

slowly but surely advancing from parish to parish, and the Elders are being able to break down the bars of prejudice that are stumbling blocks to many people. There are at present ten pairs of Elders clothed upon with the Holy Priesthood, systematically canvassing from house to house spreading the glad tidings of truth and the everlasting Gospel in its purity. Elder S. L. Swenson of Pleasant Grove, Utah, is our conference president. He is well equipped with the principle of faith in his character for the great labor of life resting upon him. He is cheering in his words and disposition, and is a source of great strength to the Elders of the conference in his visits among them.

After the conference in Pike county, Mississippi, Elder Joseph P. Sharp of Vernon, Utah, and myself were assigned to labor in this parish. After a journey of several days we reached our field of labor September 11th, 1896. According to our instructions, after fasting, prayer and dedicating our work and the people of the parish to the Lord, we began our canvassing and holding meetings whenever an opportunity afforded. From two meetings in a week we gradually grew to eight, then fifteen, this being the highest number as yet in any one week. Our ambition is not yet reached however, and as President Kimball says, "Stick your pick higher and then climb for it," is our watchword and we are still ambitious to bring our conference up with the other states in the work of the Lord. We have held sixty-six meetings up to date, and are proud to say we have many friends and a few who are investigating the principles of the everlasting Gospel. Our work thus far has been highly enjoyed. Our health is excellent, and we think the same can safely be said of all the Elders in the state. We have just received a visit from our conference president. He expressed his pleasure at our good work and left us feeling well in body and in spirits.

JOSEPH P. SHARP.

JOSEPH A. CORNWALL.

CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, October 31st, 1896.

A conference of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was held here the 24th and 25th of the month. This part of the Northern States mission with Chicago included, is called the North Illinois conference, presided over by Elder John N. Davis. We were favored with the presence of Elder Samuel G. Spencer, president of the Northern States mission, and about twelve Utah Elders, laboring in this conference; besides, we had the pleasure of having Elder B. H. Roberts (of the first council of Seventies) meet with us. The meetings were held in Wicker Park hall, North Ave., 501 Chicago, at 10 a. m., and 2 and 6 p. m. Six regular meetings were held, and were well attended by Saints and strangers. Elder Roberts delivered five lectures during the conference, treating upon the restoration of the Gospel in the last days, with the gifts and blessings belonging thereunto, including the authority of the Holy Priesthood to officiate in the ordinances thereof, and many other points, which were so well presented, under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, that he kept the congregation spellbound. Besides these lectures, Elder Roberts also

imparted valuable instructions to the Elders, (at special meetings) which were received with pleasure and satisfaction by them, and with a full determination on their part to carry out the same.

At the Sunday morning meeting the 25th, Elder Roberts desired that the general and local authorities of the Church should be presented in this conference, and made some instructive remarks upon this important matter. Elder Samuel G. Spencer then presented the general authorities in Zion, also the mission and conference authorities, who were sustained by a united vote of the Saints. It was further agreed upon that all the Elders laboring among the Scandinavians and Germans in this city, work under the direction of the president of the North Illinois conference, he being under the direction of the president of the Northern States mission. The reason for combining the so-called Scandinavian and German mission, is that we cannot afford to hire more than one hall for public meetings, and the English language is or must be spoken there. It is hoped that in the near future, the work will spread among the Scandinavians and Germans, so as to justify them in renting halls where they can use the language best understood by them.

All the Elders had the privilege of speaking during conference, and expressed their eagerness to go forward and perform their mission in a creditable manner before God and man. A good Spirit prevailed, and a desire to work in unison with one another was manifest.

The branch in Chicago is in a very good condition, and many people came to our meetings and are investigating the Gospel principles. A thousand handbills were distributed before conference, to announce our meetings: and we feel very much pleased that we have obtained such a good and comfortable hall. But occasionally one can only have it every Sunday from 11 o'clock until 1 p. m., and in the evening from six to eight. Other meetings are held in private houses, generally Thursday evenings, and then one must speak in the Scandinavian or German language. Elder C. D. Fjeldsted came to Chicago the 25th of May, 1896, in company with Elders H. M. Pearson, Charles L. Monch and your humble servant; and when we arrived, there were a few Saints, who had been mostly gathered by the labors of Elders Dable from Spanish Fork, and who had done his best to advertise his presence in the city. But there was no organized branch, before President Fjeldsted, assisted by Elders Clark, Spencer and the brethren before mentioned, on the 4th of June, 1896, organized the Chicago branch of the Church, also a Sabbath School, both departments with the necessary officers. Since then there has been additional strength added so that at present the branch numbers over fifty members. While it can be said that in a city like Chicago there is much wickedness and sin, and many bad people, there is one thing sure, and that is, that there are many good and honorable people. The Elders have been treated with kindness and respect by all classes ever since we came, even in the latter part of the summer, when we held open air meetings without the least molestation. I will say that much of the people, so far.

We have been visited by a good many of our friends from Utah also missionaries on their way to the coast through the summer and at present. There are several of our Utah boys, or young men, who are taking various studies, and they are very attentive to our meetings, and bring their friends with them.

Following are names and addresses of the Elders: John N. Davis and T. F. Durlee 937 Tolman Avenue Chicago.

H. M. Pearson 923 Rockwell Street.

John F. F. Darius 825 W. Division Street, third floor.

Charles L. Monch, Gustavus A. Olson, Lewis H. Kelesh and John Bul-liger 1469 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago.

Will J. Harrison, Lewis McCorrey, Maukegan, Lake County, Illinois.

Joseph G. Ranek, Charles Jensen, Ottawa P. O. La Salle, Illinois.

JOHN N. DAVIS,

President of Conference.

J. F. F. DARIUS, Clerk.

AT THE ANTIPODES.

GOULBURN, New South Wales, Australia.
October 5th, 1896.

Hoping a few lines from this part of the world, will be of interest, we cheerfully comply with the suggestion, made through your valuable paper which comes to hand regularly and is a valuable helper in spreading the Gospel.

I left my home, in Richfield, Utah, March 8th, 1895, for a mission to Australasia. On my arrival at Auckland, New Zealand, I was appointed to labor in Sydney, Australia; and have been there the past seventeen months; during which time nearly thirty intelligent, honest-hearted souls, have been added to the Church of Christ. Special mention should be made of the efficient labors of Elders Jedediah Goff, of West Jordan, W. G. Park of Mill Creek, Salt Lake County, also D. A. Nelson of Bloomington, Idaho, and A. J. Ridges—returned home—who have labored diligently, and humbly for the establishment of righteousness upon the earth.

Myself and companion Elder Park were lately appointed, by President Richards, to take a trip into the country; accordingly, after bidding saints and friends at Sydney, Good-bye, and receiving their best wishes and blessings, we started on our journey. We took train at Sydney, Saturday September, 26th, 1896. The ride in the train was pleasant; passing through a rolling, ever-green, wooded country; here and there a small village, the quiet and peaceful look of which reminded us of the small country towns at home; and as spring has come, wild flowers and blooming orchards could be seen on either side.

We arrived at Goulburn, a quiet city of a few thousand inhabitants, the same day we left Sydney; and were met at the depot by a Sister Griffin and one of her estimable daughters, who kindly took us to their home and made us very welcome. We spent the evening in the parlor and enjoyed the sweet singing, with piano accompaniment, furnished by members of the family. The family album was opened and there were pointed out to us some of their loved ones who had gone home to Zion many years ago; some of whom have since died, and others are still living and are anxiously waiting for their relatives in this land to gather home. As Sister Griffin had not room at her home for us,