORK IN LONDON.

The work in London is in charge of Elder Soren Peterson, who is president of the London district, and he is assisted by forty-two workers, all of whom are Americans but one. All of them are elders of the Mormon Church. Most of them are young

Leading Illustrated Papers of England's Capital Devote Considerable Space to Pictures and Descriptions of Recent Purchase By the Church.



THE BAPTISMAL HALL.

THE INTERIOR OF DESERET HALL.

western Americans, who throw their whole energy into the work which is done chiefly by house canvassing. Every morning the missionaries go out to a selected district, calling faithfully at every house and distributing 2,500 tracts every day. If they find a member of one of the old churches willing to listen, they at once invite the prospective convert to call in the minister of the church to which he belongs and have it out at once. Usually the minister refuses indignantly to meet the Mormon missionary, and there the Mormon scores a point.

AN EFFECTIVE TRACT.

Most of the converts are gained from the Church of England and most of them from the small shopkeeping and superior working-class. The upper classes are seldom reached, although the Mormon missionaries here are very proud of their "star" convert, Colonel R. M. Bryce Thomas, late of the English army, whose pamphlet, "My Reasons for Leaving the Church of England and Joining the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints," is one of their favorite and most effective tracts.

MANY CONVERTS.

It is hard to estimate the real influence which the Mormons have obtained here. There are at least a dozen regular meetings being conducted in London and there are 1,000 regularly enrolled members of the Church, but the attendance at the meetings is nearly five times that number. There are about 10,000 regularly enrolled members of the Church in England, but that number by no means represents the number of conversions, for the missionaries estimate that in the last 10 years at least 20,000 converts have gone from England to Utah. The conversions are rapidly increasing in number. More than 100 converts have been baptized this year by President Peterson alone and on Sunday, May 10, he baptized 11 at one time. This is about the average for a Sunday, but he expects that when the work from the new headquarters is fully organized it will be doubled at least.

PRESIDENT PETERSON.

President Peterson is a keen-looking, fair-haired man of middle-age with sharp blue eyes which seem to bore

right through any one on whom he turns them. He has a manner that is calculated to put the most hostile critic at his ease at once, and his hearty hand grip makes the timid seeker after truth feel at home at once in the Mormon meeting hall. On the platform he has a flow of oratory that carries his audience off its feet, and at the same time he never talks above the heads of the simple working people who form the bulk of the congregations. His speech is interlarded with homely similes which everyone can understand, and even in conversation every second sentence is a familiar quotation from Scripture so aptly applied that it makes his arguments doubly convincing. No better man could have been selected to spread a new and unpopular religion.

WAITING TWENTY YEARS.

"Our mission to London has been blessed," he said, to me as he stood in the center of the great assembly hall in the new headquarters and pointed to a group of men at work getting it in order. "Every one of those men is a member of our Church and every man is giving his work freely to the Church. Some of them are elders and missionaries who are not above taking off their coats and going to work for the Lord. This place was built for us by the Lord. It has been waiting for us for 20 years and no one was ever allowed to occupy it before."

CHURCH GROWING.

"We are winning converts every day and our Church here is growing, but not so fast as it would grow if our converts stayed here. As soon as they are converted, however, the 'spirit of gathering' seems to seize them and they are off to Utah. We do not encourage it, for we think that they would do better work for the Church by staying here and helping to convert their neighbors, but I suppose the prophecy that all the faithful will be gathered together must be fulfilled."

"All our missionaries here work for nothing and support themselves. Many of them have left wives and families at home in Utah but the Lord is providing for them. Our people all give a tithe of their increase to the Church but all this money goes to Salt Lake and all the work of the Church is directed and financed from there."

"Of course we have to meet opposition, but it is not so bad now as it used to be. At first we could not hold a street meeting without being stoned, but the people have learned now that we are not so bad as we were represented to be. We have never, however, since we began our work here, received the slightest degree of sympathy or even common courtesy from a minister of religion, although we are always ready to meet them courteously, and argue our case with them. We always tell our people to consult their minister and if he can convince them that we are wrong we do not want them as converts. We feel that we have the truth, but we are always ready to listen to what anyone has to say, and if he can convince us that he is right and we are wrong, we are ready to abandon our church and join his."

CLERGYMEN ALARMED.

The clergymen of all denominations are becoming alarmed at the growth of Mormonism and there has been a notable increase in their activity in the districts where the Mormon missionaries have been at work. In some of the districts opposition meetings have been organized by the churches on the nights of the Mormon meetings and in one or two cases church workers have been appointed to follow the Mormon missionaries around and counteract their propaganda.

JOHN S. STEELE.

"NEED NOT BE ALARMED." SAYS LONDON CHRONICLE

(From the London Daily Chronicle.) OF ALL the "fancy religions," as the sergeant-major called them, none shows more extraordinary vitality than the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or, as they are more commonly known, the Mormons. Joseph Smith and Brigham Young have left their mark on the nineteenth century, and the twentieth finds their work still going forward.

In Great Britain the Mormons now number 10,000 and more. In London, alone, there are over 700 of them. The Church has always been an aggressively proselyting one. Every Mormon convert is a potential Mormon missionary. And with the missionary ac-

tivity comes other work. Fine buildings are secured for local headquarters. The center of Mormon activity in England is at Liverpool. It is there operations are directed through out this country, and there that the missionaries from Utah are welcomed first on their arrival in Europe.

But this sphere of activity is not confined to Liverpool. London is, after all, where most people who visit England come to. The Mormons in London have hitherto been scattered, and their own central meetingplace has been Clerkenwell Town hall, where their Sunday services have been held. But now, they have secured handsome and convenient headquarters in North London, illustrations of which are given on this page.

BUILT FOR A HOTEL.

The building is next door to South Tottenham station in the main road from London to Edmonton. It was originally built for a hotel, but the bench refused a license, and it has remained empty for some years. The ground floor will be left off in shops. The upper floors are being fitted up as bedrooms and sittingrooms. Behind the hotel is a large room which was originally intended for a concert hall. There is a stage at one end. This hall is being fitted with comfortable plush-lined seats, and will be used as a general meetingplace. The stage is to be occupied by an organ.

Underneath the concert hall is another large apartment, which was to have been a billiard room. This has been partitioned off into three. One room will be used as a baptistry. A tank, lined with white tiles, stands in the center. The other two rooms will be used as school and class-rooms. The size of the building will enable it to accommodate a large number of residents, and for their convenience there are dining rooms and a kitchen. Many Mormons passing through from Utah to other parts of Europe desire to spend a few days in London, and they will now have their own resting place among their own people.

ELDERS AT WORK.

The Mormons show their adaptability by the way in which they are getting their new home into order. Our picture shows them at work cleaning,

painting, and decorating their new home. All the men in the illustrations are Mormon elders, and many of them are men of good position in their own country. They have left the work of preaching and teaching to take up scrubbing brushes and paint pots, and under their efforts, the dirt of years is disappearing. They seem to regard the work as quite a pleasant little interlude, and our representative found them laughing and joking over it, as though they thoroughly enjoyed it.

ELDER PETERSON.

The direction of affairs is in the hands of Elder Peterson, who is superintending the work of his fellow elders. Mr. Peterson was born of Danish parents in Salt Lake City 42 years ago. His parents became Mormons, and left Denmark to go to the new Zion. He was at the head of a provision business in Salt Lake City, but at the call of the prophet and the twelve apostles, he left his work and came over to Europe to spread the knowledge of Mormonism in that benighted continent. He has the fair hair and blue eyes of his Scandinavian ancestors, but his birth and training have endowed him with all the cuteness and savoir faire of the typical Yankee. Yet he is quite willing to discuss the position and prospects of his faith with you, and tell about his hopes and aspirations for the time when all the world shall have been baptized into the beliefs of the Latter-day Saints.

NO NEED FOR ALARM.

Residents in South Tottenham need not be alarmed at the prospects of having a polygamous establishment running in their midst. The Mormon prophet had a vision in 1890, which commanded him to abolish polygamy in his Church. He communicated this information to his twelve apostles, to his elders, and to the Church generally. And now there are no more polygamists in Utah. The gentiles say that the decisions of the United States Congress had something to do with this last revelation, but Elder Peterson stoutly maintains that the Mormons would go to prison in defense of polygamy, now as they had done in the past. However, the prophet has relieved them from that necessity. But Elder Peterson is all the same prepared to defend it as Scriptural.

GOING TO NEW YORK? We can give you specially reduced rates for board and rooms at one of New York's best, centrally located hotels. Address C 14 "News."

SUNDAY EXCURSIONS.

Via D. & R. G., June 14th. To Provo Canyon, 7:30 a. m. \$1.25 To Pharaoh's Glen, 8:15 a. m. 50 Returning on regular trains.



NAUVOO LEGION TODAY.

This cut represents a number of members of the Nauvoo Legion, and the "Old Sow," a gun famous in the annals of Utah and with a history of its own very unique and romantic. For a full century, less four years, the story of its career is easily traced. In 1812 the gun, then one of the best in America, occupied a position on a boat stationed at New Orleans, as part of a defense against England's second invasion of this country. The war over, the government proceeded to provide not only better ships of war but better guns, and soon the one here

pictured with others of its class were relegated to the rear, or at least taken from active war service, and this particular one was placed on the "Green" at New Orleans, to be fired each morning at sunrise and evening at sunset. After being thus used for a number of years, it was sold as scrap iron, and as such was bought by James Lawson, the veteran blacksmith yet living in the sixteenth ward of this city. The gun was shipped to Flagg and from thence to Nauvoo. After the battle at that place as the result of an anti-Mormon invasion, the gun was left upon the field. A number of women sunk a hole in the ground and buried

the old standby for preservation. Some time afterwards, hogs feeding upon the field uncovered the gun, and from thenceforth it was known as the "Old Sow." In the fall of 1843, Major Howard Egan took the gun from Nauvoo to Winter Quarters. The Missouri river was frozen over, and to hide the gun, a hole was made in the ice and the ponderous piece of steel was attached to a rope and sunk to the bottom of the stream. In the spring it was brought forth from its watery hiding place, and came to Utah with President Brigham Young and the Pioneers. The part it has played since that time

is more or less well known to the public. The men in the picture are, beginning at the top row and counting from left to right: Samuel Skidmore, John Lyon, James Solomon, H. P. Poisson, William Sanders, I. McRae,

John Clarke, H. C. Barrell, William Kiddington. Second row: Charles J. Thomas, George F. Brooks and John Lees. They will fire a salute on the historic cannon on Flag day at Wadsworth.

R. K. Thomas Dry Goods Co

ANOTHER BIG EMBROIDERY SALE!!!

Values up to 35c. Widths up to 12 inches.

Sale Price = = 15c a Yard.

500 Ladies', Misses' and Children's Parasols.

ON SALE NEXT WEEK!!